

TYRONE GLEANINGS

Volume 24 Issue 102

Jan-Feb-Mar 2010



Maynard's Ramblings:

One evening this past summer, we opened the museum for Marilyn Baehre from Texas along with Arlene Peters and Jean Seelman. They seemed real pleased and spent time reminiscing. Marilyn is the former Marilyn Trofast. Her father was a co-owner of Carlson Trofast Hardware which sat where the Speedway Gas Station is now.

On Sept. 21 Bob Brott, Elsie Hariison and myself opened the museum to Barbara Carol Seeks and her husband, Donald. They are from California. Barbara is the former Barbara Richie. Her father was a teacher at Kent City when the three of us were in high school, we remembered her well. We enjoyed spending time and reminiscing. What a wonderful couple. Mr. Richie was at Kent City from 1936 through 1942 or 1943. After my class graduated in 1941 Mr. & Mrs. Richie chaperoned our class on our trip across Lake Michigan to Chicago. What a wonderful time it was before we were plunged into the second World War on Dec. 7th.

Recently I ran across an interesting article about the ghost town of Slocum which was established in 1868 and lies about 8 miles west of Kent City. At one time it was a real thriving village with a saw and shingle mill turning out 4000 board feet of lumber and 25,000 shingles a day. It was powered by water from Crockery Creek. The town was named after Elliott Slocum who had built a bridge over the Detroit River and for his work was given 5000 acres of timber land in Muskegon Co. The Toledo, Saginaw and Muskegon railroad came through in 1888. Besides lumber and shingles a lot of potatoes and hay was shipped out of the area. The railroad was abandoned in 1944.

As a little side-note I'll add a little something I've heard my Dad tell many times. After the timber around Slocum was harvested the blackberries came up all over. Many people came there to pick. My grandparents who lived on 15 Mile Rd. went with horse and buggy and spent the day blackberry picking. When it was time to go, the horse had gotten loose and went for home. They ended up carrying the blackberries and walking the several miles home. The comical part was that they could see the horse in the distance but couldn't catch up to it. I never knew my grandfather but I'll bet he had a few choice words for that horse.



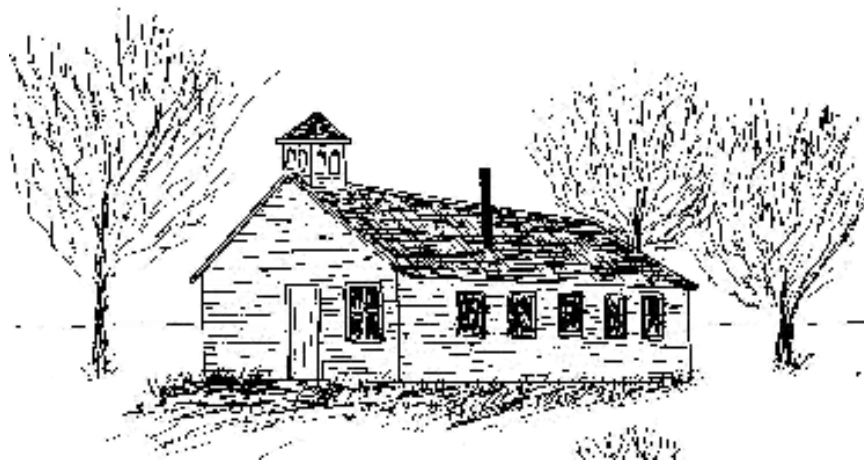
**Please mark your 2010 calendar for the next 3 meetings at 1:00pm
Jan. 12, Feb. 9 and Mar. 9**

Our faithful historical members, Ray & Beverly Blandford, lost their son, Ray N., on Sept. 22, 2009 in a tragic accident. We all extend our sympathies to them.

We had a very good turnout of 25 for our delicious catered Christmas Dinner. Imogene & Maynard Klein also served cake in honor of their 60th Wedding Anniversary.



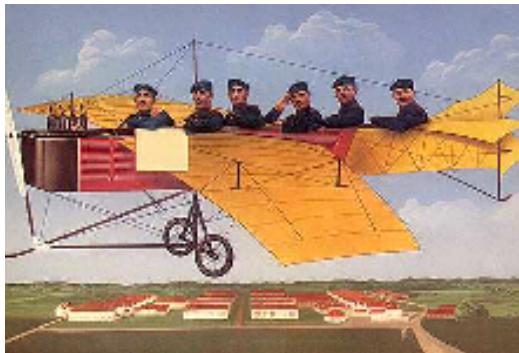
Included in this issue of the Gleanings is a self-addressed enveloped which is a reminder that it's time to renew your membership. Dues are still just \$7.00. We depend upon our loyal members and appreciate each and everyone of you for supporting the Historical Society.



