



**HUBBARDSTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
**NEWSLETTER NUMBER TWENTY-TWO, AUGUST - SEPTEMBER, 2007**  
**Box 183, HUBBARDSTON, MI. 48845**  
[WWW.HUBBARDSTON.ORG](http://WWW.HUBBARDSTON.ORG)



**MEMORIAL DAY MC GOES HIGH TECH TO VIEW PARADE-SCOTT SCHMITT, (KELLY MELTON, JAMIE UPTON)**

HAHS Board of Directors and Committees  
Philip McKenna, co-chair [pmckenna@mcka.com](mailto:pmckenna@mcka.com)  
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Joanne Howard-Membership, [mjh655@pathwaynet.com](mailto:mjh655@pathwaynet.com)  
Mary Caris-Archival Materials  
Allen Kelly-Calendar and Fall Social-[calebe@cmsinter.net](mailto:calebe@cmsinter.net)  
Bud Howard, Jack Stoddard, Allen Kelly, Shaun O'Grady-Nominations

### Calendar of Coming Events

**August 23, 2007-Fall Social-Potluck Dinner-6:00 p.m.**  
Tuscan Masonic Lodge (former Methodist Church)  
Bring a dish to pass. Nationally known Speaker!  
**September 27, 2007- General Membership Mtg. 7:00p.m.**  
Community Center Museum Room-7:00 p.m.  
Presenters-Ionia County Genealogical Society-  
Refreshments served. The public is welcome  
**October 25, 2007-Board of Directors Meeting-6:00 p.m.**  
General Membership Meeting-7:00 p.m.  
Presenter-William Davis, Historian- Refreshments-Public welcome  
**November 15, 2007- General Membership Meeting 7:00p.m.**  
Honor the Veterans Night-Local Veteran's Experiences  
Refreshments served. The public is welcome  
**December-No meeting-Christmas Holiday**  
**January 24, 2008-Board of Directors Meeting-6:00 p.m.**  
General Membership Meeting 7:00 p.m.  
HAHS Genealogy and Research Resources-Mary Caris.  
Rock, Paper and Blood-Nick Burns (Tentative)  
Refreshments served. Public welcomed  
**February 28, 2008-General Membership Meeting-7:00 p.m.**  
Celtic Music-Janet Kelly (tentative)  
Refreshments served. Public welcomed

**March 27, 2008-General Membership Meeting-7:00 p.m.**  
Annual Show and Tell Display. Bring your photos, artifacts, stories. Slate of Nominations presented-Music-Clintonaires Barbershop  
Refreshments served. Come sing-a-long with us. Public welcomed  
**April 26, 2008 General Membership Meeting-7:00 p.m.**  
Final Slate of Nominations-Board of Directors  
Proposed Budget 2008-2009 Presenter-tba  
**Car Caravan to Greenville Falcon Air Museum sign-up**  
**May 25, 2008 Annual Irish Stew Dinner and Social 6:00 p.m.**  
Membership Drive, Election, Annual Report  
Dinner-Donation only! Public welcome! Irish Dancers (tentative)!

Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Carl Geller of Pewamo on June 29<sup>th</sup> 2007.

Sign of the times: I had it all...nice wife, house in the "burbs," a luxury car...Then I went to the gas station for a fill-up...

Congratulations to Pat and Betty McGinn on their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. They were married July 27<sup>th</sup>, 1957. On June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2007, Pat celebrated his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday. In their lifetime, they have both been community oriented people who always found a way to help people in times of trauma. Happiness, good times and good health to you !

Haven't heard a Blonde joke in a While? Enjoy!  
Tried to go water skiing...couldn't find a lake with a slope!  
Got really excited...finished jigsaw puzzle in 6 months...box said "2-4 years."  
Fired from pharmacy job for failing to print labels...Helllllooo!!! Bottles won't fit in printer!!!

A special thank you to all of the recent donors to our Historical Society collections. Bill and Elberta Gage-collection of crafts and herb book; Tex Ritter-patriotic, western, history, autobiography and personal favorite books; Susan Sweet-tapes and CD's; Marion McGinn-Hubbardston History; Ruth Parks Riley-newspapers, pictures and scrapbooks; Kieran O'Brien-pictures and albums; Peter Burns-family pictures and genealogy update; Beatrice Bozung-Alvin's treasured carpentry books; Mary Caris-pictures, local history treasures; Jack Stoddard-veterans records, newspaper clippings, newsletter items; Nick Burns-clippings, pictures and genealogy data; Jack Fahey-updating of factual materials; Imogene Drost-notes and pictures; Ford and Lucille Burns-data and labeling of pictures; Don and Sharon Bennett-books, local history materials and furniture; Pat and Betty McGinn-pictures; McGinn family-CD of aerial pictures of Hubbardston; Kelly Melton and the parade committee-publicity; Janet Dailey-furniture, food and Community Center aids; Duane Fahey- internet installation, materials and information; Bud Howard-keeping everything repaired; and all of the many visitors and friends with their oral history contributions and delicious treats for our luncheons. How could we be more fortunate! Some board members have added large numbers of books to the local library as well.

