



**HUBBARDSTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER NUMBER ELEVEN, NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2004
Box 183, HUBBARDSTON, MI. 48845
WWW.HUBBARDSTON.ORG**

COMING EVENTS

Thursday, October 28, 7:00 p.m.

Ruth Brooks-"Doll Repair"

St. John's School @ 7:00PM

Thursday, November 18, 7:00p.m.

"Tonsorial Delight" Barber Al Kelly

Straight Razor Demo on Volunteers

St. John's School @ 7:00 PM

December

Holiday Break-No meetings

Thursday, January 27, 7:00 p.m.

"Burr Smith" Greenville Daily News

Hubbardston History

St. John's School Path @ 7:00PM

Thursday, February 24, 7:00 p.m.

Show and Tell

St. John's School @ 7:00 PM

Thursday, March 24, 7:00 p.m.

Mary Caris - "Colonial Recipes"

Board of Directors Nominations

St. John's School @ 7:00PM

Thursday, April 28, 7:00 p.m.

Dept. of Michigan State-Schafer Heating

Board of Directors Candidates Roster

St. John's School @ 7:00PM

Saturday, May 26, 11:30-3:00 p.m.

Third Annual HAHS Meeting, Social,

Membership Drive and Election

St. John the Baptist Parish Hall

Fashion Show of Yesteryear-August 26, 2004



Shirley Bennett Burns modeling her mother's wedding dress. Freda Cusack married Rex Bennett in 1934. (HAHS Fall Social Style Show of Yesteryear - August 26, 2004)

H.A.H.S. Fund Raiser

Hubbardston Genealogy plus a Bit of History and A

Bit of Blarney, too! can be purchased for **\$29.95**

(including shipping and sales tax) **in multiples of two or more books for the holiday season** ending on January 1, 2005. **10% of every book sold is a contribution to the Hubbardston Area Historical Society.** For less than a hundred dollars (\$89.85) you can purchase three copies (almost 500 pages each) of the documented legacy of your children's and grandchildren's forefathers. **Available at the Celtic Path - 989-981-6066 or by e-mail from Joanne at mjh655@pathwaynet.com or by phone from Joanne at - 989-584-3803.**

**"Pub Runners" Hubbardston Irish Dance Fund Raiser
October 16, 2004 at St. John the Baptist Parish Hall.**

Sinclair's Irish Pub on Mackinaw Island is the home of this musical group. St. John the Baptist Parish Hall will host the fund raiser. Doors open at 6:00; the music starts at 7:00. The Hubbardston Dance Troup will perform at 8:00. Tickets are available at the door for \$12 for adults and \$5 for children under ten. Everyone is welcome.

Remember to renew your HAHS membership by

January 1, 2005 to keep your newsletter coming. One year for \$15. Five years for \$60 (that's one year free). Of our almost 300 members last year, close to half have already renewed for the 2004-2005 year.

Life was a lot simpler when we honored father and mother rather than all the major credit cards.

Attention! Attention! October 28th Meeting will be at St. John's School

Ruth Brooks, "Doll Hospital" chief surgeon will be our presenter on October 28th. Dessert and coffee will be served. All are welcome to come and check out our new location at 7:00 PM. With Marie Sweet and Mary Caris returning from Ireland, we're looking forward to their pictures and stories. **Everyone is welcome!**

Concerning Corsets

Hubbardston Area Historical Society hosted a turn-of-the-century fashion show. As the laces of her corset were pulled tight, Mindy Bryant inhaled deeply. So did everyone else watching. "It takes your breath away for a second," said Bryant to laughter all around the room. Bryant, a member of the Western Michigan Genealogical Society, the Grand Rapids Historical Society and the Hubbardston Area Historical Society was giving a presentation at the HAHS Fall Social on August 26th, 2004. After HAHS co-chairmen Julianne Burns finished tightening the corset, Bryant measured her waist.

"That'll work." She said with relief. In order to model the costume she had brought with her to model, her waistline had to be less than 21 inches.