THE FIRST SCHOOLHOUSE

School District No. 4 of Tyrone Township was organized in May, 1861, and the first school meeting was held at the home of Leander Smith on June 19th, 1861. Harmon Aldrich, Henry E. Wylie and Eames Dexter were elected members of the school board. The board leased of Leander Smith 36 square rods of land for the sum pf \$10.00 and contracted with R.D. Marritt and John Moore, who were the lowest bidders, to build a house 24 x 30 feet for the sum of \$339.00. Susan M. Wylie taught the first school for three years. Her wages for much of the time were \$10.80 per month, providing her own board. However, some of the time she was able to board around among the school patrons. Riley Thompson, the first child born in Kent City (1854), and Alice Vond, daughter of Jack Vond, were among the first pupils. In 1875 Robert Sides and J.W. Stinson built an addition to the school for the sum of \$240.00, making it a two-room school.

This local news came from the Casnovia Herald, but what year it doesn't say – so your guess is as good as mine. I believe it could have been either in the late 20's or early 30's. Sounds as if airplanes are rather new on the scene and note how it was spelled. Also I note that Gerald Hendershot spent a short furlough from the Great Lakes Training Station with his folks south of town. Gerald later shot and killed his dad and spent the rest of his life in Jackson. He being at Great Lakes was news to me. Later I may write more on this as there is quite a story when he escaped and there was a big manhunt in the neighborhood as the law thought he might be in this area. This took place about 1934.



PROS and CONS

A woman and her grouchy husband went on vacation to Jerusalem. While they were there, the husband passed away. The undertaker told the wife, "You can have him shipped home for \$5000, or you can bury him here, in the Holy Land, for \$150."

The woman thought about it and said she'd have him shipped home. The undertaker asked, "Why would you spend \$5000 to ship your husband home when it would be wonderful to be buried here and you'd spend only \$150?"

The woman replied, "Long ago a man died here, was buried here, and three days later he rose from the dead. I just can't take that chance."

John Humphreys says he received first mail at his farm by aeroplane Saturday afternoon, when a Grand Rapids Press was dropped down to him.

Mrs. F. B. Smith and little daughter, of Sparta, visited her son Gerald and family, south of town, a couple of days, returning home Thursday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Dory Westcott visited their son Harold and family in Grand Rapids Sunday. Their grandson, Donald Westcott, accompanied them home.

Gerald Hendershot from the Great Lakes Training Station is spending a short furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Hendershot, south of town.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Whitney and Chas. Whitney, Jr. and wife, and Mrs. Willis Church from Kent City, called on Mr. and Mrs. Leo Honner Tuesday evening.

Joseph Hutson's sister, who has been visiting herself and family, left for her home in Ohio Tuesday, accompanied by Mrs. Hutson who will remain for a week's visit.

The Aeroplane passing over Casnovia Saturday afternoon attracted considerable attention. In a few years no doubt an aeroplane will be a common sight any hour of the day.

Mrs. Mary Hildreth fell down stairs at the hotel last Friday evening without a gash in one slip that had to be sewed up, requiring two or three stitches. It was fortunate that it was no worse.

Happy to Mr. and Mrs. French at the Hotel Casnovia, Sept. 5, a boy. The parents were on their way from the north to their new home at Three Rivers via the auto route when the stork overtook them.

Call at Hrott Bro.'s warehouse and see the Rady pipeless furnaces which they have on sale. They are ready to give you prices on this furnace and would be pleased to sell you one if you need a furnace.

Deputy game warden Roy Buzzard liberated many Golden Pheasants last year and about forty recently. He is warning hunters not to shoot them. Be careful and not get into trouble. We will publish some game laws next week.

The Herald is reliably informed that Miss Ruth Park recently turned down a \$1,200.00 per year government job, preferring to take a course at the Kalamazoo State Normal, and get the job later, or a better one. Ruth is a graduate of the Casnovia High School, and one of the young ladies who has made good and is still going up.

NEWAYGO COUNTY YESTER YEAR

Local History From Our Readers

Times-Indicator Nov. 7, 2001

The Chicken-Theory for predicting the weather

By Robert Auw

Here's a good way to predict the weather and it's known as the Chicken Theory. Any old-time farmers will confirm this.

Back in the days when Mary and I were married, we raised chickens for food. We purchased day-old cockerels in the spring and kept them until fall when we butchered them and put them in the freezer. During

the time they were growing up, I learned one thing by watching the chickens: The Chicken Theory.

In the morning, if it is raining the chickens know if it will keep raining all day, or if it will quit.

If the chickens go out into the yard during the rain, it will surely rain all day!

If it is raining, and the chickens stay in the coop, it will stop raining in a short

time and the weather will clear up!

If you do not have chickens and a coop to watch this process, you can also watch the birds. They do the same. If there is a morning rain and the birds are not flying, the rain will stop shortly. If it is raining and the birds are flying about, plan for an all-day rain.

Check this out! It works!



The following was taken from the local news in 1899:

F.A. Norris has purchased the Jackson house and lot at the corner of Probasco and West Waterloo Street. No papers have been made out yet, but the bargain has been made.

Geo. Lewis, accompanied by his mother, was in town Wednesday for the first time since he was shot, January 18th. They made the Herald a pleasant call. His shoulder is somewhat stiff yet but is doing well and he thinks he will eventually recover the full use of his arm.