**"Teamwork is the fuel that allows common people to produce uncommon results."**

If my body were a Car, this is the time I would be thinking of trading it in for a new model. I've got bumps and dents and scratches in my finish and my paint is getting a little dull, but that's not the worst of it. My fenders are too wide to be considered stylish. They were once as sleek as a little MG; now they are more like on old Buick. My seat cushions have split open at the seams. My seats are sagging. Seat belts? I gave up seat belts when Krispy Kremes opened a shop in my neighborhood! Air Bags? Forget it. The only bags I have are under my eyes. Not counting the saddlebags of course. I have soooooo many miles on my odometer. Sure, I've been many places and seen many things, but when's the last time an appraiser factored life experiences against depreciation? My headlights are out of focus and it's especially hard to see things up close. My traction is not as graceful as it once was. I slip and slide and skid and bump into things even in the best of weather. My whitewalls are stained with varicose veins. It takes me hours to reach my maximum speed. My fuel rate burns inefficiently. But that's not the worst of it. Almost every time I sneeze, cough, or sputter, my radiator leaks or my exhaust explodes. *On her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, Helen Riley Tait read this poem to the Historical Society. It was perfect! Thanks, Helen!*

#### Letters from Readers:

Am enclosing my dues for 2008. Hope all is well with you and Bud. Thank you for all of the work you do for HAHS. I enjoy the newsletter so much! God Bless! (Margaret Schineman, Lansing, Mi.)

I am enclosing my check for the Genealogy and Recipe book plus our membership in the name of my wife, Sarah, Davern Marcy. (Lyn Marcy, Otsego, Mi.)

Good day: Please could you indicate whether a copy of the Genealogy Book 1780-1930 is still available for purchase and if

still available whether you would be prepared to post same to the United Kingdom. Many thanks. (Cyril Chick, [eduncanckick@aol.com](mailto:eduncanckick@aol.com)) Your wish is our command. Ed.

I need to know where my ancestors were buried. Do you have records on the J.O. Williams family? (M. Appleby, Casa Grande, AZ.) *In the Registry of Electors of the Township of North Plains we found: John O. William April 4, 1859, John Williams, April 18, 1859, Olonzo Williams, March 30, 1878, Chales Williams, March 30, 1878, Edwin Williams, April 4, 1859, Hiram S. Williams, 1859. J.O William owned a portion of Section 16 in the 1890's west of Hubbardston. He built his dream mansion there, but ran out of funds and the home and land was purchased by Thomas and Anne Keenan Cusack. It encompassed 140 acres on the south and 80 acres on the north side of what is now known as Borden Road. Another family; Ted (Theodore) Williams married Anna McMillan Williams and were the adoptive parents of Mary Ellen Williams Osborn. Anna and Etta Loftus were sisters. Etta married James Loftus and adopted a son, John, who married Margaret Catherine McGunn. They lived in Columbus, Ohio when Etta died. Ed McGunn and Catherine Granahan were the parents of Margaret Catherine McGunn. Ed. (from Genealogist, Jack Fahey)*

If we measure success by the number of lives we touch and the ways that we reach out to others and truly make a difference...then it's hard to imagine a richer life than yours, Mrs. Howard. I just wanted to take this opportunity to let you know how much your loving nature and caring ways touched my life. You left me with wonderful memories of childhood school years! I wish you the best, today and always. (Ngoan Pham Truong, Lansing, Mi.)

My husband Randy died 11 months ago and I made a teddy bear out of one of his shirts. It has brought me such comfort that I thought I might be a comfort to others, as well, by making bears for them from a personal item of clothing of their deceased. I fill orders for these mementos.

I also wanted to thank you for the memorial you printed in the newsletter. It was very nice. It seems as though all we hear about is all the bad in the world, but I would like people to know how the people from the Hubbardston community pulled together to help my family during our time of need. About seven years ago, my husband Randy fell while taking down a tree stand. He broke his back along with other injuries and lost the use of his right leg...He spent most of his time in a wheel chair and the people responded by planning a benefit and remodeling our home to meet his needs...Then nearly a year ago, Randy was killed in a tragic accident and those same wonderful and generous people from Hubbardston along with others were there again for us in our time of need. God has truly blessed us and the community with some of the most caring and compassionate people that I have ever met. I'm thankful to know them and be part of that community. Just thought you should know that with all the bad news we hear in the world, that there is still a lot of good out there, also. "Hubbardston-small town...big heart." So very true. Keep up the good work on the newsletters. I look forward to receiving them. (Alice Churchill, Hubbardston) *Remember your loved one by having a Memory Bear made that you can hold from an article of their clothing. Lovingly hand crafted by Alice Churchill. (18*

inches tall-\$25.) \$5 from each bear will be donated to St. Mary's Parish for the Stained Glass Window project. 989-584-3658 for more information. Ed.

I am writing in hopes you can help me. I have a book which belonged to my Great-Great-Grandfather and in it I have come across a copy of the Hubbardston Advertiser which was printed in 1889...Also was the family of George S. Wright a resident there? The book I have is a Miller and Co. Educational Series, Bookkeeping, copyrighted in 1879. George Wright hand signed the book in May of 1880 and Millie Wright signed it September 1, 1879. My e-mail address is [mib1225@juno.com](mailto:mib1225@juno.com). (Margaret Besey, Frankenmuth, Mi.) *George S. Wright was a registered voter in the Registry of Electors in North Plains Twp. in 1889. Charles Wright registered March 29, 1913 and Etta Wright registered February 8, 1919. On Nov. 2, 1878 Alferd and Eugene Wright are registered also. Ed.*

Johnny sent me Bonny's obituary. Before I left for the army in 1946, I spent two summers working for Uncle Johnny Burns, staying out there on the farm and bunking with Bonny we became great friends despite our age difference. I shall always treasure those summers, not only with Johnny and Julia and Bonny, but Louie, also, on the threshing circuit. I think that the upper body strength that this work developed for me has enabled me to handle Betty for as long as I have, and for some time to come. I still wonder about Billie Herald's murder and if there is anything new on it. Sending along my HAHS dues. Don't let me miss an issue! Love to you. (Ray and Betty Burns, Gladstone, Oregon)

You do a very nice job for the Historical Society. I know you work hard. (Betty Riley Geller, Pewamo, Mi.)