Sounding breathless, Bryant explained how to dress for an 1800's outing. From the bustle to the corset cover to the first petticoat, Bryant dressed herself in each item with the help of Burns, while giving a history lesson to the 63 persons present in the Hubbardston Masonic Lodge.

"Everything they put on was attached with hooks or eyes. Your good petticoat needed to be something that you wouldn't mind if people saw it. It was good to have clothes that you needed help getting into because that meant that you had money," explained Bryant. "You put your shoes on immediately after your drawers because you're not bending over after you're dressed," she said to more laughter.

Bryant's completed ensemble weighed 10-15 pounds and she wasn't even wearing the usual woolen stockings, gloves or hat. "And this is a summer outfit?" a woman asked in disbelief. "And you can sit in it?" another woman queried.

"And we think we're suffering when we have to wear nylons or a girdle," marveled HAHS program MC, Joanne Howard.

"They did think that a woman should be corseted like this because it was good for her emotionally; she wouldn't be so scatterbrained," added Bryant. Girls as young as age 8 would wear training corsets to prepare their bodies for the strain of the real corsets. People broke their ribs, girls died because they wanted a very skinny waist," Bryant explained.

"I think it's wonderful that these people dug out all of these wonderful things, dating from the 1800's-1980's to show us tonight," said Howard who was dressed in her mother's 50th wedding anniversary dress from 1974. The

HAHS Models at the Fall Social were: Marie Sweet, Evan Lattimer, Janet Dailey, Anne Fahey, Julianne Burns, Billie Cunningham, Rosie McMillan, Janet Kelly, Rose Clark, Shirley Burns, Mary Caris, Joanne Howard.

(Elizabeth Waldon, Carson City Gazette, September 6, 2004) **Mary Caris, Marie Sweet and Joanne Howard** were co-chairs of the "Fall Social" which included a wonderful dinner and 'Fashion Show of Yester-year.'

People who fly into a rage always make a bad landing.

Centenarian Plus One

On October 27th, Gerry Boomer, Box 248, Hubbardston, Mi. 48845 will celebrate her 101st birthday. Amazingly, she is mobile, 'sharp as a tack,' loves visiting, attends functions at Post 182 and knows everyone by name. Each time I talk with her, she offers gems of information just in passing in simple conversation. I asked if there was any secret which she attributed to her longevity. Reluctantly she shared with me the 'ingredients' in her daily tonic. It is called "Jogging-in-a-Jar" and consists of apple juice, grape juice and vinegar. She also takes the food supplement – Pan Gam daily on advice from her daughter, Pat.

Whatever it is, Gerry loves to be around friends and enjoys daily outings with her son, Denny and his wife, Yvonne who take very good care of her and see that she has the opportunity to attend all local social gatherings. In summertime she visits daughter Pat Griffin at the lake in Sumner. Oren, her oldest son lives in Colorado

Wouldn't it be wonderful if she could receive 101 cards on her birthday, October 26th, 2004? Let's all try to remember her with this "Card Shower" on her birthday. Incidentally, she will stop by Post 182 on Sunday afternoon, October 24th. She is a 50 year Life Member of Post 182 and a member of HAHS as well. She might even share her recipe for "Jogging-in-a-Jug!"

Try These Online Resources

Online Censuses are the current rage in genealogical research according to the Fort Wayne Library. Three sources are excellent for the area. Schedules are available on Ancestry Incorporated - www.ancestry.com. Heritage Quest can be accessed at: www.HeritageQuestOnline.com and the every-name 1880 census index free through the Genealogical Society of Utah www.FamilySearch.org. This gives access to federal schedules from 1790-1930 with the exception of the lost 1890 enumeration. If you are an ACPL (Allen County Public Library) patron you can freely access these subscription databases. Enter a surname into a search template and you are on your way. This material is supplied by the electronic newsletter from

ACPL with which HAHS is affiliated. You can access this newsletter yourself by a request to kspears@acpl.lib.in.us For more general info or a Research Center form on this unique source you may call 260-421-1225.

