



**HUBBARDSTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
**NEWSLETTER NUMBER SEVEN, OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2003**  
**BOX 183, HUBBARDSTON, MI. 48845**  
[WWW.HUBBARDSTON.ORG](http://WWW.HUBBARDSTON.ORG)

**HARVEY GEORGE ALLEN - POSTMASTER**

From 1947-1975, Harvey Allen was the Postmaster at Hubbardston, a lifetime member of the Order of the Free Masons, an avid fisherman, hunter, woodworker, gardener, and he loved snowmobiling. He was a beekeeper as well (remember his dad, Hugh Allen and the honey displays in the Floral Building at the Ionia Free Fair for years and years) and produced maple syrup. Soon after retirement he began spending winters in Florida which eventually became his permanent home. He was born in Clinton County on June 9, 1915. He died Sunday, August 31, 2003 in Summerfield, Florida. His wife of 62 years, Shirley, remains with her children; Jane Allen Quevado of Oxford, Florida, Donald Allen of Houston, Texas, Barbara Mitchell of Carson City, Pat Miller of Riverdale, Peggy Chiarenzelli of

Chandler, Florida; 12 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and a brother, Robert of Detroit. Memorial and graveside services are scheduled for October 11, in the Hubbardston Cemetery with the Masonic Lodge of Hubbardston providing a luncheon for family and friends. Harvey and Shirley are members of HAHS and have been very helpful and encouraging with their news and notes. You can send your condolences to Shirley Allen and the family at 6485 Southeast 173<sup>rd</sup> Place, Summerfield, Florida, 32691. The family requests that any memorial donations be made to the Hubbardston Cemetery Society.

*I remember Harvey as a jolly man who always had a smile and managed to move around that post office with the greatest of ease, even with his handicap. When the baby chicks would come in by the case in the spring, he would just shake his head. You never heard such chirping. He had a free book trading cabinet set up as we had no library and seniors were limited in travel. We have fond memories of him. Our condolences to the family in their loss. (Ed.)*

Two elderly ladies who had been friends for many decades were playing cards when one looked at the other and said, "Now don't get mad at me. I know we've been friends for a long time, but I just can't think of your name. I've thought and thought and I just can't remember it. Please tell me what your name is."

Her friend glared at her for at least three minutes, just staring and staring. Finally she said, "How soon do you need to know?"

**Dues Alert - to keep Newsletters coming, see page 3.**

**Plan to spend Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> with us from 1-6 PM at the Parish Hall in Hubbardston. Andy Cooney from Ireland and Forty Irish Dancers with Pat Baese will entertain. Brunch is included for \$15 (advance). Nice way to spend a Sunday afternoon! Benefit for HAHS (calendar p. 4)**

**A Willard Scott Alert – Hubbardston Centenarian**  
**Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Gerry Boomer on October 27**



**Fifty year life member, and forty year historian** of Post 182 and our **Senior Member of HAHS** is lively and active Gerry Boomer of Hubbardston. Gerry is above pictured with Adj. Bud Howard and friends Gerry Snow and Wanda Wohlfert Shinabarger celebrating her 99<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2002. **An open house for Gerry will be held the afternoon of October 18 at Post 182.** Come and share a spectacular accomplishment with this lovely lady and her many, many friends as we honor her for years of dedication and volunteer service. Married to Jim Boomer, she worked for years side by side with him at their Standard Station on Main Street which was "the" socializing spot for every kid in town. Never was a child turned away who needed bike or tire repair because of lack of funds. Jim and Gerry took care of it and even made trips to Carson for 'missing parts.' They were friends to everyone. Of all of her 'jobs,' Gerry said she loved this one best with all the opportunities to visit with her neighbors. She always saw to it that Jim had a hot dinner at mealtime, and she took over the workload so that he could sit and enjoy it. Her children; Oren, Denny and Pat, and their families plus dozens of 'grands' and 'great-grands' will be with her. **'Congratulations' and God Bless, Gerry!**

**Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened!**

**Check the Calendar of coming events folks. October 18<sup>th</sup> is quite a day in Hubbardston. On Saturday afternoon from 1:00-4:00 PM on the 18<sup>th</sup> stop by Post 182 and wish Gerry a Happy 100<sup>th</sup>. Then scoot on up to the parish hall and get a good seat for the Pat Woods Irish Show to benefit our Hubbardston Area Dance Troupe. Pick up your tickets ahead of time at the Celtic Path and save a bit. Social hour from 6:00PM and Songs, Stories and Irish Dances from 7:00 till 11:00 PM. Looks like a 'Great Day to be in Hubbardston.'**

**I don't know how I got over the hill without getting to the top!**

Former Hubbardston resident Bernard (Bonnie) Burns named "Lion of the Year" in Michigan City Indiana.



The Michigan City, Indiana Lions Club held their awards banquet at Pottawattomie Country Club on June 18, 2003 and the 'Lion of the Year' award for the Michigan City Chapter was presented to Bernard Burns for his dedicated service to the club over the past twelve years. Bonnie and Helen are involved with numerous volunteer organizations including the Queen of All Saints funeral choir, 'Meals on Wheels,' Knights of Columbus and community service groups in their area. Bonnie has been a Lion for 43 years. He enjoys gardening, golf and square dancing with his wife, Helen. They will celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in June, 2004. They have three children, seven grandchildren and four great grands. Father Yadron, their pastor said, "He's an elderly gentleman with a great sense of humor, very talkative, very open to people. He reminds you of the grandpa you like to visit...He keeps going, keeps helping and keeps serving." Bonnie is a 1937 graduate of St. John the Baptist High School along with Elaine Dailey Lutz, Julia O'Brien, Donna Herald Kelly, Elmer Cunningham, Allen and Alton Stoddard, Robert Hogan, Margaret O'Connell and Robert Herald. He is the grandson of Burns pioneer Michael and Ann Kelly Burns.



Ed Farrell and Bonnie Burns collect for the needy.

"When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You know that your name is safe in their mouth." Billy, age 4

"Love is what makes you smile when you're tired." Terri, age 4

"Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening the presents and listen" Bobby, age 7



Meet the SJB Basketball Team of 1952

It may be difficult to fathom today, but in 1952, Keith Clark coached a basketball team for St. John the Baptist. The players were (back row) John Schafer, Jim Ward, John Burns, David Bennett, Bill Schafer, Coach Keith Clark. (front row) Bill Burns, Bill Cashen, Ed Fitzpatrick, Don Bennett and Gene Riley. Mike Burns joined the team in 1953. The Hubbardston Public School allowed them to use their gym for practice and for home games. They played teams from Fowler, Lyons, Pewamo, Portland, Ionia and Carson City. Just procuring uniforms was a major hurdle. There were no funds. It was commendable that they could maintain a team. If someone was injured or ill, the situation was dire. But the fans supported them unanimously. This was the first basketball team in the history of the school. They did a remarkable job considering this was the initial basketball experience for every member of the team. "Coach Keith Clark has apparently done a good job with the youngsters as they played their hearts out in their opening tournament test. They were never more than six or eight points out of the game at any time until the very end." (Ionia County News) All of these young gentlemen graduated from SJB and most stayed in the proximate area to marry and raise their families.



Meet the SJB Cheerleaders of 1952

These beautiful young ladies became lovely wives and mothers and assets to their communities. All four graduated from St. John the Baptist High School in 1952. From left to right above: **Catherine McKenna Kussmaul** is retired and lives in Lansing with her husband R.J. **Joan Shively McKenna** and husband Bernard (Bud) live in Okemus and spend each weekend on the 'Burke' homestead on Brayton Road west of Hubbardston. MEW or **Mary Ellen Williams**

(Richard) Osborne was recently widowed and lives in Matherton near her family. Patricia Stoddard Osborne married Gerald Osborne and spent her life deeply involved with her church activities. She died suddenly last year of a brain aneurism. All of these women have been active in their communities throughout their lives.