Thanks for coming to my 80<sup>th</sup> party...Keep up the good work with the choir and the Historical Society. I know you work hard. (Helen Riley Tait, Hubbardston)

Dear HAHS Board of Directors, Committees and fellow members, Thanks for offering condolences to our family in our loss of our son, Patrick. We are so grateful to you for your thoughtfulness during this difficult time for us. May God love and protect you and your families. Sincerely, (John and Shirley Fox, Saline, California)

Thanks for the fine press on my column. (Maureen Burns, Greenville, Mi.) *Maureen does a weekly column in the Greenville Daily News which is too good to miss. We have copies on file at the HAHS Museum Room. Ed.*

Thank you for the Historical Society Newsletter. Michael Hutting, our son was 60 years old and injured in Vietnam on May 30, 1967. The bullet nicked him below the shoulder and went through the bone in his arm. He did have a medal in his shirt pocket that saved him (Esther Hutting, Carson City, Mi.)

Once again a year has passed-how quickly they go. Enclosed are my dues. I certainly do enjoy the newsletters and hearing about all you people do. Good the school can be used. I have a picture of the old "Ten Club." Ten ladies only were members at a time. In back are Jenny Ludwick Chick, Mabel Langdon, Mrs. Locke, Hazel Chick, Iva Rogers and others I can't identify. I'm sure I have other pictures of interest. I keep hoping I'll get to Michigan one more time. I would

love to see all the collectibles. We swam in Fish Creek at Langdon's, drank fresh maple syrup from a dipper at the sugar bush, roller-skated the sidewalks, got ice from Lyle Bennett's ice house for ice-cream. In fact, my dad used to haul ice for Uncle Lyle as we all called him. Hope you have a nice summer. It is already hot here and my peonies that my mother gave me all those years ago are in full bloom and so beautiful. Sincerely, (Imogene Drost, Memphis, Tennessee)

I thought you might like this obit. Bonny had a long and successful career in the cemetery business, of all things. I remember when he and a half-dozen guys from Hubbardston went to the newly opened cemetery (late 1940's) on Grand River near the airport in Lansing (it is now backed up by an excellent golf-course). It was, at the time, a new idea (private or corporate) as opposed to church or city based cemeteries. He was accompanied by Ray Donahue, Alton Stoddard and a few others that I can't remember, but he alone parlayed it into a lucrative career. In regard to Romy (Romeo) Sherman! If you recall, I believe he worked for dad or Granddad Frank Burns on the farm and remained a life-long friend of the family. I will never forget the time he stopped in to see Mom and Grandma Welch at our house in Hubbardston and Grandma Maria had dementia. She kept asking Romy where Mag (Aunt Maggie Dailey) was. Mom (Eve Burns) prompted Romy to say Mag was living in Palo. So, for the rest of the visit, Romy assured Maria that Maggie was living in "Pailno." Oh, such a long time ago. I sometimes can't remember the time for a grandchild's sporting event, but with prompting, this visit on a particular day, probably 60 years ago, is vivid to this day. "Pailno," I can't forget that. ("note to Ray" by John Burns, Dimondale and Lehigh Acres, Florida)

#### A Look Back to the 1930's:

An old tale often told involved Bridget, Jim, Frank Burns and Ned Herald. Frank Burns and Ned Herald were commissioned to dig a grave in very cold weather as they were custodians at the church and cemetery and always worked together. They went to the cemetery with their picks and shovels and added 2 gallons of wine to fight off the chills. When they finished the grave, they were in the bottom of it, and lacked the skill to crawl out. They screamed and called and sat there in the dark in the bottom of the freshly dug grave. Bridget who lived close by was very deaf. So she called brother-in-law Jim Burns to come help her look for Frank. On the way to the cemetery, Jim said, "Now, Bridget! If we can't find Frank, why don't you marry me?" Bridget answered, "One Burns is enough for a lifetime." They found the culprits, pulled them out of the ground and have laughed about it through the years.

#### How To Maintain a Healthy Level of Insanity

In the memo field of all your checks, write "For Smuggling Diamonds."

Put your garbage can on your desk and label it "IN."

When dining out with friends, order a 'diet water' with a solemn face.

When the money comes out of the ATM, scream "I Won! I Won!"

