



Manchester Area
Historical Society
PO Box 56
Manchester, Michigan 48158

Meetings: 7:30 pm
Second Thursday each Month,
September through June
Village Room, 912 City Rd.

2004-2005 Officers

Don Limpert, President
Jim Wilson,
First Vice-President
Howard Parr,
Second Vice-President

Betty Cummings, Secretary
Carl Curtis, Treasurer
Reno Feldkamp, Trustee
Doug Howell, Trustee
Jerry Swartout, Trustee

**August 2005
In This Issue:**

Fall Meeting
Wander Washtenaw
Upcoming Events
Meetings at a Glance
Manchester in 1871
Spring Picnic
2006 Calendar
Election of Officers



Volume XXI, No.3
August, 2005

M A N C H E S T E R

FALL MEETING



Mike & Therese Bossory will host the first meeting of the new season at their cider mill at 13011 Bethel Church Road. Still known as the Alber Orchard and Cider Mill, the mill has a long history and Mike & Therese will explain the operation and demonstrate the processing of apples.

This is also the time of the annual meeting and election of officers for the Manchester Area Historical Society.



At the May 2005 meeting, Don Limpert stated he did not wish to continue as President of the Society and asked Carl Buss and Sharon Curtis to serve as a Nominating Committee. Their proposed slate of officers is below and nominations will also be accepted from the floor during the meeting.

President, Carl Curtis
First Vice-President, Jim Wilson
Second Vice-President, Howard Parr
Secretary, Betty Cummings
Treasurer, Rosemary Whelan
Trustees, Reno Feldkamp, Doug Howell, Jerry Swartout

**Remember! - the meeting will be held at
the Alber Orchard and Cider Mill!**

WANDER WASHTENAW

On Saturday, September 24, 2005, MAHS will again be participating in WANDER WASHTENAW, sponsored by the Washtenaw County Museum Consortium. Most of the sites will be open from 10 AM to 4 PM that day. The event will be free, with donations encouraged at each site to recover expenses.

Groups involved include: **Ann Arbor:** Kempf House, Cobblestone Farm, Detroit Observatory, Museum on Main Street (Washtenaw County Historical Society), Parker Mill (Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation); **Milan:** Hack House; **Ypsilanti:** Michigan Firehouse Museum and Ypsilanti Historical Museum; Dexter Area Museum; Webster Church Fall Festival (Webster Township Historical Society); Salem Jarvis Stone School; Manchester Schneider Blacksmith Shop (Manchester Historical Society) and Saline Area Historical Society's two sites: Rentschler Farm and the Rail Road Depot.

Explore the County's Historic Attractions!

Some sites are having special events on this day. Maps and address lists will be available at all participating museums.

Other Upcoming Events:

through October 9: The Michigan Historical Museum in Lansing is exhibiting "Movers & Seekers: Michigan Immigrants and Migrants."

September 18: Old West Side Home Tours, Ann Arbor

September 24: Wander Washtenaw

September 29-October 16: Ypsilanti Historical Quilt Show at Museum

October 1: Antique Truck Show, Ypsilanti Riverside Park

MEETINGS AT A GLANCE

October 13th. "The History of Income Tax" Nancy Barber, EA, CFP and local resident will talk about the origin of Federal and Michigan State Income Taxes. 7:30p.m., Village Room, Village Hall

November 10th. "Early Michigan Settlers and Products They Needed" Joe Merkel, a local resident will discuss early settlers and their needs with an emphasis on bottles and glass. 7:30p.m., Village Room, Village Hall



Manchester Michigan in 1871

continued from May, 2005

We continue our journey through 1871 Manchester by starting near the Blacksmith Shop. East of Ann Arbor Street, Main Street was then called Jefferson Street.



Returning to Jefferson Street we go east and there make a stop
We find Bill Neebling in his Blacksmith shop.
He had a large factory, made carriages, wagons, the cutter and sleigh
And had the well earned reputation of always getting his pay.

