

# Ionia County Historical Society CHRONICLE



The *Almost* Monthly Publication of the Ionia County Historical Society — April 2008

## 2008 IONIA Historic Tour



The big story this month is coming Next month. The committees are working diligently to bring all the final plans and preparations together for another enjoyable Saturday touring Ionia's historic neighborhoods, including a few select vintage homes and public buildings. Welcoming visitors both local and from afar, it's our opportunity to show off our rich local heritage and wonderful community.

Saturday, May 17, the tours will begin, starting at the Blanchard House and continuing on a circuit across the town with a great variety of things to see and people to meet. At the Blanchard House, in addition to the tours and displays, Bill David and Gerard Perry will be hosting displays of Native American culture on the lawn and in the carriage house. In addition to the tours, other activities will be going on in the town.

As usual, volunteers are always welcomed! If you would like to help for just an hour or two, even the simplest gestures are heartily accepted. Members: please come on down and help us welcome our guests!

### NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

Due to the extra time being put into the 2008 Historic Tours project, I haven't had time to put together much of a Chronicle this month. Hope you'll forgive me, and we'll get back on track for the next issue.

We've many activities coming up this season, and with that comes the prospect of working together to make it all happen. Be sure to sign up for those Summer Sundays! I hope to see you there! — *David M.*



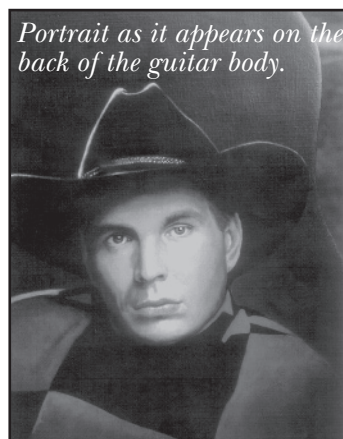
Garth Brooks  
Portrait

### GUITAR RAFFLE!

Get your  
tickets now!  
Only \$5.00  
each from  
an ICHS  
member &  
available

where you see the signs!

*A genuine collector's item, signed  
by the donating artist, Roy Bills.*



*Portrait as it appears on the  
back of the guitar body.*

The Chronicle is the official publication of the Ionia County Historical Society. It is written, edited, and published by David McCord, Secretary. Any comments, suggestions, or contributions should be directed to the editor care of the ICHS at P.O. Box 1776, Ionia, MI, 48846 or via [www.ioniahistory.org](http://www.ioniahistory.org).

### Minutes of the April Meeting

(This is an abbreviated account. For the full minutes, please contact the Secretary.)

The April 2, 2008 Meeting of the ICHS was called to order by President Linda Ciangi at the Blanchard House at 7:00 p.m. Two new members were welcomed to our meeting - Kathleen Perrin and Jeanine Heppard.

After the Secretary and Treasurer's reports were given and accepted, thanks were extended to the volunteers who helped at the Community Expo, where Guitar Raffle tickets were sold. Several hundred dollars have been earned so far with this program. The committee is hoping to sell tickets at the Ionia Theatre's Bluegrass Sunday concerts also.

Final arrangements are being made for the Appraisal Roadshow on April 5, the Indoor Yard Sale at the Armory on April 24 and 25, and the ICHS display at the "Girls' Night Out" event on May 1st. For more information, contact the President.

The "Spring Into The Past" small museums tours are scheduled for May 3 & 4, and guest hosts are needed for the Blanchard House for those two tour days.

A motion was put forward by Barb Ehler to accept a bid for Blanchard House yard work from Sean Morgan. The motion was supported by Joe McCord and passed by the members.

Several gifts and donations were received by the Historical Society, including several High School annuals, a phone and camera, some Ionia Centennial items. The library gave us a "State Summary of Michigan's WWII Casualties" book (1946), and "Historic Sites in Michigan Industry" (1924). Gerry Perry reported that the Ionia Calendars have now sold out for this year.

Scrapbooks of photos and memorabilia were prepared as a program for the evening by Joan and Joe McCord, including a collection of before & after images of homes in Ionia today and 100 years ago.

The remainder of the meeting was focused on the upcoming Historic Tour, then adjourned.

Here's the latest  
issue of the...

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Ionia, MI 48846

[www.ioniahistory.org](http://www.ioniahistory.org)



## Upcoming Programs and Events

**Saturday, May 3rd  
and Sunday, May 4th**  
**“Spring Into The Past”**

Museum Tours - the “Tri-River Group”

**Wednesday, May 7th, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Regular Membership Meeting**  
at the Blanchard House - FINAL PLANS for the  
2008 Historic Homes Tour...

**Saturday, May 17th**  
**2008 Historic Ionia Tour**

VOLUNTEERS WELCOMED!!!

**Tuesday, May 18th, 7:00 p.m.**  
**ICHS Board Meeting**  
at the Blanchard House

**Wednesday, June 4th, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Regular Membership Meeting**  
at the Blanchard House

## JOIN TODAY!

If you'd like to help us preserve the area's heritage, please fill in the form below and send it, with check or money order, to the ICHS Treasurer, care of Box 1776, Ionia, MI 48846.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, St, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Check Your  
Membership Type:

- Regular = \$20
- Sustaining = \$35
- Business Buddy = \$40
- Corporate = \$250
- Life = \$1000
- Free to Students under 18
- Gift = \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please Share a  
Little Information:

- Renewing Member
- New Member

If you're a new member, how  
did you hear about us?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Thanks!