### HAHS Trio Present Historical Findings

For the past three years and more Peter Burns, Jack Fahey and Phil McKenna have been meeting, sharing data, telling tales, enjoying each other's company and producing a terrific document for all of those interested in the genealogy, founders, burial records and new-found research items to fill a glaring need. Internet ease in gathering formerly buried data in libraries, Historical Societies, Register of Deeds offices, as well as bright and 'vivid of memory' seniors have opened doors with information that is just mind boggling to these avid seekers of the past. It is so interesting to watch them as they walk in to our research and social gatherings with those candid little smiles which tell the others, "You won't believe what I just found!" They have great respect for each other and the product they have produced will be a gem for all of you who love to trace those who came before us; those who made us what we are. Peter Burns, recently returned from his winter retreat in Arizona, presented us with his latest addition to the North Plains, Ionia County Genealogy study. This material will be available on CD with purchase of Genealogy 1780-1930 in July. Recipe and Genealogy-\$30. Recipe, Genealogy and CD-\$35. Stop in!

May joy and peace surround you, contentment latch your door. May happiness be with you now and God Bless you evermore. (Irish Blessing)



Phil McKenna-HAHS Co-Chair, Tony Bennett, Don Bennett, John Burns, HAHS members-Memorial Day-Hubbardston

A father is a come-through person. He does the difficult immediately-the impossible takes him a little longer. A father is a keep-trying person. He helps you to grow into what you were meant to be. He values strength and gives you his own to lean on. He is a tell-me person. He helps you to find a way out of a difficult situation that will not lessen your self-respect. A father is a wonderful person. Not a saint-not a cynic-just someone very real and true who carried you around in his arms when you were a baby, and carries you around in his heart-forever. (St. Anthony's Church, Ely, MN, 1997)

### Did you Know?

People 65 or older account for 12% of the population of the US. In 2002 there were 73,000 people over 65 enrolled in college. In 2004 there were 63.3 million people over 65. There are 9.7 million people age 65 and older who are military veterans. Every month 880,000 people are added to the world's population of people over 65.

President Felipe Calderon of Mexico announced that Mexico will not participate in the next summer Olympics. He said that, "Anyone who can run, jump, or swim, has already left the country. (J. Dailey)



Bud Howard, Past-Principal-Ellie Doersam, Bryce Evans, Jim Eiseler, in Coaches Room of Eastern High School

In 1949 the three men above were members of the Michigan and National Championship Swim Team from Eastern High School in Lansing. On July 4, 1983 they were inducted into the Greater Lansing Sports Hall of Fame. In June, 2007 they were inducted into the Eastern High School Sports Hall of Fame along with basketball star, Sam Vincent and five others. Bud won a swim scholarship to, and graduated from Michigan State. A member of the MSU "ROTC" (Reserve Officers Training Corp), he entered the Air Force as a Second Lieutenant and became a Pilot-Aircraft Commander of C-124 Globemasters and flew cargo missions throughout the world, retiring as a USAF Captain. He taught Advanced Biology at Eastern for 30 years, was 'Swim Coach' 12 years and his (1949) state champion 'backstroke' record was broken by one of his swimmers in 1968. Bryce graduated from MSU, accepted an executive position with Lear Aviation and lives today in Jackson with his wife enjoying retirement and his grandchildren. Jim graduated from EHS, went into Marathon Oil with his father, became President of Eiseler Oil in Lansing, and in retirement is living in Laingsburg with his wife, Joy, enjoying his children and grandchildren. Tom Stillman, son of their deceased coach, Fred Stillman, was in the group as well. The reunion was a wonderful trip down memory lane.

A psychologist is a person you pay a lot of money to ask you questions your spouse asks free of charge.

### One Day at a Time

Stand tall, start fresh, let go of guilt, don't look back, take an inventory, make amends, trust others, believe in yourself, discover God's love, appreciate your special-ness, accept your humanness, ask for help. Don't dwell on the past, love each moment, live each day, build a better tomorrow, open your heart, explore your soul, expect the best, let miracles happen.

## Good Friends Depart

Louise Ann Koenigsknecht Burns, 90, died on June 20, 2007 at the Carson City Hospital with her seven sons and their families by her side. Louise was born April 4, 1917, in Fowler,

the daughter of Nicholas and Margaret Thelen Koenigsknecht. She married Jeremiah Burns on May 8, 1945 at Holy Trinity Church. Louise was one of 15 children. And now, the rest of the story! "On June 19, 1941 Bonny and I went to homecoming in Fowler. I asked this beautiful brunette to dance with me. We fit together like we had been dancing forever and by the end of the song, I knew was going to marry this girl if she would have me." Jerry Burns related this tale of 'love at first sight' to me and 62 years later, they were still happily smiling. Louise kept a perfect home, raised eight handsome and devoted sons, was a terrific cook and the most devout of catholic women. Her faith entered into every decision she made. "To know her was to love her' fit Louise perfectly. Her husband and family were priority number one. On their 60th wedding anniversary, her sons planned a party for a few friends and neighbors. And Louise was the star of the day. She literally sparkled with pleasure at her good fortune at having a perfect family and a loving partner all of these years. "I thank God every morning that he gives us one more day together," she related to me. Not only was Louise a wonderful friend, wife and mother, she was absolutely beautiful to the end of her days. Louise leaves seven sons, Dan, Ed, Bernie, Arnie, Mike, Louie, Paul and their families; 22 grands; 20 great-grands who will probably not truly realize the blessings they had in this wonderful woman until they walk the paths she ventured. Louise had nine brothers and five sisters. Three brother, Roman, Frank and Beno; three sisters, Susie, Rose and Agnes survive her. God love her and grant her heaven with the joy of being together again with Jerry and Mark and all of her loved ones. Let perpetual joy shine upon her. "What is once loved is your forever. Take it home in your heart and nothing-ever- can take it away." (Coatsworth)