Letters from readers:

Hi Joanne, Enclosed the descendants of Agnes Fitzpatrick Bower (daughter of John, granddaughter of Edmund) to add to your collection. Also, the John and Ellen Bohem Fitzpatrick family picture. Ellen's pin is interesting in that it is in the design of a swastika. I learned that it was a 'peace sign' prior to Hitler making it his swastika. The postcard: on the front is a picture of George and Agnes Fitzpatrick Bower, son Leo and daughter Lucille. The card was sent to Mrs. Joseph Lawless, her sister. This may be Joie's grandmother. Thanks again and again. **(Jane Bower, Lansing, Mi.)**

I was amused when I read that in researching this ancient data that if you find two people who agree on a particular event, you call it 'gospel.' It's pretty safe, I'd say. **(Sally Marcy, Otsego, Mi.)**

You people are doing a lot for the community of Hubbardston and we, who have our roots there, appreciate the energy being expended on keeping the history alive. The people of that community had a positive effect on my life. Good luck on any new projects you have in the future. God Bless! **(Jack McGinn, Sarasota, Florida, class of 1939).**

Enclosed is a prayer that I have shared with my family in the tribulations of ill health.

The Cross and Me

I display the cross in my home, a simple reminder to me
Of the fact that I am a Christian no matter what time it may be.
This cross on the wall is not magic nor is it a good luck charm.
It isn't meant to protect me from every physical harm.
It's not for identification for all the world to see.
It's simply an understanding between my Savior and me.
Whenever I get busy I'll always be able to see
The Cross is there to remind me of the price He paid for me.
It reminds me too, to be thankful for my blessings day by day.
And to strive to serve Him better in all that I do or say.
It is also a daily reminder of the peace and comfort I share
Of all who know my Master and give themselves to His care.
So I have a cross in my home reminding no one but me
That Jesus Christ is Lord of my life if only I'll let Him be.
(sent by Jack McGinn, Sarasota, Fla.)

I really appreciate your book and your thoughtfulness. Please use this money for the book, my membership and the rest for the needs of the organization. **(Norman Burns, Oxford, Mi.)**

Your book is delightful. **(Tom Beahan, East Tawas, Mi.)**
As usual you people all do a great job at the Post 182 Chicken Barbecue. Dr. Lattimer's presentation on

Lindbergh was very interesting and he is a wonderful person. **(Barbara Billings, Greenville, Mi.)** *Dr. Lattimer is 90-years-old, a charter member of HAHS and speaks each year at the Hubbardston American Legion Post 182. This year was the largest and most attentive audience, about 75 people. They were primarily HAHS members and enjoyed him thoroughly.*

Thank you so much for your hospitality after Auntie's visitation and how much we appreciated the choir. We loved your first book and would like a copy of your new one. **(Tom and Diane Cunningham, Spring Lake, Mi.)**

I haven't had time to read your book yet, but my son-in-law found it fascinating. We got a card yesterday from Shirley Fox in California. She told us she found out it was our 50th anniversary from reading your book. Shirley and Gene were classmates. **(Donna and Gene Cook, Pewamo, Mi.)**

Two tourists were driving through Wisconsin. As they were approaching Oconomowoc, they started arguing about the pronunciation of the town's name. They argued back and forth until they stopped for lunch. As they stood at the counter, one tourist asked the blonde employee, "Before we order, could you please settle an argument for us? Would you please pronounce where we are...very slowly?"
The blonde girl leaned over the counter and said, "Burr, Gurr, Kiiing."

Well Beyond the Call of Duty

Both Carson City and Hubbardston parishes said farewell to their parish priest on September 26th with a "Day of Appreciation" celebration. Fr. Bill Reitz retired from the Grand Rapids Diocese in June, 2004 after undergoing hip replacement surgery and is now fighting prostate cancer. Everyone feels his absence. "He treasured the element of time," said Helen Beahan of St. Mary's. "He never wasted a minute. He lived everyday to the fullest. He was always working; mentally or physically. His gifts were many to other people, but his needs were few."

"He was very good with the older people, the shut ins and the hospitalized," said Pat Burns of Carson City.

"I noticed him growing in humility over the years," said Bud Datema. "He had the kindest eyes. Sometimes you would look at him and he would give you a wink."

