



# the **CHRONICLE**

The Almost Monthly Publication of  
the Ionia County Historical Society



## A Visit To PEWAMO!

The members of the ICHS were welcomed by Pastor Dave White at the Baptist Bible Church of Pewamo. It's a charming little church building, built in 1899 and in the process of restoration by Mr. White over the past five years. The stained glass windows that decorate the church are an outstanding example of traditional church decor, and in very good shape as well. The woodwork, and the ironwork, in the church are very nice as well.

Dave introduced us all to some numerological legerdemain (a trick that's sure to be repeated), and then introduced Sandy Wolniakowski (Pewamo Village Clerk) and her son Tony to share some information about the community of Pewamo. They had set up a display of photos, newspaper articles, and documents depicting some of the high points of Pewamo's history. The residents of Pewamo celebrated their sesquicentennial in 2009, and much of the material they gathered was on display for us.

Sandy noted that the community has a project under way to create a "Trailhead Welcome Center" along the old railroad bed that is becoming a part of the Rails-to-Trails program. They are looking forward to the coming of trail-walkers.

Historical ties between Pewamo and

Ionian are many, but the ties between the ICHS and Pewamo are quite close indeed, through the person of John C. Blanchard. With that in mind, Sandy and Tony spoke about ways that the Pewamo and the ICHS could support each other's efforts.

A specific story of Pewamo lore is that of Joe Winkler, a local daredevil who would put on shows at events around the area. One of his stunts was to parachute from a hot air balloon - a stunt that he had performed at the Ionia Free Fair in the early 1950s. His brother Peter was killed trying that same stunt, and Joe gave up the daredevilery after that. He retired to California, where his daughter still has some memorabilia.

Pastor White then took center stage again with additional background into the recent developments with the church and their spiritual hopes for the modest little congregation. Many thanks to Dave for his hospitality, and thanks are also due to Dave's mother, who "cleaned the place up for company" and prepared some refreshments for the visitors.

(See the PEWAMO article reprint inside this issue!)

**NEXT MONTH: The ICHS meeting will be held at the VanderHayden Mansion!**

### MINUTES of the January 16th Business Meeting

The January 16th business meeting was called to order by President Stephanie VanderMolen at approx. 7:00 pm at the Blanchard House.

The first item on the agenda was in regards to the Treasurer's office. The Treasurer, Hank Knoop, not being present, the topic was with regards to establishing a separate account (at M-1 Credit Union) for museum funds.

The house is rented for a February 1st baby shower (Peterson), and our Christmas Decorations need to be down and stowed by then. Barb Ehlert will take care of this (with help, please) and has a few storage tubs to donate to the cause. No other rentals are scheduled for February.

Barb E. has been posted as the contact for rentals on the website and in the newsletter now.

The president reported that the Business Buddies letters finally went out, hoping for more support from local businesses.

January brings a "Red Carpet Event" in Ionia for the Chamber. Linda C. and Barb E. will represent the ICHS.

The Boyce Elementary Bazaar is scheduled for March 2. If the ICHS wants to participate, it will depend upon available staff. A table space costs \$20 (+\$5 to rent a table). Patty Simpson-Gokee moved to attend, which was supported by Alli Cooke and passed. Interested volunteers contact Stephanie.

The Ionia Expo will be on March 9 at the High School. Patty S. is coordinating the volunteers for this event, so contact her if you'd like to help. Will be selling souvenirs and passing out fliers.

Monthly public programs were discussed briefly. We need more ideas, more folk to invite to speak at our meetings. Any ideas? Please contact the Board. Thus far, the known schedule is:

- March — meeting at the VanderHayden Mansion on West Main
- April — will invite the Farm Power Club to talk about Agricultural topics and their show in June
- May — David McCord will present a program on handwriting, penmanship, and letter-writing
- June — TBD
- July — The annual Independence Day pot-luck
- August — TBD
- September — TBD
- October — Annual Meeting and Elections
- November — TBD

The Board is hoping to continue the upgrade of the Carriage House during 2013 and projects will be discussed at future meetings.