Mary Ellen Williams Osborn 72, passed away on May 28, 2007. She was born in Detroit on May 14, 1935. She was the adopted daughter of Ted and Anna McMillan Williams. She married Richard Osborn from Matherton in May, 1954 and they lived there throughout their lives. Her parents, her husband, son, Rod and grandson, Steve preceded her in death. Surviving are her four children, Ken and Rick of Pewamo, Joe of Vermontville and Mary Melton of Hubbardston; 9 grandchildren; and 4 great-grandchildren. Her funeral was at St. John the Baptist Church with Parish Administrator, Nancy Woodcock presiding. Her tribute to Mary Ellen and resume of her life was very poignant and memorable. Mary Ellen asked that her body be donated to MSU for study. Donations in Mary Ellen's name may be made to the Cancer Society or Hospice. We all remember "MEW," as we all called her in high school, with her cheerleading friends, Pat Stoddard Osborn, Kate McKenna Kussmal and Joan Shively McKenna. Memories! May she rest in peace!

**You are the light of the world...Your light shines before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father. Matthew 5:14, 16**

Thomas Francis Shiels, 86, passed away in Fort Meyers, Florida on April 1, 2007. He was born to Thomas and Ella B., Shiels on July 22, 1917, in Lowell, Mi. He lived most of his life in Lansing, Mi. He was a member of the Church of the Resurrection, graduated from Lansing Central High School and Lansing Community College. He was employed in the personnel department of Oldsmobile Division for 39 years, retiring in 1980; was a veteran of World War II serving in the Army. He was on the Advisory Board of Ferris State University, Lansing Community College, Davenport University, and the Lansing Board of Education. He initiated the Greater Lansing Career Carnival in 1980 and also a number of Michigan Historical Markers including the location of the first capitol building in Lansing and one representing downtown Lansing theaters. He was a member of the Principle Shopping District, Friends of Michigan History Board of Directors; a Past President of the Greater Lansing Industrial Personnel Association, Mid-Michigan Personnel Association and the Old Newsboys Association. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Georgiann; sisters, Helen, Katherine and Margaret; brothers, Robert and Joseph Shiels; daughters, Beth (Frank) Williams, and Patti Shiels; son, Steven (Sheila) Shiels; 3 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild. Numerous times over the past five years, Tom has called to talk about Terry Shiels and some memorabilia he could add to our Museum Room. His family ties to Terrence Shiels of Shiels Historic Tavern, link him closely to this area. Peace to him, contentment to his family!

**Whether a man ends up with a nest egg or a goose egg depends on the kind of chick he marries!**  
(Words from Grandpa)

Irene Beahan Couzzins, 89, our loving mother, grandmother, parent and friend passed away Monday, April 23, 2007. Irene was born February 11, 1918 in Carson City, Mi. to Martin and Mary O'Connor Beahan. She married Porter Couzzins on March 29, 1941 (who died in 1993). Irene worked for the Waverly School District for many years, but her greatest accomplishment and joy was her family. Irene was preceded in death by her parents; husband; sister, Ann Couzzins and brother Jim Beahan. Surviving are her son Jerry (Kathleen) Couzzins; daughter, Mary Jo (Randall) Curtis; and two grandchildren. Her funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Gerard Catholic Church in Lansing with burial at St. John the Baptist Cemetery in Hubbardston. Our sympathy to the family.

I have to relate the only contact I ever had with Porter Couzzins, Irene's husband. Porter was visiting at his home west of Hubbardston. Joe and Eva Burns, my parents always took the family for a drive through the country every Sunday afternoon. Coming down Borden Road in the twilight of a summer Sunday evening, dad was meandering through memory lane, reciting all of the cream numbers he remembered from his early days as a driver for Carson City Cooperative Creamery when my mother started punching him in the arm and said, "Joe, get on the right side of the road. That's Porter Couzzins in his uniform standing in the yard there and he's looking at you. You're going to get a

ticket.” Dad made a quick sashay to his proper lane. I looked and couldn’t imagine that we could get in trouble just driving down the road. Porter watched us, turned back to his company and that was it. To a five year old, this was quite a trauma for a few exciting minutes.

**Bernard O. “Bonny” Burns, 86**, of Michigan City Indiana died April 23, 2007 at his home. His funeral was April 27, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. at Queen of All Saints Church with Rev. John Hogan officiating. Michigan City Lions Club members conducted a memorial service on Thursday April 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. followed by a ‘wake’ service conducted by Rev. Lou Pasala at Root Funeral Home.

Bernie was born May 11, 1920 in Hubbardston Mi. to John and Julia Egan Burns. On June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1954 he married Helen Wilmes in Grand Rapids, MI. Survivors in addition to his wife are one daughter, Sharon (Jay) of Holland, Michigan; two sons: Dr. Stephan (Marian) Burns of Dunelane Beach, Indiana and Tim (Pam) Burns of Sanford, Michigan; seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren; and one sister: Julia (Elmer) Esch of Lansing. One granddaughter, one sister and five brothers preceded him in death. Bernie was the retired owner of Swan Lake Memorial Gardens and the Superintendent for Greenwood Cemetery and Swan Lake Memorial Gardens until he retired. Bernie was active in the choirs at church and was a commentator for many years. He was a 4<sup>th</sup> Degree member of Michiana Knights of Columbus and Past Grand Knight. He was a member of the Michigan City Lions Club where he was Past Treasurer, Past President and recipient of the “Lion of the Year” award. He was past board member of the “Right To Life” and Michigan City Park Board which he served on for 15 years. He was a member of the Star Rider Dancers and 76er’s Gold League and Indiana Cemetery Association. He enjoyed being a pilot, traveling and playing golf. His greatest enjoyment came from spending time with his family. Memorials can be made to the Marquette High School Foundation, 306 West Tenth Street, Michigan City, Indiana, 46360.