Hubbardston's Dick Cusack said, "I compared Fr. Reitz to the energizer bunny a few years ago. I think the bunny would come in second. He went well beyond the call of duty." Fr. Bill was ordained in Grand Rapids in 1947. His final double-duty assignment was St. Mary's and St. John the Baptist parishes beginning in 1985. "They were both very loyal. I enjoyed my pastorship there...They're good people. They spoil me." He now resides at St. Ann's Home in Grand Rapids where his unofficial title is currently "Chief Assistant Groundskeeper Advisor." He works every day out side doing trimming and keeping the grounds beautiful.

On a more poignant note, it's the first time in 150 years - since 1852 that St. John the Baptist hasn't had a priest. The official parish formation was in 1855 with Father Bolte, but Sunday prayer meetings began in 1848 with the arrival

of John Cowman and soon after - seven additional Catholic families. In 1896, the bishop ordered Father Landers to allow the section of St. John the Baptist Parish north of the Ionia/Montcalm County Line Road to be formed into St. Mary's of Carson City. In 1903, the bishop ordered Father McCabe to turn over the parishioners from the area south of the Brick Schoolhouse Road south of Matherton to form St. Joseph's Parish in Pewamo.

A worldwide shortage of priests and nuns is beginning to take its toll in smaller parishes such as St. Mary's and St. John the Baptist. More diverse career choices and the strict vows of poverty, chastity and obedience that priests are required to take, may be a factor, also.

In 1989 at the All School Reunion of St. John the Baptist alumni, Fr. Jim Cusack, a native of Hubbardston predicted that within 10-20 years we would be back to where we started – families meeting on Sunday's with a prayer leader. He foresaw wisely the future shortage of priests. As in other denominations, a Pastoral Director, Nancy Woodcock of Howard City has been hired to do all pastoral duties except the celebration of Mass. She is highly qualified and doing a wonderful job with "big shoes to fill."(Carson City Gazette, September 20, 2004) **For more information on these parishes consult your book - St. John the Baptist Parish on Fish Creek, the Beginnings, by Joanne Howard, 2001**

The next time you hear a politician use the word "**billion**" **casually** think about whether you want the politician spending your tax money.
A billion seconds ago it was 1959. A billion minutes ago, Jesus was alive. A billion hours ago, our ancestors were living in the Stone Age. A billion dollars ago was only 8 hours and 20 minutes, at the rate Washington spends it. Republican or Democrat, makes no difference.

Stained Glass Window Entrepreneurs

A panoramic tour of the Pentagon Chapel and 9/11/01 Memorial is available at <http://eagleswatchministries.org> . Click on the open doors leading from the memorial room to the chapel to see the windows in place.

Carson City Library Expansion

HAHS Charter member Beth O'Grady has done marvelous things at Carson City Library with a special Irish Center where you can access materials of any and all interests. Through her wise investigations the library has been granted a 100% increase in size and completely rejuvenated for a lovely research and reading center. The Grand Opening was September 15th and the audience was awed by the ambiance created by the renovation.

Would you like to be a part of this latest development in the Carson City area? A loan for \$300,000 had to be assumed and **Librarian Beth O'Grady invites all of the 'friends of Carson City' and the 'patrons of**

the library' to contribute whatever they can afford to allay the cost of the improvements. You may send your contributions to Carson City Public Library, 102 West Main, Carson City, Mi, 48811. For more info, call 989-584-3680 or e-mail to car@llcoop.org .

Houseman Construction Co. and Design Works, both of Grand Rapids were hired to do the expansion. The talented fifteen-year-old Lorie Peterson of Ionia played her concert grand harp by the new fire place while visitors strolled throughout to view the beauty and conveniences which include the new genealogy and local history section, story-hour community events room, public and staff rest rooms, bookcases, furniture, tiling at the front entrance, 5 new computers, an expanded circulation desk, new offices for Librarian Beth O'Grady and Library Assistant, Janette Kipp, and storage room to make any bookworm happy. Those visiting are also impressed with the huge selection of Irish lore including literature, history, pictorials, films, cookbooks and poetry which Beth has been gathering over the years. The new design and materials available are truly impressive. (J. Howard)