We now cross the street, just east of Art Jaeger,
There we found William Lockwood, with furniture, he was the undertaker.
Going south on Water Street, we find the blacksmith, Peter Vreeland
On the Hoffer lot, and working for them was jolly Joe Gordanier.

Water Street is now called Riverside

At the foot of Water Street and Jefferson was the old Banner Store
Which Mack and Schmid of Ann Arbor had opened the fall before.
Next west in the old two story brick, Conrad Lehn had a grocery saloon.
He built a new block across the river and moved there very soon.

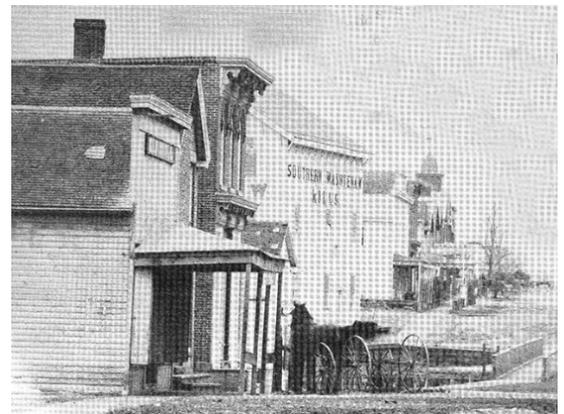
This piece was originally written by Nathaniel Schmid in 1921

George Doty's variety store was next west on the street
He handled most everything and kept things very neat.
Kurfess and Wiss had a queer combination. Mike tended the bar and sold the booze.
While Richard at the back was cobbling the shoes.

Where Kimble's store now stands, Alvinzo Doty sold shovels and plows
All sorts of farm machinery and bells for the cows.
Warren Kimble owns the property and the building stands there still.

Where Porter and Jaynes had their woolen mill,
Charlie had a livery stable, over the river built on piles
He kept the best horses and they travelled many miles
There was Flying Malinda, Stonewall Jackson, Chalkline and Kitty
These could beat anything that was ever brought from the city.

Charlie Trefethjern was a wagon maker by trade
His shop was in the alley and stood in the shade.
Coming back to Jefferson Street, west of Mattie Swift's near the dam on the hill
Stood the old wooden building, known as William Brown's little grist mill.



We now cross the river to the Southern Washtenaw Mills, run by Reynolds and Hewitt.
This mill was one of the best in the land, and everyone knew it.

Going south on Railroad Street is the Red Bird, where Joe Weiss is at work,
Nicholas Stringham sold all kinds of fresh meat and also salt pork.
Further south on the corner, just south of Springer the shoemaker
Was John Roller's furniture store, he was also an undertaker

Railroad Street is now called Adrian and there were several businesses on this street.

On the other side of the corner of the alley Jim Hendershott's blacksmith was found,
He was a jolly old man, his favorite song was, The green grass grows all around

On the other side of the alley, where the Co-op shop is now located
Was old Mother Green, who ran a saloon over which she dominated.
Next was Hiram Dodge the furniture man in a two story building
By the way he was a relative of Dodge Brothers of Detroit of automobile fame.

Next in the Louis Kuebler store was a saloon and grocery store, run by Mike Dealy and Henry Cash.
This was the place where they played cards and got rid of their cash.
The Traubs had a billiard hall and saloon next door
In the place now known as the Robert Mahrle store.

On the Union Savings Bank corner then known as the Old Union Hall
Was the general store of Abraham Polhemus - but that was not all
On the second floor was a barber shop with the entrance and outside stair
Here a colored barber did the shaving and cutting of hair

In the west side was the post office where for many years
Chauncey Walbridge, the one-armed Postmaster, distributed the U.S. mail
George Wheeler, the clothier in the Seckinger store one door west
Handled men's and boy's clothing and furnishings of the best.

Miss Speechley, the photographer, in the second floor stayed
She came from Ann Arbor and was an old maid.
Next Weir and son ran a hardware store in a frame building not fire-proof
Jim Kelly was their tinner, he put on the tin roofs.