A kindergarten teacher was walking around the room observing the children's art work. "What are you drawing?" she asked. The little girl replied, "I'm drawing God." The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like." Without missing a beat, or looking up, the little girl replied, "They will in a minute!"

### The Genealogist-Mel Oshins

They think that I should wash and clean, and be a model wife. I tell them it's more interesting to study Grandpa's life. They simply do not understand why I hate to go to bed... I'd rather do two hundred years of research work instead.

Why waste the time we have on earth just snoring and asleep? When we can learn of ancestors that sailed upon the deep? We have priests, Rabbis, lawmen, soldiers, more than just a few. And yes, there's many scoundrels and a bootlegger or two.

How can a person find this life an awful drudge or bore When we can peek into the lives of folks who came before? A hundred years from now of course, no one will ever know Whether I did laundry, but they'll see our Tree and glow... 'Cause their dear old granny left for them, for all posterity, Not clean hankies and the like, but a finished Family Tree.

My home may be untidy, 'cause I've better things to do... Checking all the records to provide us with a clue. Old granny's pulling roots and branches out with frenzied glee, Her clothes aren't hanging out to dry: she's hung up on "The Tree!"

(Thanks to Anne Lukicek for sending this 'story of our later lives.'

My wife says I snore too much, but I've finally figured out the problem. It only happens on nights when she drinks too much coffee. (Rollin Ives)

Love is when you tell a guy you like his shirt, then he wears it every day for a week. (Noelle, age 7)

Love is when Mommy sees daddy all smelly and sweaty and still says he's handsomer than Robert Redford. (Chris, age 7)

A four year old child observed his elderly neighbor who had recently lost his wife, sitting in his yard crying. The little boy went over to the old gentleman, climbed up on his lap, and just sat there. When his mother asked him what he had said to the neighbor, the little boy said, "Nothing, I just helped him cry." (Thanks to Jack Billings for these tidbits)

Remember, if you don't learn to laugh at trouble, you won't have anything to laugh at when you are old.

### Membership Dues Alert

We have over 200 members already paid up for 2003. This is wonderful and also necessary to keep your newsletter coming. If you haven't renewed, please try to do so by December 1<sup>st</sup>. Every one of you is a valuable asset and we need your support. Without you - we just don't exist!

Those interested in Membership in the H.A.H.S. should complete the form below and send it with \$15 annual membership fee made payable to Hubbardston Area Historical Society. Send to: H.A.H.S., 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.

### HAHS Board of Directors and e-mail addresses

Philip McKenna-Co-chairman-[pmckenna@mcka.com](mailto:pmckenna@mcka.com)

Julianne Burns Co-Chair-[julianne@city.ionia.mi.us](mailto:julianne@city.ionia.mi.us)

Duane Fahey-Vice Chair-[dfahey@visualautomation.com](mailto:dfahey@visualautomation.com)

Marie Sweet-Secretary-[mms@cmsinter.net](mailto:mms@cmsinter.net)

Mark Stoddard-Treasurer-[stodtke@comcast.net](mailto:stodtke@comcast.net)

Peter Burns-Genealogy-pejabur@aol.com

Joanne HowardMembership-[mjh655@pathwaynet.com](mailto:mjh655@pathwaynet.com)

JenniferChurchill-Media-[jchurchill@lansing.gannett.com](mailto:jchurchill@lansing.gannett.com)

Randy Riley-[Archives-rriley@michigan.gov](mailto:Archives-rriley@michigan.gov)

Quint Cusack-Genealogy

Jack Fahey-Memorial Display- [jjalfahey@cmsinter.net](mailto:jjalfahey@cmsinter.net)

Committees:

Artifacts-Pat Baese-[dbaese@carsoncity.k12.mi.us](mailto:dbaese@carsoncity.k12.mi.us) and

Helen Hoskins

Newsletter-Bud and Joanne Howard [mjh655@pathwaynet.com](mailto:mjh655@pathwaynet.com) and Mary Caris

Research-Jack [Stoddard-jsstoddard@cmsinter.net](mailto:Stoddard-jsstoddard@cmsinter.net)