HAHS-History – The First Two Years in Review

Since the Hubbardston Area Historical Society, was organized, wonderful, almost unbelievable things have been accomplished. Our very first meeting was on January 29th, 2002 at the Celtic Path where about 15 people gathered to listen to Phil McKenna (Farmington Hills, Mi.) and Julianne Burns (Ionia, Mi.) talk about their plans and goals for a local historical society. In the light of recent local history book publications, the opening of an Irish gift shop and research center, the formation of the Irish Dance Group, the designation of St. John the Baptist Parish Complex as a Michigan and National Historic Site, Beth O'Grady's Irish Resource Center added to the Carson City Public Library, Carolyn O'Grady Cunningham's growing attendance at the annual St. Patrick's Day elementary school program, and the traditional interest everyone in the area has with St. Patrick's Day celebrations and Memorial Day Homecoming events prompted this interest. People seemingly were beginning to realize that there was something very unique about those early Irish immigrants and what they were able to accomplish. But more than that, they were able to instill in their children the pride and necessity of promoting that legacy. Philip McKenna in Hubbardston Genealogy 1780-1930, in one of his family history stories stated, "We are proud of their remarkable accomplishments, but their accomplishments are not ours. Each of us

makes his own way. Times have changed and our time is very different... Their memory is part of our family, and the family still provides the most intense, intimate and personal relationships most of us ever have." Such wisdom! They accomplished what no one ever thought possible. We have inherited that legacy. The future of our historical experiences and the treasured memories passed on will happen only if we accept the challenge and perform responsibly. They gave us a perfect example. Of the notable achievements of the past two years some really great things were done by our own HAHS members. Memberships nationwide abound through the web-site and the broad circulation of the popular newsletter. **With nearly 300 members in 2003, we have almost reached the halfway mark this year in only 4 months.**

Pat Baese who hosted our very first organizational meeting is a talented artist in her own right. She has founded and teaches the Irish Dance Troupe in Hubbardston and runs a unique gift shop, The Celtic Path where you can always find the perfect gift at your best price. Duane Fahey, charter member; designed, set up and continues to expand our fantastic web site www.hubbardston.org which everyone has found fascinating with its variety and scope of information. Pete Burns and Joanne Burns Howard published the Hubbardston Genealogy 1780-1930 book and they are charter members. West Michigan Woman, Wilma's Way (State Journal Column) and the Ionia/Montcalm magazine have been published by Jennifer Churchill, charter member, as well as her first book, Woodworkers Complete Shop Reference with sales in the thousands. Phil McKenna publishes exciting brochures about the design, development and beautification projects designed and possible in strategic areas throughout the state with his company, McKenna Associates which is very impressive, indeed. Beth O'Grady, a charter member is a magnificent librarian developing aids that makes a researcher's time more enjoyable. Julianne Burns McKenna has charted our course throughout our short history with her knowledge of organizational development, Robert's Rules and hundreds of other great ideas. Randy Riley at the Michigan State Library has made available to us tons of material and the methods to access them in an excellent presentation. Mark Stoddard is a whiz as treasurer, making everything short, sweet and understandable. As an attorney we rely on him for all of our legal interpretations. No one knows the hours it takes to be a secretary unless you have walked in those shoes. Marie Sweet has our materials ready at the drop of a hat. Jack Fahey keeps us current on local incentives,

does research and works cooperatively on all projects. Helen Hoskins has expertise we haven't even tapped yet dealing with artifacts and archives. Punk and Janet Kelly have hosted the calendar committee, worked as chairpersons on the annual membership meeting, and done multiple presentations for us. Mary Caris is absolutely amazing. She and brother, Jack have more facts, more trivia, than anyone can imagine and she works at it every single day. Rick Cunningham stepped in, volunteered his time and designed our beautiful membership cards. Quint Cusack schedules speakers for us and works on publicity. These are some of our charter members, but there are so many others who very quietly do terrific things. There are so many people (know that we appreciate every one of you) with such talents who have joined our society and made a difference.