Next west in the building now owned by Bill Sloat
Was Reflor the tailor who made our pants and coats.
Next west the old frame City Bakery run by W.
Karchgessner was in line
On the west side in front, Gustav Adolph Fausel sold
jewelry fine.
In the rear Bill had a saloon and to prove he was right
He never let Webster's dictionary get out of his sight.



Next came Dr. Bessac who sold dry goods, groceries and drugs
He also practiced medicine and sold spirits in jugs
On the second floor was the barber shop at Charles Younghams the older,
He was the son of Henry, who used to upholster

Next came Sam Perkins who at shoemaking and cobbling was a success.
At the same time he was agent for the American Express.
Of the business men, Charles Gwinner, on the corner, was last but not least
He had the city scales and weighed all farm produce as well as the beast.

I. M. Robinson had a livery in the rear of the hotel
In those days of no automobile their business ran well.

*In our next and final installment,
we'll journey through the railroad
yard and then into Soulesville*

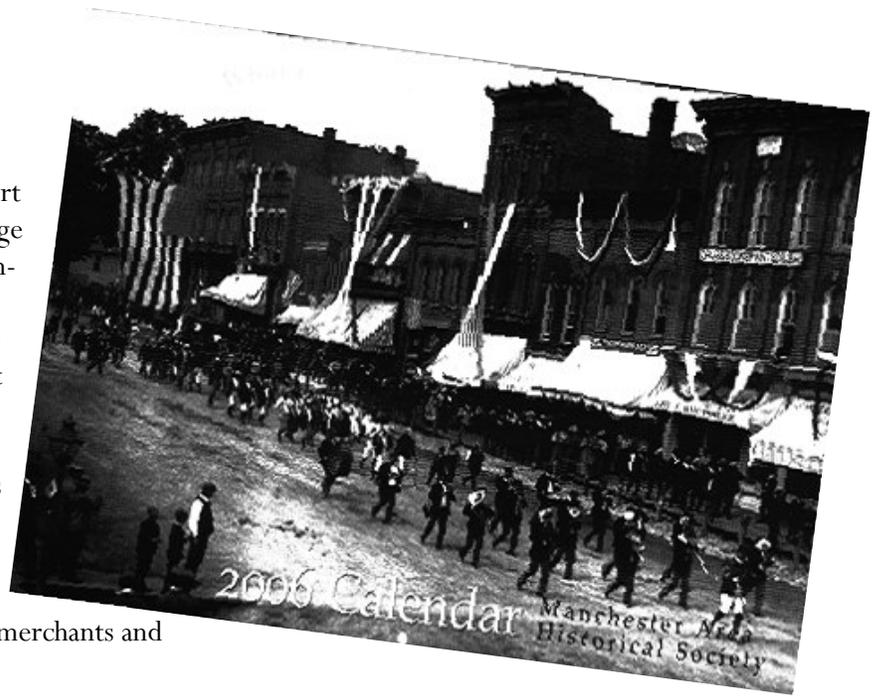
Spring Picnic



2006 CALENDAR

Have you seen the 2006 Calendar?

Many members and friends contributed effort and information, with Doug Howell in charge of production. As usual, the calendar was introduced at the Manchester High School Alumni banquet in June. The theme carries over from the popular 2005 edition - "What Used To Be," with a great picture of a 1896 Fourth of July parade in downtown Manchester on the cover. Eighty-three sponsors have made this calendar possible, and contributed to a successful fund-raiser. Priced at \$7, the calendars are excellent gifts. The calendars are available at many Manchester merchants and mailing envelopes can be provided.



We hope you enjoy the pictures and history contained. Sincere thanks go to our sponsors and we urge everyone to support these good Manchester boosters.



ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Officers will be elected at the September meeting, to be held at Alber Orchard and Cider Mill, on September 8th.
at 7:30 pm.

A slate of officers will be put forth by the Nominating Committee and nominations will be open from the floor prior to the election.



The membership year for the Manchester Area Historical Society is from January 1st through December 31st.

Membership information and forms will be included in the November newsletter.