

Podunk Pioneer Papers

News of the Pioneer Memorial Association of Fenton and Mundy Townships
Issue 43 Fall 2005

Board of Directors

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Vice President:

Joyce Simmons 810-629-7748

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Mary Jane Pinkston

810-655-5451

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Editor

Phyllis Judson Heusted

810-631-4763 or 810-955-3336

Trustees

Julie Judson Phillips (2006)

Barbara Loafman (2006)

Frances Warner (2007)

Alice Bristle (2007) 489-635-7325

John Judson (2008)

Chris Worden (2008)

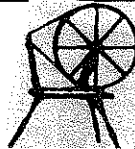
Honorary Trustee

Mary Shepherd

LOG ON TO

<http://www.addorio.com/podunk>

for the latest news about Podunk and the Pioneer Association. Our thanks to Webmaster Betsy Davidson of Addorio Global Innovations for creating and maintaining our Web Site.

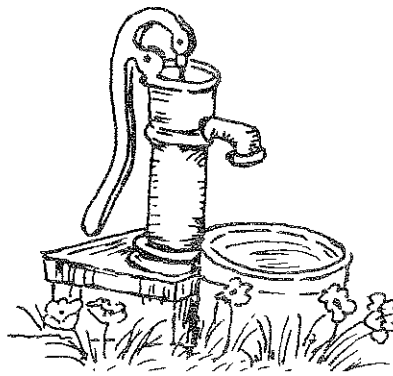


NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

Membership fees were due May 1, 2005. If you have not paid your dues, please send them now. (Check the mailing label on this issue for your current status in our records. If you notice an error, please let Ramona know.) We welcome new members and encourage you to invite your friends and neighbors to join us. (A membership form is printed on the back page of this newsletter.)

Send dues to:

Ramona Green
14133 Torrey Rd.
Fenton, MI 48430-1391



Meeting Schedule

The Pioneer Memorial Association of Fenton and Mundy Townships meets on the second Monday of each month at 7:00P.M. at the **Fenton Township Hall** (March-October). The next meeting will be Sept. 12.

From the Editor

This issue includes details about the upcoming Pioneer Day on Sept. 10. We invite you to show your support by attending our fall fundraiser and by donating your time and talents.

Also are articles about the first wedding reception held at the Podunk House site and a new addition to the museum archives in the form of a book in which the history of Fenton is documented in drawings by artist Nelson Gerald Scott.

See you on PIONEER DAY!

NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT ~ VICTOR MOORE

PLEASE HELP

Pioneer Day 2004 was a great success thanks to the renewed dedication of our volunteers. Since the Association had to cancel the spring fundraiser, it is especially important that **Pioneer Day 2005** be even more profitable. It is because of volunteers like you that we can make it happen.

THANKS

- The money raised on Pioneer Day and at our previous Buffalo Dinners has been used to preserve our museum. This summer, the pavilion was power washed and treated by Phillips Services. Chris Phillips donated a great deal of his time to prepare the pavilion and wash it.
- Thanks to all who donated money for our "Silent Buffalo Dinner". All contributions were appreciated.
- Thanks to the Roberts-Butts families for their work on the grounds mowing, etc.

WELCOME NEW TRUSTEES

Welcome to new Trustees Julie Judson Phillips and Barbara Loafman. Thanks also to our other Trustees and Board Members for the time they devote to the betterment of the Association.

SPECIAL THANKS

We appreciate Ramona Green's willingness to step in as full-time Treasurer due to the resignation of Loretta Gauthier who recently moved to Douglas. Thanks to Loretta for all her donations to the museum and rummage sale.

well done!



Thinking of You

We wish long-time volunteer Velma Butts a speedy recovery from her recent illness. Our thoughts are also with Mary Shepherd as well as Pete & Joyce Bigham.