A bus trip / fund raiser to Greenfield Village was discussed, and a date most likely will be early August for the trip. David McCord will gather some information about the Village and events there. Stephanie has contacted a bus company who can arrange a charter for \$1275 that will accommodate 57 passengers. This does not include admission to the Village (\$20).

The Board noted that a procedure needs to be formalized for archived items which leave the building for any reason. For most items, a note has been sufficient, but with more significant artifacts, a better policy should be in place.

The Bridal Show idea was brought up again, and the Board decided to let Alli and Stephanie look into it further and present a proposal.

Maintenance projects at the Blanchard House

were discussed, including a group of items to be fixed. A bid was received for \$600 to repair the umbrella display case, baby carriage, wheelchair, and bookcase. Kathleen moved to spend that sum, and Alli supported the motion — it passed.

Alli reported that plans for the Upstairs-Downtown event are getting started. She would like to widen the scope of the event beyond the three blocks of the business district. This led to some conversation about historic homes tours, and the possibilities of adding a couple of homes ("upstairs") to the event. More to come.

The Buckaroo Ball is coming in February 23rd for the benefit of the Theatre, and the Kathleen moved to offer a rental of the Blanchard House for their auction again this year. Last year, there was a tie for the rental, so two were donated. Kathleen's motion was augmented to allow a second rental if this should happen again this year. The motion was supported by Patty S. and passed. The ICHS will also provide a framed historical photo (reproduction) for the silent auction.

The DDA has a three-day event being planned for June 21, 22, 23 — the board will consider some form of participation as more information becomes available.

David M. reports that the website domain registration has been paid. He also shared a list of the Ionia Newspapers that are now available digitally at the Library - more easily searchable than the microfilm system.

It has been brought to the Board's attention that the house recently used as an office by Betsy Miller (Atty) has been acquired by the County, and they will be tearing it down. Some members recall that this was

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### MINUTES of the February 6 General Mtg

The February 6 meeting of the Historical Society convened at the Pewamo Bible Believer's Church (a charming little 100-year-old country church) and welcomed by our host, Pastor Dave White.

The agenda commenced with reminders about the upcoming March 2nd Boyce Elementary Bazaar, and the March 9th Community Expo at the Ionia High School. The Board authorized Treasurer Hank Knoop to pay for the Expo booth space post haste. Note was also made that the Quilt Raffle is going on, and ticket sales are encouraged. The drawing will be on May 5 (at the Tri-River "Spring Into The Past" event) and tickets on sale at all events between.

Members were reminded of the need to set a date for the Greenfield Village bus trip, and the race to publicize it once it has been set.

The "Antique Fair and Flea Market" (the latest name for the yard sale) will be on May 31-June 1. Looking for vendors and volunteers and stuff to sell (no clothing, please).

The Ionia District Library is presenting a program on "Ragtime Music - 1880's "pop" music."

The Farm Power Club has been contacted about presenting to the ICHS for our April meeting. Still awaiting a response. President Stephanie V. brought up the idea that the ICHS would like to recognize the contributions of the late Dick Baker, who was president of the Farm Power Club. This will be discussed further.

Joan McCord reported that the Antiques Road Show is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, April 13th. Once again, Glen Rairigh would be our appraiser depending on his availability.

Hank Knoop delivered his treasurer's report, available (as usual) on request. Among other items, he reported that \$740 have been received towards the museum fund. He also submitted a request for a grant from the County Foundation for various projects.

Linda C. reviewed the list of upcoming events and activities.

The pulpit was then returned to the Pastor for our evening's program.

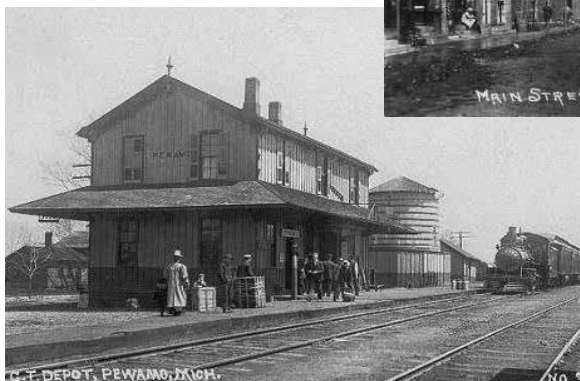
## About PEWAMO:

Source: History of Ionia and Montcalm Counties by John S. Schenck 1881

The gradual progress of the line of the Detroit and Milwaukee Railroad westward in 1857 called villages into existence along its course wherever the chief engineer of the road (Robert G. Higham) chose to locate stations, Higham, having fixed a site for a depot where the village of Pewamo now stands, purchased, with Dr. W. C. Blanchard, J. O. Blanchard, A. F. Bell, and Amos Gould, a village site of J. C. Blanchard, who had himself bought it of Cuyler Deitz, Ben Mosher, and Mr. Bissell in contemplation of the location of a station there. The village tract included the south half of section 12 and the north half of section 13.

Upon the completion of their purchase the proprietors proceeded to found a Village, which, at the suggestion of J. C. Blanchard, they called Pewamo. Mr. Blanchard remembered an Indian chief of that name with whom he used to hunt and fish a good deal in the pioneer days, and thus chose to honor him. Mr. Blanchard met Pewamo while traveling through Canada in 1877, and the chiefs learning then for the first time that his name had been given to a Michigan village, was excessive in his demonstrations of delight over the fact that his memory would be perpetuated in his ranch-loved native home of the Grand River valley.

The village was surveyed by A. F. Bell in 1857, but the plat was not recorded until July 25, 1859. It was described as being situated on sections 12 and 13, and commencing at the quarter-post on the north line of section 13, the streets being platted sixty-six feet in width. The recorded village proprietors were



## Upcoming Programs and Events

Wednesday, February 20, 7:00 p.m.  
Business Meeting at the Blanchard House

Wednesday, March 6th, 7:00 p.m.  
Program Meeting at the **VanderHayden Mansion**

March 16 — Ionia Expo at the IHS

Wednesday, March 20, 7:00 p.m.  
Business Meeting at the Blanchard House

Wednesday, April 3  
Program Meeting - **Location To Be Announced**

Wednesday, April 17, 7:00 p.m.  
Business Meeting at the Blanchard House

Wednesday, May 1, 7:00 p.m.  
Program Meeting at the Blanchard House  
presented by David McCord

May 4 — Spring Into The Past Museum Tours  
May 6 — Summer Sunday Open Houses Begin  
May 18 — Upstairs-Downtown Tours

June 7, 8 — Annual Yard Sale / Flea Market

Be sure to stop in on Thursday afternoons to help out with the many projects under way at the Blanchard House. Cleaning and maintenance, yes – but also research and inventory, working on museum displays, and finding wonderful treasures!

For other upcoming events -  
visit the ICHS website at [ioniahistory.org](http://ioniahistory.org).



*These images are post-cards from by-gone days in Pewamo. The charm of the community continues today - a genuinely "family friendly" little town.*

J. C. Blanchard and W. Z. Blanchard, July 20, 1874. Sherwood and Loomis platted an addition which embraced the western fifty acres of the south half of the northeast quarter of section 13. It commenced at the centre of section 13, ran thence north twenty chains, east twenty-five chains, south twenty chains, and west to (he place of beginning.

The pioneer trader of the place was Hiram Blanchard, who came from Canada in the spring of 1857 and erected a store and dwelling on the corner now covered by William Triphagens store. At that time Daniel Shepard was living in a log house (that stood upon the site of Mr. Taft's house), Ben Mosher was in a log house upon the American House lot, and Tom Robinson, a carpenter, was living in the house which is still his home. Daniel Shepard died in 1857, his being the first death in the village. The second trader was K. L. Morse, who, having tried unsuccessfully to start a village of his own, called Woodville, two miles to the eastward, on the line of the railway, carried his stock of goods to Pewamo in the spring of 1857 and erected the factory-building now occupied by Ralph Mattison. Then also Ira Fisher bought Benjamin Marsh's log house and converted it into a house of entertainment, although he never entertained many people therein, chiefly because the house was too small. Later the Widow Stokes added a frame structure to the log cabin, and gradually there was evolved out of the affair the American Hotel, still standing where Ben Mother's hut stood, but just now untenanted. In the fall of 1857, B. H. Morse built a blacksmith's shop in the village, and hired Hugh Robertson, a Canadian, to carry it on for him. When Robertson came to the town, late in 1857, he found six families, all told, occupying the site of the present village. Fisher was keeping tavern and Morse and Blanchard were keeping stores. There were also in the town Tom Robinson, a carpenter, Franklin Gilbert, of the same trade, and Cuyler Dietz, a farmer. The spot selected for the village was an exceedingly unsuitable one, for it was in the midst of a low tract, and for the greater part of the year roads were so bad that it was almost impossible for people to get to the town. This condition of things kept trade away, and the village thrived but feebly, with a fair promise that it would ultimately die of inanition. For a time, however, there was considerable done at that point in the way of supplying wood to the railway company, and thus the storekeepers managed to eke out a thin existence. When Hiram Blanchard came to the town he was led to remark that it looked as though it ought to be given over entirely to the control of the frogs, who had well-nigh absolute possession.

