

Harrison County
WEST VIRGINIA
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

POST OFFICE BOX 2064
CLARKSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA 26301

NEWSLETTER

FALL 1972

SEPTEMBER MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Society will be held at 7:30 o'clock September 20, 1972, in the Amy Roberts Vance House. Glenn Lough will speak on "Early Settlers of the Upper Monongahela Valley".

ANNUAL TOUR

Buses will leave the Amy Roberts Vance House at 1:15 o'clock on Sunday, October 15, for the second annual tour of Harrison County historic sites by members and guests of members of the Harrison County Historical Society.

The route of the buses will be "up Elk" via Romines Mill to Johnstown, Rockford and Lost Creek; and via I-79 to the Amy Vance House for a rest stop. Tour members then will travel south on Route 19 to Good Hope and return for dinner at the museum.

Historic sites on the tour will be: *Stops will be made:

Thomas W. Harrison House (Mrs. Louis A. Johnson residence),
Buckhannon Avenue, Clarksburg.

*William Haymond, Sr., cabin and Haymond Cemetery, Zack's Run.

The site of "The Chalet", home of Melville Davisson Post, which burned in the 1930's.

*Ira C. Post House "Templemoor" (L. L. Crawford residence),
Buckhannon Road.

*Porter Maxwell House (Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Harrison residence),
Buckhannon Road.

*Methodist Church (built in 1884) and cemetery, Johnstown.
Bassel House, Lost Creek.

*"Brick" Church (Seventh Day Baptist, built in 1872), Lost Creek.

*Grave of Melville Davisson Post and Despard burial plot, Elkview
Cemetery, Clarksburg.

*Rest Stop. Amy Roberts Vance House.

*Lee Maxwell House (Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Coston residence),
Route 19, Milford Road.

Eli Marsh House, Route 19, Milford Road.

Jesse Miller House (Blaine W. Engle residence), Good Hope.

Bennett Rider House and Bennett Rider Store, West Milford.

*Richards Fort Marker, West Milford.

Dr. Robert S. Wilson and Jack Sandy Anderson will be the guides on the tour. Dinner will be served at 6:00 o'clock in the Amy Roberts Vance House. To make reservations members please send the form at the bottom of this page or telephone Elizabeth Sloan, 622-0443, before October 9, 1972. Payment may be sent with reservations or made before boarding the bus on October 15.

SOCIETY BUSINESS

One dozen new chairs have been purchased for the meeting room so that the cane bottom chairs, which are frail, will not need to be carried upstairs to seat members at regular meetings.

A new sewer line was laid on the Society property in August. The Custodial Committee has contracted with a plumber to pipe water to the bathroom on the south side of the house.

Membership of the Society at the end of August was 238. To reach the goal of 500 members, the Membership Committee is staging a "person to person" campaign. If you wish to recommend a candidate for membership please inform someone on the Membership Committee: Madge McDaniel, chairman; Pauline Stout, Gertrude Chedister, Mr. and Mrs. William Allman, Helen Kramer, Mary Powers, Margaret Merrells, Grace Martin, Lucile Walls, members.

Mr. E. A. Payne has reported a total of \$2,170.90 in the treasury of the Society at the end of August.

RESERVATIONS FOR TOUR

Harrison County Historical Society OR E. A. Sloan
Post Office Box 2064 622-0443
Clarksburg, West Virginia 26301 CLOSING DATE October 9, 1972

Number of reservations for tour @ \$2.50 each _____
Number of reservations for dinner @ \$1.50 each _____
Payment enclosed _____ Payment at start of tour _____
Signature _____

The Historical Society is grateful that the following members have given hours to serve as host and hostesses during the summer.

Madge McDaniel	Mrs. L. W. Burnside	Mrs. Bertha Stout Brown
Mrs. W. Paul McWhorter	Mrs. Martha Boreman	Mrs. J. B. Tonkin
Mrs. P. R. Watson	Mrs. O. D. Linder	Lucille Stryker
	Jack Sandy Anderson	

Substitutes

Mrs. Thomas Craig	Mrs. James E. Wilson	Mrs. William M. Wilson
Mrs. E. E. Criswell		Miss Oma Hall
Mrs. Robert Jefferson		Mrs. J. T. Williams

The following letter from the State of West Virginia Department of Archives and History, Charleston, West Virginia arrived in August:

Many thanks for your most interesting articles on the Amy Roberts Vance House. Today, I am forwarding them to Miss Cecile Goodall, Editor, West Virginia History, for her consideration for publication in one of our future issues. Just as soon as a decision has been reached, Miss Goodall will be in touch with you.

Carolyn J. Zinn
Director

BUSINESS OF THE SOCIETY

The board of directors considers the purpose of regular meetings to be educational and social. For this reason business at meetings is kept to the minimum. One reason for this newsletter is to keep members informed as to the business of the Society.

When the Society acquired the museum, a need arose to revise the constitution. A mimeographed copy of a proposed new document prepared by Mr. Oscar Andre, chairman, and Elizabeth Sloan and Madge McDaniel, members of the committee, will be presented to members attending one of the regular meetings of the Society in the fall. Members will vote to accept or reject the proposed constitution one month after it has been presented to the Society.

Operating a museum is expensive. The board of directors considered raising the dues to the Society to increase the revenue. Then they decided the positive approach would be to keep the dues at five dollars and to increase the membership so that many citizens of the county can have an identity with the museum. So several hundred letters were mailed inviting people to join the Society. The result of the effort is shown below:

New Members	134
Total Membership	217
Life Members	9
Contributing Members	13
Institutional Members	5

Now we would like each of you to bring in new members next year for, like everyone else, the board still wrestles with finances in an inflationary age.