*Our Sympathy to the
Families of
Bessie Delaney &
Dorothy Weaver*

FOR PIONEER DAY 2005

**Pioneer Day is the Saturday
after Labor Day. This year
the date is September 10,
10:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.**

Still needed:

- Baked goods (especially fruit pies), cookies, breads, pickles, jams, etc.
- Volunteers in the kitchen, to work at the gate or parking lot; help with house tours, help out at the Children's Corner, etc.
- Rummage sale items (no clothes) that are clearly marked with price

(Donations can be dropped off at the home of Joyce Simmons prior to Pioneer Day.)

- Vendors & crafters, hobby displays.

Please call Ramona or Joyce to reserve a space.

- Friday night at 4:00 P.M. volunteers are needed to help set up tents. Can you help?

Save your VG's Grocery Receipts

VG's Food Centers have been a generous community partner to our Association for several years now. As a non-profit organization we earn money for each grocery receipt we turn in to them as part of their Community Support Program. What we earn with our VG's receipts helps to defray the cost of mailing and publishing our newsletters. We earn \$50 for every \$1500 in receipts. We have earned over \$600 so far by participating in this program.

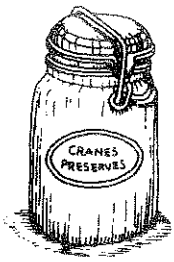
We also thank VG's for their continued support of donating funds to help pay for some of the food products we need.

MUSEUM TOURS & PAVILION RENTAL ARE AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT.

Free Museum Tours
Visit our Pioneer Museum and Podunk House to learn more about the history of Fenton and Mundy Townships. Maybe you can locate your ancestors in a photograph or newspaper article in our archives.

Pavilion Rental
(Members: \$25,
Non-members: \$50)
PLEASE CALL Joyce at
810-629





2005 Pioneer Day Work Schedule

Names have been assigned ~ if you are unable to help, please call Phyllis Heusted.Thanks.