Even up to the year 1870, Pewamo was a desolate-looking place, and was pretty closely hemmed in by woods. It had, however, begun to move forward as a consequence of the improved condition of the roads leading to it, the township having bestirred itself actively in the premises. Morse, having failed in his mercantile enterprise, was succeeded by Snell A. Hungerford, and in 1866, when John Pennington came in and built the store he now occupies, Lewis Hungerford and Hiram Blanchard were the only traders in the place.

In 1867 the village received its first resident physician, and in 1868 Helm & Mattern established a wagon - and carriage-manufactory, which they carried on with more or less success until 1875, when the business was discontinued. Up to 1870 there had been neither saw-mill nor grist- mill at Pewamo. In that year Rico & Hilliker built the present grist-mill, with two run of stone. Previous to 1870 lumber was obtained at Gee's saw-mill, on Stony Creek, and grists carried to Matherton, Hubbardston, or Lyons. After passing through various proprietorships the mill fell to the possession of Hugh Robertson in October, 1870, and he still carries it on.

In 1869 O. W. Holley established a stove-factory at Pewamo and did a large business for several years, but latterly the factory had been idle.

The first physician resident in Pewamo, already referred to, was Dr. Lafayette Jones, who came in 1867 and remained until 1876. Meanwhile, Dr. William H. Chaddock came to the town in 1868 from Clinton County, and since that time has been continuously in practice at Pewamo. Other physicians flitted across the surface of local history, but tarried only briefly and left scarcely an impression. Among these were Drs. Herman, Outwater, Ward, May, and Carpenter. The physicians besides Dr. Chaddock now in practice in the village are Drs. George B. Gregory and Dennis Sudderlin.



#### THE POST OFFICE

Hiram Blanchard, Pewamo's second merchant and first station-agent as well as express-agent, was appointed postmaster in 1857, when Pewamo was established as a post office, and continued in the office until 1870. John Belts, his successor, was in possession but a little while, and Feb. 15, 1871, John Pennington, the present incumbent, was appointed. Pewamo has been a money-order office since August, 1871. Three mails are received and forwarded daily by railroad, and one by stage.

#### NEWSPAPER

Pewamo has a newspaper called the Plaindealer, a small journal of sixteen columns, published weekly on Thursdays by Charles H. Ward. The paper was first issued by Miles & Teft, at Muir, Oct. 12, 1877, and called the Muir Plaindealer. Being shortly persuaded to transfer the publication to Pewamo, they made the change after issuing four numbers, and Nov. 9, 1877, put forward the first number of the Pewamo Plaindealer. Dec. 7, 1877, Charles H. Ward, who had all along been engaged on the paper, bought the interest of Miles, and Oct. 1, 1878, bought out Teft. Since then Ward has been in sole control. The Plaindealer is now, as it always has been, independent in politics, and bright with home news.

Pewamo village contains now a population of three hundred and fifty, and, besides being the centre of considerable mercantile trade, is a good wheat-shipping point. Mills & Greenwood and Henry Hitchcock & Co. have capacious wheat-houses, and ship from Pewamo station an aggregate of about one thousand car-loads of wheat annually, or three hundred and fifty-five thousand bushels. The railway business is in charge of D. M. Howie, who has been station-agent since 1870. At this point, moreover, freight is received for the villages of Hubbardston, Matherton, Carson City, Kim Hall, and Bloomer.

