

Harrison County
WEST VIRGINIA
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

POST OFFICE BOX 2064
CLARKSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA 26301

NEWSLETTER

Spring, 1977

MARCH MEETING

Mr. William Edward Rayl of Gassaway, West Virginia, will speak on the subject "The Muzzle-loading Rifle — Its History, Construction, and Use as It Pertains to West Virginia" at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday evening, March 16, 1977, in the Amy Roberts Vance House.

ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

Dr. Leonard M. Davis, chairman of the West Virginia State Historical Records Board, will be the speaker at the annual dinner meeting for members and guests of members of the Harrison County Historical Society at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday evening, April 20, 1977, in the Sheraton Inn.

Dr. Davis, who holds a Ph.D. from Northwestern University and is on the staff of the Department of Speech at West Virginia University, has co-authored a play, "Night of the Assassins", and has published articles in professional journals. His twenty-six years in education include a varied career, ranging from speech instruction to business and banking. He has been associated with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the West Virginia Department of Employment Security, American Airlines, Vandenburg Air Force Base, American Bankers Association and others.

Dr. Davis will be honored with a reception given by the Harrison County Historical Society for members and guests of members from 5:15 -- 6:00 p.m. at the Amy Roberts Vance House on April 20. To make reservations for the reception and the dinner, fill in and mail the form at the bottom of this sheet.

BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION GIFT

The Harrison County Historical Society has been given a check for \$700 by the Clarksburg-Harrison Bicentennial Commission for a marker for the grave of Mary Coles Payne in the Jackson Cemetery on Philippi Street in Clarksburg. Mary Coles Payne was the mother of Dolly Madison and Mary Payne Jackson (Mrs. John George Jackson).

HOSTESSES AT AMY ROBERTS VANCE HOUSE

Hostesses at the Amy Roberts Vance House on each Saturday afternoon from September, 1976 through May, 1977, include Mrs. Clyde Ash, Mrs. William Compton, Dorothy Davis, Aileen Lucas, Audra Kincaid, Esmah Orcutt, Elizabeth Sloan, Sue S. Stout, Clara Strother, and Mrs. H. L. Watson.

Mary Allen, acting head of the Genealogical Department in place of Mrs. O.D. Linder, who resigned in August, 1976, has the following members as assistants during the fall and winter months: Bertha Brown, Margaret Bauld, Pearl Custer, Elsie Grant, Julia James, Una Jarvis, Ann Miller, Gladys Smith, Verna Shingleton, Lucile Stryker. Verna Shingleton attends to correspondence and does the genealogical research for the Department.

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Harrison County Historical Society
Reception at the Amy Roberts Vance House (5:15 -- 6:00 p.m.) and
Annual Dinner at the Sheraton Inn (6:00 p.m.)
Wednesday, April 20, 1977

CLOSING DATE FOR RESERVATIONS AND REFUNDS: April 16, 1977

Make Check payable to Harrison County Historical Society
Mail this slip and check to: Harrison County Historical Society
Post Office Box 2074
Clarksburg, West Virginia 26301

Number of Reservations for reception at no charge _____
Number of reservations for dinner at \$6.00 (Cost includes tax and gratuity) _____
Amount of check enclosed _____

Signature _____

THE COLLECTION

Accessions:

Wool shawl which belonged to Solomon S. Fleming, member of the first West Virginia House of Delegates. Gift of the heirs of Mrs. Agnes Hood Gronemeyer.

Braided rug; oval; in the Jackson Room. Gift of the Misses Louise and Pauline Dennison.

Empire mirror; in the dining room. Once part of the furnishings of Waldomore. Purchase.

Four one-hundred-year-old garments for small children. Gift of Mrs. James Haislip, Sharon, Connecticut.

Baby grand piano. Bequest of Katherine E. Robinson.

Since space for the piano listed with accessions does not exist at the Vance House at the present time, the board must make a decision as to disposal of the gift. One possibility is to offer the piano on loan to Waldomore until the Society can use the piano at the Vance House. Sharing items in collections is in keeping with the pattern which has been followed in the past. The Society currently has the Mrs. Olandus West goblet collection and the Julia Neale Jackson Woodson banquet table on loan from the Clarksburg-Harrison Library.

SOCIETY BUSINESS

The Property

In answer to many inquires from members as to the fuel bill for the museum, the board authorized the newsletter editor to report payment of the following gas bills: \$87.23 for December; \$142.20 for January.

Another increase in cost occurred after the property was reassessed by the State and the insurance premium raised at the direction of the State. Cost of insurance in 1976, \$296; in 1977, \$472.

The board in May, 1976, voted to paint the wood trim of the Vance House in 1977. Since the Society voted in October, 1976, not to build a wing to the Vance House at the present time, the roof on the clapboard portion (office and Genealogical Department) of the house should be replaced.

Membership

A total of 143 memberships had been received for 1977 on February 15, 1977. They fall into the following categories: individual 86; family 35; institution 3; contributing 2; student 1; life 14; honorary 2.

Since the membership of the Society averages approximately 300, a number of members have yet to send their checks to the Society at P. O. Box 2074, Clarksburg 26301. Please remember that members who fail to renew by May 1, 1977, will be dropped from the roll.

The board wishes to Thank those who have voluntarily contributed to the increased costs of maintaining the property and the services the Society provides.

Financial Report

Madge McDaniel, treasurer, reports the state of finances as of February 10, 1977:

General Fund (checking account):	\$1492.50
(includes \$700 for marker in Jackson Cemetery)	
Certificate of Deposit (money drawn from checking account)	1027.69
Certificate of Deposit (Tetrick legacy)	2500.00
Book Fund (checking account)	330.26
Certificates of Deposit (with accumulated interest)	2480.21