CHAIRPERSONS

Victor Moore
Phyllis Heusted

ADMISSIONS

Russ Haddon
Ramona Green
Victor Moore

MEMBERSHIPS/CASH BOXES

Ramona Green

ROAD SIGNS

Loretta Gauthier
Bruce & Annie Grove

PUBLICITY

Cathy Worden
Alice Bristle
John Judson

Wayne Butts

ENTERTAINMENT

Julie Judson Phillips
Peggy Judson

STOCK KITCHEN

Phyllis Heusted
Barbara Loafman
Peggy Judson

Jennifer Judson Wright-VGs

RUMMAGE SALE/BOOKS

Cathy & Chris Worden

HOUSE TOURS

Phyllis Yancy
Jennifer Wright
Julie Phillips
Irene Judson

Loretta Gauthier

CHILDREN'S BOOTH

Jailen Judson
Brenda Rumschlag
Lauren Grove

GIFT TABLE

Nyla Nye
Joyce Simmons
Audrey Laue

BALLOONS-Wordens

COOKS



BAKED GOODS

Joyce Simmons
Frances Warner
Marnie Hartley
Phyllis Yancy

PARKING LOT

Chris Worden
Victor Moore
Wayne Butts

DOOR PRIZE AWARDS

Ramona Green
Nyla Nye

GIFT BAGS

Sandy Moore, Joyce Simmons

ORDER MEAT

Phyllis Heusted
Barbara Loafman

FOOD PERMIT

Phyllis Heusted

FOOD STAND

Phyllis Heusted
Mary Jane Pinkston

Peggy Judson

Florence Allen

Kay Wright

Barbara Loafman

Kristy Roberts

Jeanette Butts

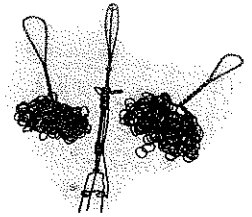
CASHIERS

LaVerne Heusted

Chris Phillips

Wayne Butts

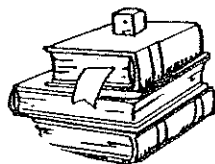
John Judson



FRIDAY NIGHT SET UP &

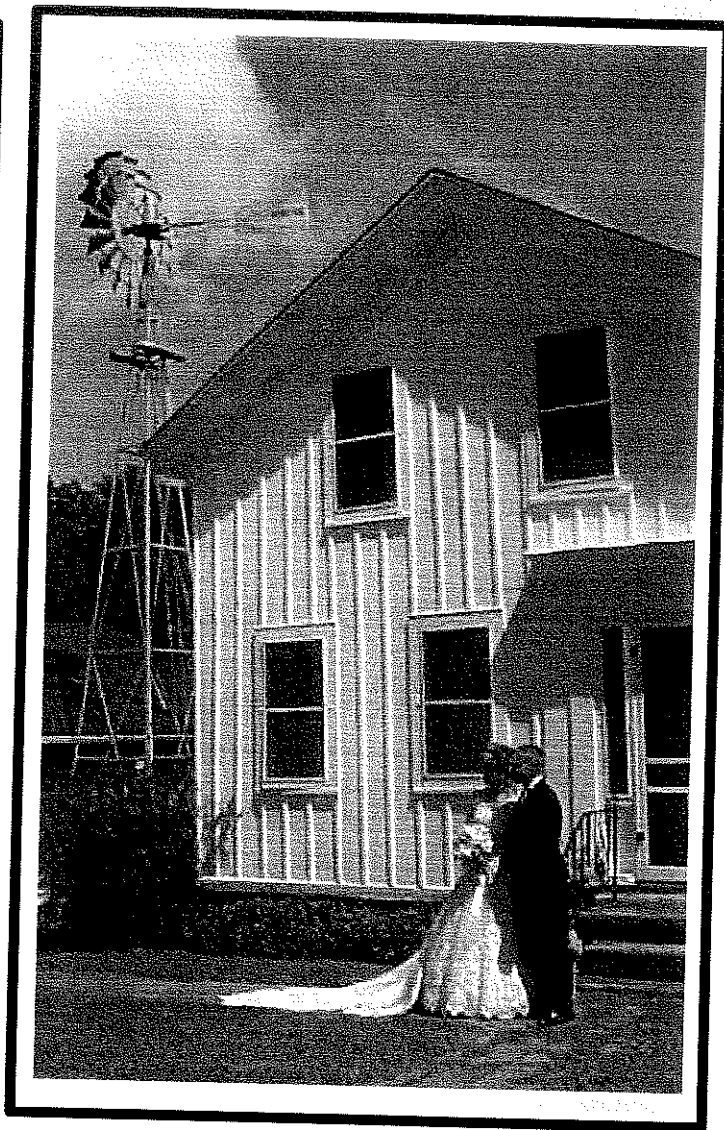
CLEANING [Sept. 9, 4:00 P.M.]

Special Note: More help is needed to put up the tents and canopies – come if you can! Wordens, Heusteds, Loretta Gauthier, Chris Phillips, Bruce Grove, John Judson, Victor & Riley M., Bill Pinkston, Wayne Butts & brothers





*Wedding of Kristy Marie
Shinn & Steven Roberts
at the Historic Podunk
House ~ August 14, 2005*



The families of Kristy Shinn and Steven Roberts enjoyed a lovely, sunny afternoon wedding and reception at the Podunk House and Pioneer Museum. Attendants were Maid of Honor Roxanne Butts and Junior Groomsmen Dylan Roberts and Austin Waligora. Music was provided by Brad Wright with a special song performed by Deborah Shinn. A buffet luncheon and wedding cake were served following the ceremony. Guests also toured the historic Podunk House.

The bride is the granddaughter of two founding members of the Pioneer Association, the late George (Hugh) and Ruth Judson. Hugh is the grandson of the first George Judson who settled in Mundy Township in the early 1800s coming from New York State. Podunk House was originally located on the property near the old Indian Grove (which is part of the John Judson Centennial farm on Torrey Road).



1834



Clark Dibble

Latest Addition to Our Archives:

ON THIS SITE

BY NELSON GERALD SCOTT
AUTHOR & COMMERCIAL ARTIST*



KING FISHER

In the early 1980s, Fenton resident Nelson Gerald "Jerry" Scott and his wife, Kathryn Scott, combined their talents to produce an historical record of the town of Fenton entitled, *On This Site*.