The business interests at Pewamo include the general stores of Freeman & Taft, John Pennington, Ralph Madison, Coon & Henderson, the grocery-stores of Wm. Triphagen and John Ludwick, the drug-store of John Triphagen, and the hardware-store of C. B. Somen.

The legal profession is represented by Moses Bartow, who has been practicing law at the village since May, 1879. Pewamo had no lawyer until 1874, when two young persons named Cummings and Button descended upon the town and alleged that they had come to peddle law for the benefit of stricken humanity. Cummings, who lived in Dallas township and claimed to have practiced there, was said to have graduated as a backwoods lawyer in some portion of rural New York, and, with the legal lore obtainable in such an experience, turned himself loose in Michigan. His partner and friend Button was about as high up in the Blacktonian scale as he was, and it is said that when either attempted the framing of a legal document he came to grief, as a rule, although instances have been cited where success crowned their protracted and labored efforts. Although they never essayed a loftier legal flight than sufficed to reach the office of a justice of the peace, they succeeded so badly that after a years trial they confessed their mission a dismal failure and gave up the ghost.

held a meeting and unanimously recommend the following Field Officers: Lt. Col. Wm. B. McCreery, of Flint, to be Colonel, Adjt. **Morris B. Wells**, of Ionia, to be Lieutenant-Colonel; Capt. Seymour Chase, of Kent, to be Major. These officers are the unanimous choice of the regiment, and we hope the appointments may be made.

The following recommendations for promotions in the line have also been made: Myron C. Russell to be 1st Lieutenant, vice Chance resigned; James Houghton to be 2d Lieutenant, vice Russell, promoted; Arthur C. Prince to be 1st Lieutenant, vice Dunham, resigned; Charles W. Eaton to be 2d Lieutenant, vice Turner, resigned; Eli E. Burrett to be 1st Lieutenant, vice Russell, resigned; **John C. Taylor** to be 2d Lieutenant, vice Burritt, promoted; Sergt. Charles E. Belknap, Co. H. is promoted to Sergeant Major, vice Eaton, promoted. All the above named officers are acting in the places they are recommended to fill. **Lieut. A. B. Morse**, formerly of the old Sixteenth, is Acting Adjutant, He has lately joined the Regiment.

Lewis Gilbert Palmer was born September 17th 1851, in Herkimer County, NY. He received his general education in the public schools of Detroit, MI., and the Michigan Agricultural College at Lansing, MI.



In **January, 1863** Mr. Palmer enlisted in the Michigan Provost Guard, and was regularly mustered into the United States service as a drummer boy at the age of eleven years and about four months. He served from then until the close of the war; was discharged at camp Blair in Jackson, MI. Mr. Palmer was without a doubt the youngest member of the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) in the country, and the claim was made for him that he was the youngest Union Soldier to be found on the muster rolls of the nation. In this service he partook in the spirit that moved other members of his family, for his father and three brothers served in Michigan regiments, leaving only his mother and one sister at home.

### ...and 200 Years Ago:

During the War of 1812, following General Isaac Brock's capture of Detroit on August 16, 1812, the Michigan Territory was at least nominally a part of the Province of Upper Canada. On August 24, Colonel Henry Proctor proclaimed the continuation of civil government under existing laws with Proctor acting as Governor and Chief Justice Augustus B. Woodward acting as Secretary. On **February 4, 1813**, Proctor suspended civil government and imposed martial law.

The Battle of Frenchtown, also known as the Battle of the River Raisin or the River Raisin

Massacre, was a series of conflicts that took place from **January 18–23, 1813** during the War of 1812. It was fought between the United States and a British and Native American alliance near the River Raisin in Frenchtown, Michigan Territory (present-day Monroe, Michigan).