Shaun, Beth O'Grady- [JayBird@cmsinter.net](mailto:JayBird@cmsinter.net)

Calendar- Allen and Janet Kelly

A private school in Washington was recently faced with a unique problem. A group of 12-year-old-girls beginning to use lipstick would put it on in the bathroom. Afterward they would press their lips to the mirror, leaving dozens of little lip prints. Every day the custodian removed them and everyday they were back. The principal decided something had to be done so she called all the girls to the bathroom and met them there with the custodian. She asked the custodian to demonstrate how difficult it was to clean those mirrors. He took out a long-handled squeegee, dipped it in the toilet and cleaned the mirror with it... Since then there have been no lip prints on the mirror....There are teachers, and then there are educators. (Yvonne Boomer)

## Business and Activities Calendar HAHS 2003-2004

- Oct. 18** –HAHS Member Gerry Boomer Celebrates 100 years  
**Open House at Post 182** 1:00-4:00 PM
- Oct. 18-** Hubbardston Concert Series  
**St. John the Baptist Parish Hall** 6-11 PM  
**Social Hour** 6:00PM  
**Pat Woods-Co. Armagh,Ireland-** 7:00PM  
**Hubbardston Irish Dancers mid-evening**  
 Donation-\$10 advance-\$12 at the Door  
**Benefit-Hubbardston Irish Dancers**
- Oct. 23** –General Membership Meeting 7:00 PM  
**Phil McKenna**-History of the Village
- Nov. 9-** Hubbardston Concert Series  
**St. John the Baptist Parish Hall** 1-6 PM  
**40 Hubbardston Irish Dancers** 1-2:00PM  
**Andy Cooney-Irish America’s Favorite Son** 3:00PM  
**Brunch included, Beverages available**  
 Donation \$15 Advance, \$18 at the door  
**Benefit-HAHS, Come one. Come all!**
- Nov. 13** Board of Directors Meeting 7:00PM  
 Village Hall-Hubbardston
- Nov.20** General Membership Meeting 7:00PM  
 Guest- **Michigan Historical Society**
- Dec. 4** Christmas Buffet Dinner 7:00PM  
**Oakwood Restaurant-Pewamo**  
 Reservations-Cost each member
- Jan. 22** General Membership Meeting 7:00PM  
**Beth O’Grady-** Historical Resources
- Feb. 19** Board of Directors Meeting 7:00PM  
**Feb. 26** General Membership Meeting 7:00PM  
**“Show and Tell”**-Bring a favorite photo,  
 document, etc. for all to share and discuss.
- Mar. 13** First Annual St. Patrick’s Day Parade  
 Grand Ledge, Mi.-John Dwyer, Pres.  
 Hubbardston Irish Dancers Perform
- Mar. 25** General Membership Meeting 7:00PM  
 Nominations Committee appointed  
**Peter Burns** – Genealogy
- Apr. 22** General Membership Meeting 7:00PM  
 Slate of Nominations-Board of Directors  
 Proposed Budget  
**Joanne Howard** – “Parish, People, Puns”
- May 29** Annual Membership Dinner-Social 11:30-3:00 PM  
 St. John the Baptist Parish Hall  
 Hubbardston Irish Dancers

All general membership meetings are held the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Celtic Path in Hubbardston; Board Meetings at the Hubbardston Village Hall at 7:00 PM unless otherwise announced.

**“If you haven’t any charity in your heart, you have the worst kind of heart trouble.” Bob Hope**

### Evan’s Quilt

Found intact at the **Lattimer Farm on Jones Road, East of Hubbardston is an interesting hand-made quilt.** Because of the names and individual styles of embroidery, it appears to be a community project. How these people were connected is the mystery. We are attempting to identify the people whose names are embroidered on this ancient article. There are three blocks with the number ‘67.’ Perhaps that was the year it was made – 1867? It looks