Bonny graduated from St. John the Baptist High School, class of 1937 with Elaine Dailey, Julia O’Brien, Donna Herald, Elmer Cunningham, Alton and Allan Stoddard, Robert Hogan, Margaret O’Connell and Robert Herald. When Bonny decided to leave the farm on O’Brien Road and make his own way in the world, he moved to Lansing and became involved in selling cemetery lots. Being a very personable fellow, he incorporated his friends, Ray Donahue and others from the Hubbardston area to join his enterprise. He was very successful in this endeavor and I well remember in my immature mind thinking, “Why all the interest in cemetery lots?” Bonny made it exciting and profitable for himself and his cohorts. Bonny and Helen were charter members of HAHS and he always sent me the latest news, stories, and jokes; never failing to offer encouragement and surprise that the Hubbardston Area Historical Society actually came into existence and his amazement over our growth and support. He and Helen were in attendance in 2001 for the dedication of the St. John the Baptist Parish Complex into the Michigan and National Historic Site registry. He told me how impressed he was with the ceremony, the pageantry, Fr. Jim Cusack’s sermon and the choir music. “I walked into the church, sat down, and when the choir started singing, I started to cry and I think I was teary all the way through the ceremony. It was so

beautiful.” Now, when someone offers a compliment like that, you know I am going to commit it to memory exactly as it was spoken. As Bonny and these wonderful people like him that we have known pass on, we finally realize just what talents they were and how in their own special way, they left their mark. It’s sad to lose good friends and it always seems too soon. But, rest they deserve and peace they have, as it should be. God rest you close in his care, Bonny!

**“If tomorrow starts without me, and I’m not there to see.**

**If the sun should rise and find your eyes all filled with tears for me,**

**I wish so much you wouldn’t cry the way you did today,**

**While thinking of the many things I didn’t get to say.**

**I know how much you love me; I know you’ll miss me too.**

**But if tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand,**

**An angel came and called my name and took me by the hand,**

**And said my place was ready in heaven far above...**

**So when tomorrow starts without me, don’t think we’re far apart.**

**For every time you think of me, I’m right here in your heart.”**

Arthur H. Esch, 88, passed away on Saturday, May 19, 2007 at his home. Arthur was born February 15, 1919 in Portland, Mi. to Frank and Catherine Lehman Esch. He married Mildred Kochensparger on June 8, 1940. He was a member of St. Martin De Porres and St. John the Baptist Catholic Churches. He retired from the Michigan Department of Corrections. Arthur enjoyed golfing, gardening, farming, but most of all his family. He is survived by his son, Arthur F. (Mary) Esch of Hubbardston; daughters, Rosemary Randall of Remus, Rebecca Krouse of Nashville, Mi., Virginia Dennis Erickson of Ashley; 15 grandchildren; 27 great grandchildren; 7 step great-grandchildren; 4 step great-great-grandchildren; two brothers, Leon (Nancy) Esch of Florida and Elmer (Julia) Esch of Lansing. Arthur was preceded in death by his beautiful wife, Mildred; grandson Brian Randall; three brothers, Roman, Chester and Francis; and sister, Berniece Lehman. His funeral was May 22, 2007 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Martin De Porres Catholic Church with interment at St. John the Baptist Cemetery in Hubbardston. When his wife died, Art was lost. They were just a beautiful couple. They were charter members of HAHS and last May, he came with his son Fred to the HAHS Annual Meeting at the parish hall and was interested in everything going on. They were both really nice people and enjoyed each other and their families. Now they can enjoy their eternity together, as it should be.

**Clare B. Chick, 80**, of Perrinton passed away May 16, 2007 at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing. Clare was born Sept. 9, 1926 in Matherton to George and Hazel Tyler Chick. He was drafted out of high school and served in the army in WWII. He married Leota Loudenback who preceded him in death after 38 years of marriage and then married Janet Ernst

Smith on August 8, 1986 in Stanton. He was a member of Maple Rapids Congregational Church, Middleton Masonic Lodge, Alma Elks, Maple Rapids Twirlers. He was a member of the Fulton School Board from 1966-1976 and also served as president. Clare was a life-long dairy farmer, loved gardening and loved his family. He is survived by his wife, Janet; three children, Eric, Larry and Colleen; three step-children; 19 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild; one sister, Lois Lowe. Funeral services were May 19, 2007 at Wildwood Mennonite Church with internment in Payne Cemetery.