As editor of the newsletter, sometimes, I ask myself, how all of this came to be? How could we get so many talented people working so amicably together in the period of two years? It must be those Irish genes. We ourselves want to remember our history, our legacy and we don't want anyone else to forget the bounty of our inheritance. We are located rurally and in an intimate small town atmosphere abounding in scenery to be treasured. But through the generations, our bloodlines and accomplishments have expanded from coast to coast. So many thanks are due to our active membership and our traditional families who continue to overwhelm us with news, notes and gratitude. We thank you so sincerely!

Life affords no greater responsibility, no greater privilege, than the raising of the next generation.

Hubbardston Irish Dance Troupe Scores

Feis is the Gaelic word for festival or competition. The Great Lakes Feis is one of 190 in North America. The 3,000-year-old tradition began with traveling dance masters, who settled their disputes with "dance-offs." Dances include reels, jigs, slip-jigs, which are danced with soft shoes - and hornpipes, treble-jigs, and treble reels which are danced with hard shoes. Each school has its own variation on each dance and some of the choreography has been passed through generations of teachers. Our local dancers make us proud at every competition. Their talent is amazing. (sent by Elaine Garlock, Lake Odessa, Mi.) For more information you can go to www.greatlakesfeis.org

It's easy to identify people who can't count to ten. They are in front of you in the supermarket express line.

Carson City's First Football Team

The year was 1924 and the players were:

Don Rich, Dick Fife, Ernest Carter, Ken Ranger, Delos Williams, Don Gager, Arlan Wright, Clyde Hummel, Ray Dalton, George Stanton, Gale Jenner, Paul Langdon, Lyle Urie, Amhurst Gordon, Veryl Troub, George Wright and Superintendent Coach R.A. Ambrose.

It has been eighty years since the first Carson City Football team. The uniforms were leather helmets, leather pads and no face guards. The school was small and all the boys went out for football. The biggest guy on the team might weigh close to two-hundred pounds, but that was unusual. Today, players are six feet tall and more, weigh 250-350 pounds and look like giants.

An Eagles quarterback from 1939-1942 under Coach Bryce Warner, Verl McQuaig says, "The four years I was playing (1939-1942) we won the county championship every year." Jim Proctor of the 1955 teams recalls, "Of all the games he played – a 1955 battle against Fulton stands out...They won all their games that year, until they played Carson City. We pulled an upset. When we talk about it, it still gives you chills. I can remember vividly that feeling when we walked out on that field. We would have walked through a cement wall, I think. News Editor Elizabeth Waldon stated it nicely. "When you look at how our football team is playing this year, don't call it a comeback. The Eagles have been here for years...Winning against Central Montcalm for the first time since 2000, the Eagles have given this community exactly what football can do, something to get excited about!" (Carson City Gazette, Sept, 2004)

How Is Your School Memory, Ionia?

Do you remember the 1944 undefeated SS. Peter and Paul Basketball team?

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the school, built in 1904 and financed by just 200 families. Actually, Rev. Charles Bolte asked three teaching sisters to come to Ionia and begin a school in 1871 when it was referred to as the Sacred Heart Mission. The standing structure today was built because Father William Fierle wanted a building with expansion possibilities. Ionia was a center of activities in those early years and those fore-sighted individuals planned for the future they saw possible. No matter what changes are made today, "the schools heritage, preserved by its quirky basement and old gymnasium on the third floor...will live forever," stated Pat O'Mara, former principal.

Retired lawyer Rex O'Connor remembers playing on the teams that won back to back district championships in 1942 and 1943. The 1943 team "could have gone all the way" to the state championship, if it hadn't been cancelled in the wake of World War II. A pair of 6'4"giants, Dick Heufelder and Joe Fox led the team to 19 consecutive victories en route to the undefeated 1943 season. Members of that outstanding team were: Dick Heufelder, Rex O'Connor, Frank Krhovsky, Bill Kilduff, Joe Fox, Jack Quinn, Dick Gazella, Fred Powell, Gerald Wizorek and they were coached by Wilson Slowinski. Memories! (Sentinel Standard, Sept. 16, 2004)

An Gorta Mor (The Great Hunger)