too old to be 1967. It is a “crazy quilt” style with extremely ornate and detailed stitching in threads of various colors. The backing is a mottled mid-blue cotton fabric and the self-constructed ruffle, about two inches wide is double folded fabric of the same material. Who they were, what their relationship was to each other, and why the quilt was constructed are among the reasons for Evan’s research. It appears to have been passed from friend to friend since the embroidery of names is not completed and the thread and style of stitches is so varied. Information as to the identity of any of these people would be a great help. M. Atwood, Hettie Choate, Jane Choate, Rodney Choate, Mrs. J.W. Dann, Mrs. Sarah Dann, A.W. Dryan, Mark Garrett, Grace, Mrs. D.R. Gundoom, Mrs. W. La Du., Bertha Lamerson, L.A. Moon, Bessie Moon, F.J. Moon, Mildred Moon, Charlotte Myers, N.S.J., H. Olly, A.A. Parker, Angie Parsons, Ellis Sheets, Rowena Sheets, Ella Welch, Mae Welch. [hollystr@yahoo.com](mailto:hollystr@yahoo.com)  
 Evan Lattimer and her father, Dr. John Lattimer spend August at the farm on Jones Road. Evan spends her time researching and repairing. John aids her in the research and speaks at the American Legion Club, Post 182, where he is a member. His vast experiences which he has published in multiple best-selling books, provide the most exciting topics to enjoy.

### The Irish Way



**Members of the Hubbardston Dance Troupe as they rehearse at The Celtic Path Gift Gallery. Taylor Morofsky, Raelyn Ewalt, Hope Miller and Mariah Schafer are family names represented in the front row.**

Do you want to see an exciting performance of traditional style that will lift you heart and brighten your spirits? Twenty-five young ladies from the area meet at the Celtic Path for rehearsals and they are booked solid when March rolls around with everyone wanting to see a touch of ‘Old Eire’! The same is true in May and the Memorial Day celebrations. Actually, they are busy throughout the year and when schedules get too complicated, the wonderful supportive parents take over and it’s amazing to see the young ladies maintain their stage demeanor and thrill their audiences with amazing rhythms and movement. Pat Baese, their instructor, now has a portion of the class in ‘hard shoe.’ They are thrilling to watch and it seems almost unbelievable that this wonderful Irish town has this fantastic group of talented dancers in its midst. Thank you Pat, and thank you young ladies for making us all so very proud of you. We know that without parental support and their dedicated work making costumes, car-pooling, crafting for fund-raisers, endless cooking and meeting schedules, the children wouldn’t have this unique opportunity. It is exhausting work for all involved, but your audiences ‘love you.’ We have an opportunity to see the troupe in action on October 18 at the

parish hall in Hubbardston. A benefit to provide them with 'hard shoes' (very expensive) and costumes will be held in their behalf. Pat Woods from County Armagh in Ireland will be the featured entertainer with the Irish Dancers doing an intermission performance. The Hibernians from Grand Rapids will assist with the evening's activities and you can be assured that it will be a 'fun evening' and an opportunity to celebrate 'Heritage.' Tickets are available at the Celtic Path, the Carson City Library and from the parents of the dancers. \$10. advance sale and \$12 at the door. Come one! Come all! Beth and Shaun O'Grady are in charge and can be reached at [JayBird@cmsinter.net](mailto:JayBird@cmsinter.net) If you can't make the party, feel free to send a donation to "The Celtic Path" for a very good cause.

### Letters to the Editor

Just a note to thank you for the fine work you are doing with the newsletter in recording the history past and present of our dear little town of Hubbardston. I really enjoy greatly reading each issue and look forward to the next one. Enclosed please find my fee for renewal.... My great forte is not writing but if the enclosed article would be of interest to you to be utilized in some way, I would be pleased to share it with you and your readers. May God continue to bless your work. **Fr. James Bozung Spring Lake, Mi.**

Received the book and other materials. Enclosed are my checks for membership in the Historical Society. You sure did a great job and a lot of work. The newsletters are very interesting and I will try to make the August meeting Potluck Dinner. Enclosed are a lot of pictures and Aunt Julia's letter. I hope this will help you. **John Dwyer, Grand Ledge, Mi.**