In 1974, before urban renewal, Scott decided that the buildings downtown should be recorded so he set out to draw "every last building I could get my sights on". Covering the period of 1834 to 1984, the 11- by 17- inch book has 170 pages. Drawings of buildings no longer standing were made from old photos, old newspaper records and verbal descriptions. Scott worked for three years, nearly full-time to put the book together.

Scott's book begins with a drawing of Clark Dibble, the first settler in the Fenton area. There is a map of Dibbleville with the names of other early settlers.

Telling about the arrival of Hulda Dibble, the book says she and the children came via ship to Saginaw in 1836. Her husband, Clark, and his brother, Wallace, had preceded him by nearly two years. Some of the things she brought with her were, "cast iron cook stove, new cooking utensils, pair of goats, pair of black sheep, guinea hens, half barrel salt pork, cask of vinegar, jug blackstrap molasses, barrel of flour, starter of yeast, candle-making supplies, scissors, needles, yard-goods, spices, soda, crème of tartar, dried fruit and seeds, 10 lbs. salt, wool processing goods, mold board, plough."

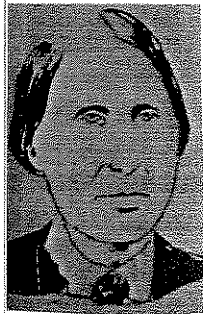
Descriptions of other people and events include the sale of Dibbleville to Col. William Fenton and Robert Leroy; "King" Fisher, chief of the local Indians; the historical card game that resulted in the town's name; and moving a street which put the back of a hotel where the front should have been.

At a later date, Nelson Gerald Scott was commissioned to make a drawing of the Podunk House. It is this drawing that has become our "logo" and is included in our newsletters, stationary and other publications.

Scott's book *ON THIS SITE* was donated to the Pioneer Memorial Association of Fenton and Mundy Townships by Loretta Gauthier who secured it from Citizen's Bank. Be sure to look for this new addition in the museum building the next time you visit.

*Excerpts in this article taken from "Revision planned for anniversary book", by Evelyn J. Lutz, Contributing Reporter for the *Tri-County Times*, Wednesday, November 29, 2000, pages 10-11.

The Fisher Tribe was the name ascribed to the Fenton area Indians. They were a conglomerate of full blood Chippewas and half breed. King Fisher was their chief. He was a colorful little man who wore a navy blue frock coat, deer skin leggings, earrings, silver banded tall hat and strings of beads and wampum. King Fisher was not even half Indian; however, he acted the role of Chief and was accepted by his lowly band. White men were always well received at his log hut. His real name was Jacob Visgar, the "Visgar" becoming corrupted to Fisher. Fisher spoke the local Indian dialect fluently.



Hulda Dibble

THE FIRST LOG HOUSE
IN DIBBLEVILLE BUILT
BY DUSTIN CHENEY
IN 1834.

Dibbleville

THE FIRST WHITE
CHILD BORN IN
DIBBLEVILLE WAS
HARRISON CHENEY
JULY 22, 1835.

**Summer 2005
Activities at the Podunk
House & Museum**

*Two Work Day sessions

*Tour on July 19 by members of the Lake Fenton H.S. Classes of 1963-1967 reunion committee. An Open House is also scheduled for LFHS reunion attendees on Oct. 8.

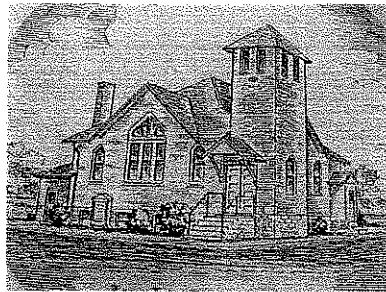
* On August 14, Kristy Shinn & Steve Roberts renewed their vows and a wedding reception was held in their honor. This is the first time such an event has been held at the Historic Podunk Site. Kristy is the granddaughter of founding members George (Hugh) & Ruth Judson. George is the grandson of one of three original settlers in the Fenton/Mundy Township area.