Cost of painting and repairing outside of house, June 1971- - - \$ 985.47
Total in treasury August 31, 1971 - - - - - 1,710.64

Estimated cost of operating Amy Roberts Vance House for the next year:

Electricity - - - - -	\$ 120.00
Gas - - - - -	240.00
Water and Sewage - - - - -	100.00
Telephone - - - - -	233.64
Insurance - - - - -	90.00
Maintenance - - - - -	300.00
Mail Box - - - - -	24.00
Office Supplies (stamps, cards, stationery, etc.) - - - - -	200.00
Re-piping bathroom south side, second floor - - - - -	200.00
	<u>Total: \$1,507.64</u>

The Collection

New to the dining room are the two sections of a banquet table which belonged to Julie (Julia) Neale Jackson, mother of Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson. The table was purchased from her 1826-1831 by Rezin Davis. One section was inherited by his daughter, Mary E. Davis Hursey, and descended to Amelia Vance Russell who presented it to the Clarksburg Public Library. The other section was inherited by a second daughter, Margaret Davis Hursey, and descended to Fanny Wade Wallis (Mrs. Edward S.) who willed it to the Clarksburg Public Library. The tables are on loan from the Clarksburg Public Library.

Early in the fall the Lucas clock in the hallway should be ticking off the minutes and sounding the hours. Van Lucas, who presented the clock to the Society, is financing the repair of the works which were sent away in July.

Now hanging in the hallway is a portrait of Amy Roberts Vance, a gift from Ulysses Buffington.

Recent acquisitions:

four-volume set of Josephus, 1794, which belonged to George E. Jackson, 1805, a gift of Eva Longacre who now lives in Florida.

a turkey platter which belonged to Job Goff, father of Waldo Potter Goff, a gift from Catherine Osborn Goff.

Hardesty's...Encyclopedia (with section on Harrison County), 1883, on loan from Miss Grace VanHorn.

Ebert family Bible. 1853., a gift of S. Benton Davis, Chicago, Illinois (Mr. Davis is a native of Shinnston).

a sunglass used in the American Revolution by an ancestor of Arthur V. Upton, on loan from Mrs. Arthur V. Upton.

a washstand, gift of Louise Hornor.

items from Wells Haymaker Drug Store: Prescriptions: 1898-1899; accounts: as early as 1906; day books: as early as 1912; samples of herbs, seeds, etc., used as drugs, and chemicals and minerals used by the householder; a photograph of Wells and Haymaker Drug Store in 1907 showing the "peanut" wagon in front of store, gifts of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Haymaker Coffman.

Hood family items (a partial list): Genealogical material on Fleming, Foreman, Hood, Smith, Straight, Carhart families: Clarksburg Telegram Industrial Edition, Dec. 21, 1900; Clarksburg Exponent Industrial Edition, July 6, 1914; portrait of Solomon S. Fleming, Shinnston: watercolor by Dr. Hood who was his grandson; portraits of the members of the first West Virginia Legislature 1863 in which Solomon S. Fleming and Nathan Goff, Sr., were delegates from Harrison County; cap and dress belonging to Mary Maria Hood (d. 1884 as an infant), daughter of Thomas M. and Dora Foreman Hood; the following Civil War items: three letters from Civil War prisoners, W. L. Straight and Alfred Hood 1861, 1964, 1865; pass for D. E. Foreman on B&O Railroad from Wheeling to Fairmont, Oct. 31, 1862; Western Virginia Guard (newspaper) May 10, 1861; scarificator, or lancet (surgical instrument), gifts of Dr. Robert C. Hood, Arlington, Virginia.

Visitors to the Museum

June, July, and August, 2:00-4:00, Monday-Saturday	93
Three tours by arrangement	150

So many requests are being made for tours that Bertha Stout Brown, chairman of staffing for the house, has been assigned to schedule visits by organizations. All requests for special visits should be made to Mrs. Brown, telephone 624-7908.

The Society is grateful to those who served as host and hostesses during the summer months. Volunteers on regular assignment were Mrs. Paul McWhorter, Mrs. M. A. Berisford, Mrs. Paul Custer, Miss Elizabeth Duncan, Miss Oma Hall, Miss Virginia Shetter, Miss Madge McDaniel, Mrs. Virginia Hartsock, Mrs. Virginia Husk, Mrs. Willis Merryman, Miss Helen Upton, Miss Louise Hornor, Miss Lucille Stryker, Miss Pearl Custer, Mrs. Margaret Early, Miss Margaret Hayman. Substitute members of the staff were Miss Mary Powers, Mrs. Edward Byard, Mrs. Arthur Upton, Mrs. Ralph Martin, Mrs. Parke Johnson, Miss Charlotte Bailey, Mr. Alvin Bailey, Miss Elizabeth Sloan, and Miss Louise Dennison.

New Department

A Genealogical Department of the Society opened in August. Mrs. O. D. Linder, chairman, has indexed a portion of the archives of the Society. The department is located upstairs in the west front room, where space is available for researchers to work. Mrs. Linder has microfilmed some of the Society collection: Mr. Willis Tetrick has lent a microfilm viewer. Mrs. Linder and her committee, Miss Lucille Stryker, Mrs. P. D. Shingleton, Mrs. William Allman, Mrs. Sam B. Urso, Jr., Mrs. Paul Poulicos, and Mrs. S. O. Miller, will staff the house from 2:00-4:00 o'clock Monday through Saturday during September. During the fall and winter, services of the department will be available by appointment made by telephoning Mrs. Linder, 624-4604.

The Garden

Mrs. Tetrick and her committee from the Goff Plaza Garden Club have worked out detailed plans for the restoration of the garden. Getting a nurseryman to carry out the plans has been frustrating. Two trees (Japanese Zelkova Serrata) have been planted. Other preliminary work should move along soon.