Paul Pantel "Christy" Christides, 69, passed away June 4, 2007 at his home in Grand Ledge. Paul was born on Nov. 1, 1937 in Pontiac, the son of Christos and Despina Conti Christides. A legendary radio programmer and on-air personality in Detroit and Chicago, his radio career spanned four decades after which he retired to Grand Ledge. He is survived by his beloved wife, Joanie Burns Christides; children Chris, Kelly and Scott; grandchildren, Jack, Max, Emma and Nicole; sisters, Markel and Rouse; brother, Sam; brothers-in-law-, Terry, Tony and Denny Burns and Greg Raycraft. Funeral services were held at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Grand Ledge with internment in Detroit. Memorial contributions may be sent to the Parkinson Foundation. Our sincere sympathy to Joanie, our very good friend. Joanie lost her sister, Mary Sue, her sister-in-law Vicki, and now her husband in a very short time. To Terry and Joanie and all of the family, our deepest sympathy. Remember always, your friends at Hubbardston welcome your visits at any time. God bless you both and your families as well.

*But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will not grow weary. They will walk and not be faint." Isaiah 40:31*

Jack Stoddard recently found a note that **Rev. Park Newcome of Kissimmee, Florida died January 13, 2001, at the age of 90.** His children are: Barbara L. Holiday of Florida, P. Judson Newcome of Florida, Marilyn (Carl) Bryant of Kalamazoo and Kingsley (Carolyn) Newcombe of Portland. He leaves besides his children, 13 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren. A Memorial was to be held later according to the newspaper. Rev Newcome was the Methodist minister in Hubbardston in the 1950's and was well regarded as was his family.

*To err is human. To blame it on somebody else shows management potential.*

### **The Urologist who collected Bizarre Bits of History**

One summer day in 1924, 10-year-old John Kingsley Lattimer watched young army pilot Charles Lindbergh practice dropping bombs above a lake near Mount Clemons, MI. When Lindbergh finished, Lattimer and a friend dove down to the muddy lake bottom and brought home one of the live rounds of ammunition as a souvenir. Though he grew up to be a world renowned physician and a nationally

respected Urologist from Columbia University, he achieved wider fame by amassing such arcane objects as suits of armour to sketches by Adolph Hitler. Lattimer entered Columbia University at age 15, and was still a medical student when he treated survivors of the Hindenburg explosion. (Bergen County, New Jersey Record) During World War Two, he became an army surgeon, tending both D-Day casualties and Nazi defendants at Nuremberg. Returning to civilian life, Lattimer became Chairman of the Columbia Medical School's Urology Department. In 1972, thanks to his expertise in ballistics, he became the first private citizen granted access to President Kennedy's autopsy photos, to help determine if Lee Harvey Oswald had been his lone assassin – a finding that Lattimer affirmed vehemently.

But it was Lattimer's inveterate collecting that made him famous, said the New York Times. "His 30 room, 1895 Federal style home in Englewood, N.J. was a virtual military museum," stuffed with guns, ordnance and other lethal hardware. Lattimer owned many unique Nazi objects, among them a monogrammed pair of Eva Braun's silver earrings and the cyanide ampule that Herman Goering used to commit suicide before he could be hanged. He also had the key to Abraham Lincoln's presidential box at Ford Theater, as well as bloody clothing from his assassination. "I have dinosaur footprints, the skull of a saber-toothed tiger, bones of a woolly mammoth, J. Robert Oppenheimer's porkpie hat, lots of things. Lattimer's most unusual object was probably the purported private part of Napoleon Bonaparte, said the Newark, N.J. Star Ledger. Christie's originally offered it in 1969 as "a small dried object, which one might describe as mummified sinew, removed from his body, post mortem." After ownership of the "appendage" passed through several hands, Lattimer acquired it in 1977. Although there were always questions, Lattimer never doubted its authenticity. Neither did the TV film crews that besieged him in the ensuing years. "They all want to film it, but I have refused. After all, there is such a thing as privacy," said Lattimer. Lattimer's ashes will be buried in his ancestral graveyard (Westside) in Hubbardston, MI. His brain will be donated to the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center. (This Week, May 23, 2007)

Dr. John Lattimer died on May 10, 2007 in Englewood, New Jersey after a very long illness. He was 93-years-old. In 2002, I first met John and his daughter Evan when they came to their farm on Jones Road east of Hubbardston for the annual visit. I asked to interview him and he most graciously talked with me, and each year thereafter, when he visited. He spoke each year at Post 182 on his various adventures and the community was fascinated not only with his knowledge, but his recall of facts, his exciting delivery and his charm. He was a PUFL (Life) member of Post 182, a Charter Member of the Hubbardston Area Historical Society and loved everything about his boyhood home. He wandered the cemeteries even as a lad checking out historical data. Nathan Barnes who later became a minister at the Hubbardston Methodist church was a courier who was stationed with General Custer at the "Battle of the Little Big Horn." Nathan was a houseguest of John's grandfather until the parsonage was readied. John's grandmother held the first organizational meeting for the Methodist Church in Hubbardston in her kitchen on Jones Road east of Hubbardston and later collaborated on the history of the church.

John found the cure for tuberculosis of the kidney and he and his team developed the PSA test for Prostate Cancer. He believed no one should ever die from prostate cancer if the test was taken each year and monitored carefully.

While speaking in Texas at a Medical Convention, he shocked his audience of esteemed physicians from the area when he told them he had married a young lady from Texas. He knew they would ask where and when they did, he answered, "She was born and raised in Comanche, Texas." The silence was deafening. He knew that Comanche had the reputation as being a 'wild place.' Anyone from Comanche was considered to be an outlaw. (Have you ever heard anything similar about a little town we all know so well?) But his lovely Jamie was a well-known artist in the east and even had a stint in the early motion pictures. My friendship with John is a treasure to me. He was a dedicated historian, loved to discuss his findings, treasured his daughter Evan and her shared interest in genealogy and family heritage.