*The pavilion was power washed and treated and the stage was cleaned and stained by Phillips Services.

*On August 20, the O'Dell Family Reunion was held.

On July 24, 2005, W.F. 'Red' Close, who died on July 6, 2003, was honored at a garden party in Linden where a memorial bench was placed as a tribute to him for donating money to Linden Schools for scholarships, to the Presbyterian Church and to a fund to preserve the historic Linden mill. Red Close also had a keen interest in the history of Fenton and surrounding areas. Red was a supporter of our Pioneer Memorial Association and often helped us out on Pioneer Day.

SPECIAL SALE



Silverware for Sale:
Spoons and knives from the old Lake Fenton Methodist Church collection were donated to the Pioneer Association to sell..
Price will be \$3.00 per set.

Welcome New

Members

Audrey Laue
Brad & Jennifer Wright
& family
Chris & Julie Phillips
George Rizik ~*Honorary Life Member**

*Attorney Rizik spent countless hours researching legal documents on our behalf and has donated his time . The Association greatly appreciates all his efforts and welcomes him as a member.

CONGRATULATIONS

Trustee Alice Bristle retired after 36 years with the Lake Fenton school district. She was considered an outstanding educator and leader. We salute her accomplishments and look forward to working with her.



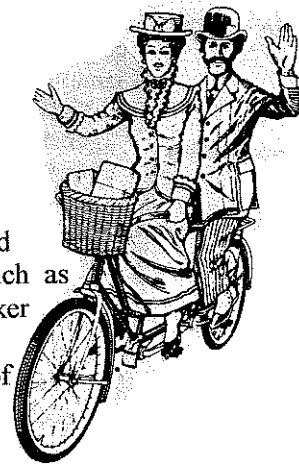
**Transfer of
Property**

The transfer of the land to Fenton Township is **not** yet completed. Attorney George Rizik, acting on behalf of the Pioneer Association, has completed the title search and turned over the documents to the Fenton Township legal department . Only after both parties accept the terms of the contract, will the transfer of the land be official.

CLARIFICATION

Transferring just the land portion of the holdings of the Pioneer Memorial Association to Fenton Township, will ensure that the grounds and buildings are maintained into perpetuity. The members of the Association itself will still own all artifacts and will continue to manage the business of the Museum. The Township's involvement will help defray expenses and will give greater exposure to more people of our mission to preserve local history.

Tidbits from Loretta Gauthier's Files From an 1882 Pocket Manual: "Reading Character"



Black hair belongs to the bilious temperament, which gives remarkable power, strength, and endurance. It denotes a class of persons who are eminently adapted to a pioneer life, inasmuch as they will surmount all ordinary difficulties, and patiently endure hardships from which weaker natures must shrink under construction.

Light hair means fineness and delicacy of organization, and a lighter and less robust type of character. It is the opposite of black or dark hair.


Auburn hair denotes quick susceptibilities, and a delicate physical organization.

People who have **red hair** are of the sanguine temperament, and are characterized by feelings of great intensity: fiery, impetuous, hot-blooded and passionate. Those with **curly hair** are excitable, impulsive, and emotional; while **straight hair** denotes mildness, gentleness, and uniformity of temper ~ sometimes dullness and stupidity.

Red-haired persons should pursue, as far as possible, outdoor occupations, as they require all the pure air and sunshine they can obtain. On the other hand, people with **fine and light hair** are more adapted to light, in-door employments; heavy and exhausting work of any kind would overtask their vital powers. Those with **dark hair** have great endurance and can accomplish a great amount of labor whether physical or intellectual. As a rule, coarse hair denotes a person of coarse thoughts, feelings, and manners. **Fine hair**, on the contrary, denotes refinement and cultivation.