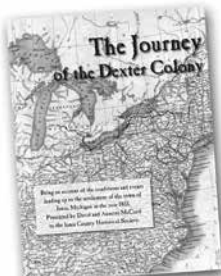
On **January 18, 1813** the Americans forced the retreat of the British and their Indian allies from Frenchtown, which they had earlier occupied, in a relatively minor skirmish. The encounter was part of a larger plan to advance north and retake the city of Detroit following

the loss of the city in the Siege of Detroit the previous summer. Despite the initial American success, the British and Native Americans rallied and launched a surprise counterattack four days later on **January 22**. Three hundred and ninety-seven Americans were killed in this second battle, while hundreds were taken prisoner and dozens of them killed in a subsequent massacre by Native Americans the following day. It was the deadliest conflict ever fought on Michigan soil, and the casualties included the highest number of Americans killed in a single battle during the War of 1812.


# SOUVENIRS

MEMORIES & MOMENTOS    IONIA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY    HERITAGE & HISTORY

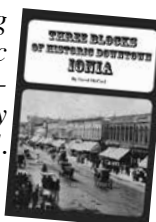
*Just a few of the many things available at the Blanchard House / Ionia Museum Gift Shop.*



*The Journey of the Dexter Colony, 1833, by David and Annette McCord. A detailed history of the settling of Ionia.*  
\$12 each (\$15 with postage)



*A History of Bertha Brock Park on its 80th "Birthday" by David McCord.*  
\$6 each



*Walking Tour of Historic Downtown Ionia - 40-pages of history by David McCord.*  
\$5 each

## DVD VIDEO SOUVENIRS!

- **'Sno Wonder DVD – 1936 Ionia County Road Commission + 1940 Bertha Brock Snow Festival**  
*Short films that show us a glimpse of the challenges and the fun of Winters in Ionia County a generation ago.*
- **1939 "We're In The Movies"** *A promotional film produced by Ionia businesses and organizations. It's a wonderful look into our town over 70 years ago.*
- **1950s Home Show and Free Fair Movies**
- **1976 U.S. Bicentennial in Ionia**
- **1937 Ionia Airport Inaugural plus Bertha Brock Park's 1940 "Winter Festival"**
- **1973 Ionia Centennial Documentary**
- **"Ionia's First 150 Years" and "Ionia - A Look Back" - Documentaries by Monroe MacPherson**

DVDs are available for \$10 each!

### ALSO AVAILABLE:

Reproductions of historic Ionia publications –

- **1887 "Headlight Flashes" Special Edition**
- **1907 Ionia Souvenir Book**
- **1973 Ionia City Centennial Program Book**

## 150 Years Ago



### NEWS OF THE REBELLION

January 20, 1863 —

Ambrose Burnside searched for another crossing of the Rappahannock. This is known as the “Mud March” and was dismally unsuccessful. Within a few days, Abraham Lincoln relieved General Ambrose Burnside [US] from command of the Army of the Potomac, replacing him with General Joseph “Fighting Joe” Hooker.

February 5, 1863 —

General Joseph Hooker reorganized the Army of the Potomac, appointing J. F. Reynolds, Darius Couch, Dan Sickles, George Meade, John Sedgwick, W. F. Smith, **Franz Sigel** and Henry Slocum in command of individual corps. William Seward informed Minister Mecier that the French offer to mediate the Civil War had been rejected by the United States.

February 12, 1863—

West Virginia’s constitutional convention reconvened following Congress’s request that certain wording (about slaves) be modified.

February 16, 1863 —

U. S. Senate passed the Conscription Act. This was not well received, and included the infamous \$300 stand-in clause which allowed someone to substitute for the draftee.

February 17, 1863—

The First Michigan Colored Infantry was mustered into service against the Confederacy.

February 26, 1863 —

The National Currency Act was signed into law by President Lincoln, creating a national banking system, a Currency Bureau and the office of Comptroller of the Currency. The act’s goal was to establish a single currency.

February 26, 1863 —

The Cherokee Nation rescinded its declaration of secession and abolished slavery, reversing its earlier course.

The Seventh Cavalry was raised under the supervision of the Honorable F.W. Kellogg, with its rendezvous at Grand Rapids, its muster into the United States service was done piecemeal and at different dates.

The First Battalion of the Regiment, under the command of Colonel Mann, left its rendezvous at Grand Rapids on the **20th. of February, 1863**, bound for Washington, where Michigan Cavalry units were being formed into a single Brigade, the remaining companies joining the following May.