The Michigan Ancient Order of Hibernians, working with their president, Patrick McGuire in Michigan's Irish Hills region near Adrian finally have their memorial to the Potato Famine Victims of the mid 1800's. The structure honors those who died in and those who fled from the potato famine in Ireland. For nine years, Patrick and Angela McGuire worked on their project after visiting similar memorials in Olean, Buffalo and New York. "This is the fulfillment of a dream. May this memorial stand as a memorial to the determination that is part of our Irish heritage and in the belief that unites us all," said Patrick. The memorial, which officially is called An Gorta Mor (The Great Hunger) Memorial sits alone at the western edge of the St. Joseph's Shrine Church parking lot, about 70 miles southwest of Detroit. After the annual Mass commemorating the famine at St. Joseph's Shrine in Michigan's Irish Hills region on Sunday, about 170 people gathered at the site of the 10 foot tall memorial for its dedication. An estimated one million people died from starvation and disease and another 2 million emigrated when a blight struck the potato, the staple crop of Ireland's rural peasantry. Mid 19th century households had grown reliant on the summertime harvest of potatoes, which were normally safe to store throughout the year. The blight turned the harvest to rotting mush. The Rev. Bishop James Murray of Kalamazoo blessed the An Gorta Mor Memorial at St. Joseph's Church in Cambridge Township. (sent by Jack Stoddard)

The smallest deed is better than the greatest intention.

Two things are bad for the heart – running up stairs and running down people. Ephesians 4:29

October 28th General Meeting

October 28th Meeting will be held in our new location at St. John's School 'On the Hill' west of town. Ruth Brooks of Carson City "Doll Hospital" fame will be our presenter and refreshments will be served. Bring your daughters along to view Ruth's techniques for repair. Her sign has been viewed for decades by everyone passing through Carson City on Highway 57. Everyone is invited to come and tour our new location, chosen, after a tour by the HAHS Board in August, because of its size, the amenities of the large meeting room, pleasant conditions and the amicable offer made to utilize this historic site. Hopefully we can organize and utilize the space to better serve our membership and display their donations to our historical collections as time allows us for arrangement. All are welcome to attend. Bring your non-member friends, too! (Park in the church parking lot and use the rear entrance of the school for ease of movement.; sidewalks and no stairs to large meeting room)

God never asks about our ability or our inability – just our availability.

Mindy Bryant-Grand Rapids Historical Society-models a dress from the 1800's weighing 10-12 pounds, while displaying a second style at the HAHS Fashion Show.



Book Review-A Passionate Girl by Thomas Fleming

Bess Fitzmaurice worked for several newspapers in California. In her forties she married an editor on the San Francisco Chronicle. She wrote this book in the last years of her life and sent it to the Hamilton New Jersey Historical Society where it was recently discovered and prepared for publication under a grant from Principia Foundation, created by the 20th century Stapletons to raise American History awareness. The book details many prominent people in our government in the late 1800's Andrew Johnson era and is fascinating albeit a bit risqué reading. It is available at the Carson City Library.

It has been my observation that most people get ahead during the time that others waste.

1927, Dorothy Gerber of Fremont, MI. (pop. 4,224) told her husband that instead of hand-straining baby food for their daughter, his canning company could easily do the work. He agreed and Gerber baby foods was born. (Peter Fassel)

A student asked, "What gender is 'computer'?" Instead of giving the answer the teacher broke the class into two groups, males and females and told them to decide if 'computer' was a masculine or feminine noun.

(la computer) The men decided that it was feminine because: None but their creator understands their internal logic. The native language they use is incomprehensible to everyone else. Even the smallest mistakes are stored in long term memory and as soon as you make a commitment to one, you find yourself spending half your paycheck on accessories for it.

(el computer)The women's group concluded that computer should be masculine because:

In order to do anything with them you have to turn them on. They have lots of data but still can't think for themselves. They are supposed to help you solve problems, but half the time they ARE they problem; and as soon as you commit to one, you realize that if you had waited a little longer, you could have gotten a better model.

The women won!