The manner of walking is another important means of reading character. Every person has a style of walk that is more or less distinctive. The man who has great firmness of character, and who is methodical and precise in his habits, will exhibit these traits in a masculine firmness of walk; while the indications of fickleness and instability will be equally manifest in a hesitating and indecisive walk. Those who step lightly have a light, mirthful, mercurial disposition, and are apt to be secretive in their habits.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION & DUES PAYING FORM:

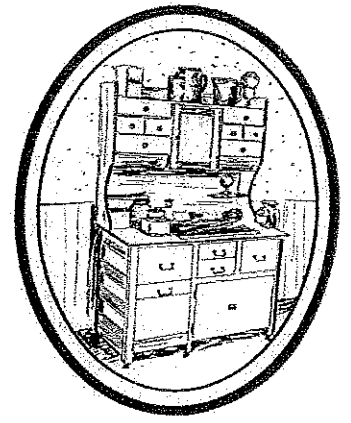
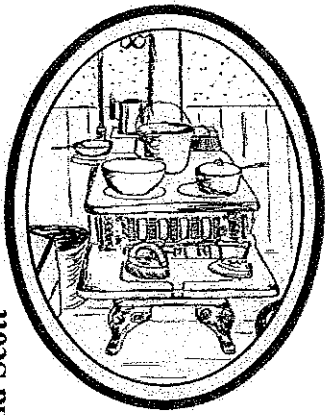
NAME _____		PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____		DATE _____
Check all that apply:	NEW _____	RENEWAL _____
Activities I'd like to participate in:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Board Member	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Research
<input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising	<input type="checkbox"/> Oral History	<input type="checkbox"/> Restoration
<input type="checkbox"/> Genealogy	<input type="checkbox"/> Photography	<input type="checkbox"/> Special Events
<input type="checkbox"/> Meeting Programs	<input type="checkbox"/> Publicity	<input type="checkbox"/> Video Taping
<input type="checkbox"/> Phone Calling	<input type="checkbox"/> Mailing Preparation	<input type="checkbox"/> Yard work
<input type="checkbox"/> House & Museum cleaning (<input type="checkbox"/> Spring <input type="checkbox"/> Summer <input type="checkbox"/> Fall)		
Other work I'd be willing to help with _____		
MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Single.....\$ 3.00 annually	 USA	
<input type="checkbox"/> Family.....\$ 5.00 annually		
<input type="checkbox"/> Contributing..\$ 10.00 annually		
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining....\$ 25.00 annually		
<input type="checkbox"/> Life.....\$100.00 one time		
SEND TO:		
The Pioneer Memorial Association		
of Fenton and Mundy Townships		
P.O. Box 154		
Fenton, MI 48430		

Sketches made by artist Nelson Gerald Scott

Come to

PIONEER DAY

Sat. ~ Sept. 10



WANTED: VENDORS

When: Saturday, Sept. 10, 2005

10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

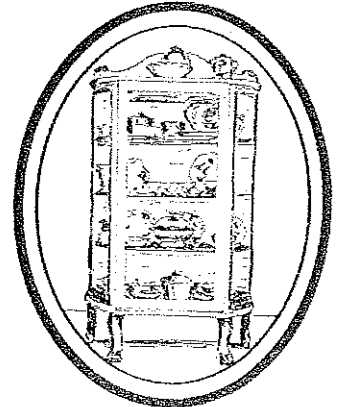
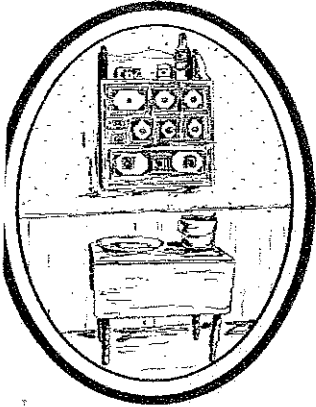
Where: **Podunk House &
Pioneer Museum**

2346 N. Long Lake Rd. Lake Fenton, MI 48430

**Wanted: Crafts, Educational
Demonstrations & Displays, etc.**

Call for Details: 810-631-4763

or 810-629-7748



PIONEER MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION
OF
FENTON & MUNDY TOWNSHIPS
P.O. BOX 154
2436 N. LONG LAKE ROAD
FENTON, MICHIGAN 48430

<http://www.addorio.com/podunk>