...I certainly do enjoy reading the HAHS newsletter. The enclosed clipping is self-explanatory....Enclosing my dues. Love you, **Bonny Burns, Michigan City, Indiana.**

Please renew my membership in HAHS. Enclosed please find check to cover same and a few dollars to buy some stamps. Keep up the good work. **Ken O'Grady, Saranac, Mi.**

Bud and Joanne, sending my renewal check for membership. Thanks to you and all the rest of the folks for all of your efforts. **Bill and Judy Fife, Carson City, Mi.**

I have lots of information for you and we're organizing it to send to you. I am Honora O'Connor Shiels grand daughter and used to spend summers in Hubbardston with her. My mother, Ellen Smith, died last December and I have all the pictures and letters to organize. I have traced down the Archie and Margaret McMillan family. Their oldest daughter was born in Hubbardston in 1910. **Bernadine Bennett, Lansing, Mi.**

I was delighted beyond words to hear from you. You certainly did give me a wealth of new information to add to what I had already assembled....I appreciate you giving us Edmond O'Connor's grave site....I am very excited about becoming a member of the HAHS. Thank you for your kind response to my request and I hope to be able to purchase both of your books soon.... The enclosed poems are from my 'gene' collection. If any are new to you, you might want to use them ...Wishing you success, with warm regards. **Anne and Mike Lukicek, Sarnia, Ontario.**

I always enjoy your efforts and every issue seems to generate forgotten memories of my years in and around Hubbardston. I would enjoy hearing from Tom Fitzpatrick. We took instructions together along with another cousin for our First Communion in 1943 from Father Fox and the Sisters. My mother, brother Bill and I were living on the Barrett homestead on County Line Road at the time. My annual dues are being sent by my wife Shirley as we speak. **(Jerry Benedict, the Idaho Tater Tot, Sandpoint, Idaho)**

**HAHS member John Dwyer presents award to Coach Pat O'Keefe of Grand Ledge.**



This plaque and honors were presented to Coach Pat O'Keefe in September, 2002 who won 800 games as a Grand Ledge High School Baseball Coach. The picture and material was sent to us by John Dwyer, a native of Hubbardston, and a graduate of Carson City High School living in Grand Ledge. John is a member of the Knights of Columbus in Grand Ledge, a Fourth Degree Past Comdr. of Bishop Albers Council in Lansing, member of the Grand Ledge Rotary and a budding genealogist.

**A Little Current History** on Pat O'Keefe, football and baseball coach in Grand Ledge. Our son Mark played football for O'Keefe and they were undefeated, winning the Capitol Area Conference title in 1974. Grandson John Rademacher, a defensive tackle on the team, was undefeated last year winning the CAC title in 2002. Mark's son, Tom Howard, wide receiver and back-up quarterback, and our daughter Ginny's son, John Rademacher, defensive tackle, are both on the same team. (Tom also is catcher for the Lansing 'All Star' team.) Guess where we spend our Friday nights? (Ed.)

HAHS member **John Stoddard** has twin grandsons playing for Grand Valley State in Grand Rapids this year as sophomores. When you check out the size of all of these young men, all such gentlemen, "country born and raised" shines! (Editor)

**Condolences to Board Members Mary Caris and John and Mark Stoddard** in the loss of their brother and uncle, Harold Stoddard this past August 14<sup>th</sup>. A World War II veteran, he married Dorothy Cunningham and raised a family in St. Johns. Ill health forced hospitalization for many years. The American Legion Post 182 Hubbardston, of which he was a member, performed the military graveside services and dinner followed in the club dining room. Mary is our co-editor, Mark is treasurer and Jack is a founding member, who along with **Shaun O'Grady** queried the community and named our organization "The Hubbardston Area Historical Society" since it encompasses four counties.