1927, Dorothy Gerber of Fremont, MI. (pop. 4,224) told her husband that instead of hand-straining baby food for their daughter, his canning company could easily do the work. He agreed and Gerber baby foods was born. (Peter Fassel)

We say Good-Bye to a Local Legend

Grace Fahey, 98 years-of-age left us forever on August 20th, 2004. She was born February 26, 1906 in Ohio, the daughter of August and Jennie Clements Konst. She married John Rogusky in 1925 and they lived in Ohio until 1942 when they moved to the Fenwick/ Hubbardston area. John died in 1949 and Grace remarried in 1959 to "Joe" Fahey widower of Martha (Midge) Herald Fahey. Grace was a perfect source if you wanted facts about the family or the area. Only two people in the parish have outlived her: John Hogan, 103 and Daisy Timlin, 107. She leaves one daughter, Martha McClintock, one son John and six step-children: Jack and Ann Fahey, Mary and Gil Belen, Bob and Laura Fahey, Sheila Churchill, Jim and Debbie Fahey, and Tom Schaeffer. In addition, she leaves, 13 grandchildren, 33 great-grandchildren 12 great-great- grandchildren, and the numerous step-grandchildren and step-great grandchildren. She died at Heartland Healthcare Center in Ionia. Condolences may be sent to HAHS Board members, Jack and Ann Fahey at jjalfahey@cmsinter.net or Duane Fahey @ dfahey@visualautomation.com.

If the roots are deep and strong, the tree needn't worry about the wind.

The teacher asked the pupils to tell the meaning of loving kindness. A little boy jumped up and said, "Well, if I was hungry and someone gave me a piece of bread that would be kindness. But if they put a little jelly on it, that would be loving kindness."

Readings to Ruminare

Live each day to the fullest. Get the most from each hour, each day, and each age in your life. Then you can look forward with confidence and back without regrets. Be yourself, but be your best self. Dare to be different and to follow your star. And don't be afraid to be happy. Enjoy what is beautiful. Love with all your heart and soul. And believe that those whom you love, love you. Disregard what the world owes you and concentrate on what you owe the world. When you are faced with a decision, make the decision as wisely as possible and then forget it. The moment of absolute certainty never arrives. Above all, remember God helps those who help themselves. Act as if everything depend on you and pray as if everything depended on God. (Rev. Tom Langer)

It's time to renew your memberships for the 2004-2005 season. The due date of your membership is on your address label to the right corner. One year-\$15. Five years-\$60, with one year free. Keep your newsletter coming by renewing before January.

Those interested in Membership in the H.A.H.S. should complete the form below and send it with \$15 annual fee for one year or \$60 for a 5 year (one year free) membership, made payable to Hubbardston Area Historical Society. Send to: H.A.H.S. c/o Joanne Howard, Box 183, Hubbardston, Mi., 48845. **Memberships run June through May.**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZipCode: _____

HomeTelephone: _____

E mail Address: _____

List surnames you are researching: _____

NOTE: All information may be published in upcoming newsletters unless you indicate in writing otherwise.

The next time that you feel like complaining, remember that your garbage disposal probably eats better than 30% of the people in this world.

Reminder! November meeting is one week early!

The November 18 Regular Membership Historical Society Meeting at St. John's School will feature "tonsorial delights" as Allen 'Punk' Kelly demonstrates "straight razor" shaving techniques on 'willing volunteers.' We'll have stimulants ready to revive you - strong coffee and ice water! Refreshments will be served. This meeting is one week early because of the Thanksgiving holiday!



Mr. and Mrs. James Raymond and Marion Roberts McGinn on their 50th Wedding Anniversary

The celebration was held at St. John the Baptist Parish Hall with a dinner reception following the repetition of their vows on Sunday, August 22, 2004. Friends and family gathered to wish them well. Ray and Marion are charter members of HAHS and enthusiastic about the future of the organization. Marion is a family genealogy buff and Raymond served on the Township Board faithfully and being a veteran of World War Two has been a member of Post 182 American Legion over 50 years. He has continually maintained the office of Chaplain with his comrade-in-arms, Jack Stoddard who is military historian. They keep all of the records in tact for us. Congratulations and many more healthy and happy years together, Bish and Marion.

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