During its entire time in the service of the United States, they were assigned to the famous Michigan Brigade - “The Wolverines” - under the command of Brigadier General George A. Custer of Monroe, MI.



### **AND OF THE 21ST MICHIGAN INFANTRY: In Camp near Murfreesboro, Tenn.**

*From the Detroit Advertiser and Tribune, February 15th 1863:*

The 21st is still in camp on Stone river, where we have been since the battle. Picket and forage duty is now the order of the day. We are detailed upon one or the other almost daily. Two or three times a week a trail of one hundred wagons, or more, is sent out for forage. Each wagon carries four men, to load, and the whole train having an escort of at least one brigade of infantry, a section of artillery and a squadron of cavalry. They go but eight or ten miles beyond our picket lines, until finding the necessary forage, they make a break for it, when the corn cribs are emptied, and the corn blades looted in “double quick time” and the wagons are moving off; the darkies looking with wide-mouthed wonder upon the proceedings; the “Butternut” proprietor strolling about with his hands in his pockets, chewing “nature leaf,” and expostulating, begging or whistling in utter despair. After the wagons are loaded the Quartermaster gives a receipt for the amount that has been taken, and thus the “Butternut” becomes a creditor of the United States. It makes some of these rich old secessionists groan, the entire products of a year’s labor, of their slaves taken at one call – but groans are of no avail. Some, however, yield with a good grace, claim they are Union men, and say that Uncle Sammy is very welcome to all they have, Some of them carry their magnanimity so far as to refuse to take receipts. Of course, a certain clause in said receipts has nothing to do with said refusal, to wit: “To be paid for only on proof of loyalty.”

We scarcely ever go without coming in contact with some of the rebel cavalry who are constantly prowling about in our regt. The skirmishing is sometimes right sharp and bloody, resulting sometimes in loss on both sides.

Our regiment is daily improving in health and effective strength; over one hundred and sixty men have come up to the regiment from hospitals, since we have been in our present camp. We were pained and shocked, the other day, by noticing in the papers an extract from the Richmond Whig, stating that one of our officers, Eil Burritt, is to be shot at Atlanta, Georgia for having on his person facsimile Confederate money, Lieut. Burnett was wounded and taken prisoner at the battle of Stone River, He was a faithful efficient officer, and a perfect gentleman, He has a brother in the South, and of the South, we understand, If he be sacrificed to Southern malignity, no “Butternut” either officer or soldier, need expect any mercy hereafter if he falls into the hands of the 21st. A great many changes have been made in the affairs of the regiment since it left the State. All the field officers, who organized the regiment are gone. Colonel Stevens, from long-continued ill health, brought on by hardships and exposure, has been compelled to resign, The same with Major Hunting. Both regretted very much to leave the service, and both will be missed by us. After the resignations were accepted, the officers of the regiment



# the [www.ioniahistory.org](http://www.ioniahistory.org) **CHRONICLE**

The Chronicle is the official publication of the Ionia County Historical Society. It is written, edited, and published by David McCord, Secretary. Any comments, corrections (of course), or contributions should be directed to the editor c/o the ICHS at P.O. Box 176, Ionia, MI, 48846 or via [www.ioniahistory.org](http://www.ioniahistory.org).

Ionia County Historical Society  
P.O. Box 176  
Ionia, MI 48846



## 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 176, 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!

## Join Us at the Ionia Theatre at 9:30 a.m. every Thursday for **FREE ICHS Travelogues!**

*February 21 – Germany*

*February 28 – Alaska*

*March 7 – Land of the Eagle*

*March 14 – Scotland - Pipes and Dancing*

*March 21 – Journey Through Time*

*March 28 – Travel the World by Train*

*April 4 – Yosemite National Park*

### Ionia County Historical Society 2012-13 Board of Directors & Officers

Stephanie VanderMolen, President — 616-755-0731

Patty Simpson-Gokee, Vice President — 527-0676

Kathleen Cook, Director — 527-2626

Alli Cook, Director — 616-821-1406

Barb Hogan, Director — 527-1525

David McCord, Secretary — 527-3784

Hank Knoop, Treasurer — 527-3130

Barb Ehlert, House Rentals — 522-0844