### Heartfelt Thanks For Your Donations

Fr. Bozung, Ken O'Grady, Bernadine Bennett, Georgiann Ward, Raymond Burns-all donated money; Mary McKenna-cartons of paper, Bud Howard-money and newsletter supplies, Allen (Punk) Kelly-money and supplies, Genevieve Read-money for supplies, Bernadine Bennett-holy-water font, Anne Lukicek-genealogy book, John Dwyer-genealogy and pictures, Gordon Shipley-history of Clinton County veterans of all wars, Bob and Katie Cashen-antique sleigh and baby-bed, Carleen Smith-clay pipe collection.

Many thanks to the committee for the **August Social**. Great food, wonderful people, special guests and wonderful ideas shared for a perfect evening. **Bud Datema (moving the parish hall) and Evan Lattimer (the first 14 buildings in Hubbardston)** our presenters, were wonderfully entertaining.

The featured speaker for our September meeting was **Randy Riley of the Michigan Library-Special Collections**. Anything you ever wanted to know about research was clarified. Contact Randy by e-mail for wonderful web-sites now accessible from your home computer.

[rriley@michigan.gov](mailto:rriley@michigan.gov)

**Phil McKenna, our co-chairman will do a presentation on the 'History of Hubbardston' on October 23. All are invited to attend.**



Remember Father Whelan from Carson City? St. Mary's Hall?

**Donna Joan Kavanagh Baker** recently gave me this picture. It marked the beginning of construction on St. Mary's Parish Hall in the 1950's. The structure was slow in construction with many weather delays, but it is today the center of parish activities. Recently revamped and landscaped, with cement steps and walks added, it is used everyday for many diverse functions. Recognize any of the attendees? ([mjh655@pathwaynet.com](mailto:mjh655@pathwaynet.com))

The children were lined up in a Catholic school for lunch. On a large pile of apples the nun had made a note, "Take only one. God is watching you." At the other end of the table was a bowl of chocolate chip cookies. A child had written the note, "Take all you want. God is watching the apples."

**Make Plans for October 18 and November 9, 2003  
Hubbardston Concert Series, or send donations to Box 183,  
Hubbardston, Mi. 48845 (see calendar page 4)**



Meet Jeremiah Burns as a young lad, taken in front of the Merchant's Building at the Ionia Free Fair in 1924. A prize 'trotter' was scheduled to race that day and Grandpa Mike was an avid horseman. Rain muddied the track and the race was cancelled. But six-year-old little Jerry had a 'grand day' at the Fair all dressed up in his 'Sunday suit.'

Born December 18, 1918, Jerry is the son of John, grandson of Michael and Ann Kelly Burns, husband of Louise Koenigsknecht for 58 years, father of eight handsome sons and his many, many progeny. What did this handsome little guy do with his life? Born on the family farm on O'Brien Road in Hubbardston to John and Julia Egan Burns, he joined the Army on November 18, 1941. Shipped overseas July 1, 1942, he served in England and North Africa. Discharged October 24, 1944 he worked at John Deere in Lansing. He wisely refurbished the farm tools for "Pa," before he returned to full time farming. In 1955 he became Township Trustee, holding that office until 1965 when he became Township Supervisor. From July of 1965 to 1982 he was rural mail carrier. Retiring in June, he was appointed in November to the Canvassing Board until his second retirement in June of 2002. He canvassed ten general elections and nine primary elections in addition to countless school, village, city, and special elections. Four times he turned chauffeur to transport the ballot container inspectors on their official tour. **He learned to read the results from "punch card precinct tapes," by precise maneuvering of a simple ruler. If only we had known, we'd have sent him to Florida to clarify the "punch card disaster" in the last presidential election. Using his "good old Irish humor," he could have told Tom Brokaw and Tim Russert how to clarify the reading of the "punch card ballots" and the election. God Bless you Jerry. You've been my right arm for years! (Ed.)**

### Query

I recently discovered your web-site. In HAHS newsletter #5 you had an article that mentioned Joseph Bailey and his son Francis. Francis Bailey was my 4<sup>th</sup> great grandfather, and I have been trying to verify the fact that Joseph was his father. By chance, do you have any further information on this family. Any help would be appreciated. (Connie Lindsay, 11922 Maple Road, Beulah, Mi. 49617)