He believed that the greatest achievement of the 20<sup>th</sup> century was the development of antibiotics in the cure of disease. And he had an epistle of facts and figures to boost his claim. John and Jamie have been married for 58 years, have one daughter, Evan who is a free-lance artist, genealogist and writer; two sons who are physicians in Hawaii. Dr. Lattimer's Memorial service is scheduled for sometime in July, 2007 in Hubbardston.

In talking of World War II, John told me, "It was the young men and women from 'the Hubbardston's of the world' who won the war and saved the freedom we all cherish. They were reared by families deep in the tradition of faith, family and country. When called to serve, they went without question and served valiantly." The world has lost a giant and we have lost a very good neighbor. Rest in peace dear friend, John!

The Hubbardston Area Historical Society Board Members elected by unanimous decision at the May 24, 2007 Annual Meeting at the new location in the Hubbardston Community Center were: Peter Burns, Joanne Burns Howard, Jane Lowry Herald, Mary Stoddard Caris, and Mark Stoddard. The gym was set up beautifully; the dinner was delicious, Allen Kelly was the guest presenter with a film on the Aran Islands of Ireland, Duane Fahey had a beautiful ongoing slide display of the Hubbardston area and the evening was a social success. Helen Tait read a birthday note she received on her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday which was great. Shirley Allen (always great) spoke of her brother Ford Caesar's books and accomplishments. The recipient for Charter Member of the year was Rosaline McMillan. She's with us every Tuesday and her Custard Pie is always at its tasty best. Volunteer of the year from the village was Ruth Parks Riley who is with us each week, contributes time, gifts, and energy and is just an enjoyable person to have helping us with our massive filing projects. No one has done more for the organization as a whole than Jack and Sondra Stoddard. We are so grateful to these helpful people and to all of our members (260 at present) who support us so generously with their membership, notes, letters and memorabilia. We welcome one and all!

### **HAHS Members and Carson City Hospital Expansion**

Phase three of the renovation and expansion of the Carson City hospital continues and the expected completion date is 2008. The work that affects every patient who comes to the hospital is scheduled to be unveiled in December, 2007. "This (lobby) is the first thing people will see," Hospital and Public Relations Director

Jennifer Churchill said. "It will be very comfortable, like being in someone's living room." It will feature an overhang drop-off area and a large glass wall. Through the glass will be a state-of-the-art lobby. The lobby will include a baby-grand piano, coffee shop, computer system for families, computerized kiosk, waterfall and fireplace. The radiology department, cardio-pulmonary department, outdoor healing garden and gift shop will not be completed fully until July, 2008.

Phase I of the \$18 million project started in August 2005 and was finished in 2006. It included a new office building, rehabilitation center and the only MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) in Clinton, Ionia and Montcalm counties. Phase II which began in 2006 was completed in May. It consisted of new walk-in and emergency entrances to the hospital along with a new, double in size, emergency department. The fund-raising effort was significantly surpassed by raising more than \$1.9 million in gifts. A loan from Michigan State Hospital Finance will pay for the remaining 90% of the project. (Carson City Gazette)

We are so fortunate to have in our own local area this magnificent medical facility. What a convenience not to have to drive to Lansing, Detroit, Ann Arbor or Grand Rapids each time we have a traumatic situation in our families.

In 1936, when young Dr. Emmett Binkert viewed the tower of St. Mary's Church on his way into town to visit Carson City, and talked with area businessmen, he determined that he had found the site for his new hospital. Wouldn't he be proud today to see what his foresight has produced!

Some significant people in this current operation are charter members of our Historical Society and we are proud of all of their efforts and accomplishments. The Carson City Hospital's Public Relations Director is our own, highly talented and truly energetic, Jennifer Churchill who was with us as Media Specialist for four years prior to her new position. Congratulations and continued success to Jennifer. I understand we may be saying 'farewell and 'you do deserve a rest' to hospital executive, Bill Fife, a charter member and supporter of HAHS. I can't imagine a stay in the hospital without a daily visit from Bill. In my eyes, he is irreplaceable. Maybe Nancy Fenn (HAHS member and Hospital Volunteer Coordinator) will talk him in to joining her huge volunteer group who do so much, so very well for the hospital and the community. Godspeed to all involved with this masterful project!

### **Projects for Fall, 2007**

Starting in September, Mary Satterlee (Heirloom Dolls) anticipates the possibility of teaching members her crochet technique over a few weeks prior to Christmas. Send a note to Box 183 Hubbardston, 48845, stop by, or call 989-584-3803 to reserve a place in this class which will probably be held on Wednesdays. Those of you interested in participating in quilting classes need to send your names asap so we can determine day, time and space. Online computer research is available also on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Have you signed up for 'First Families of the Four Corners' yet? And don't forget our luncheon on Tuesday following Prayer Service at our National Historic Church at noon. Everyone is welcome!

June 1 of each year is the renewal date for memberships. See date by your name on mailing address! Send your membership dues to HAHS, Box 183, Hubbardston, 48845. 1-year=\$15. 5-years=\$60 (1 year free).

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