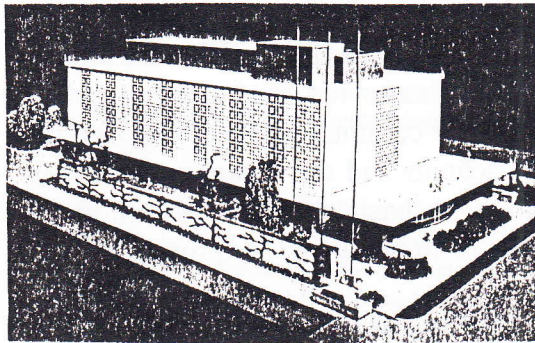


HSGL Newsletter

Official Publication of the
Historical Society of Greater Lansing

May-1993



The Clarence H. Rosa Public Library – History Behind The Man

*Excerpts from a Speech
by Lee Mason*

On March 7, 1993 the Lansing Public Library was officially rededicated the “Clarence H. Rosa Public Library.”

Clarence H. Rosa served with great distinction as a Lansing Board of Education member from 1955 through 1972, during which time he was elected as president six terms and vice president four terms.

During his tenure on the Board of Education, Clarence H. Rosa demonstrated his considerable leadership skills in guiding the Lansing School District through periods of great social change. Clarence H. Rosa utilized his professional skills as an architect to help oversee the most progressive building expansion and construction program in the Lansing School District’s history.

A very active and dedicated community member, Mr. Rosa serves as a charter member and past president of the Friends of the Public Library and was also a member of the Library Advisory Board from its inception until his retirement from this body in December 1983.

I. Carl Candoli, former Lansing Schools Superintendent had this to say of the man and the Library:

“The renaming of the Lansing Public Library Building to the Clar-

Continued on Page 2

The *HSGL Newsletter* is published bimonthly from September through May.
Articles and news of historical interest may be sent to the
Historical Society of Greater Lansing, P.O. Box 12095, Lansing, MI 48901.
Linda Peckham, President. Tel: 517/372-3385.

Clarence H. Rosa, *continued*

ence Rosa Public Library Building is one of the more important and symbolic gestures ever made by the Lansing Community, for Clarence was one of the most important and dedicated public officials that I have ever known.

"Clarence Rosa, in his role as president of the Lansing Board of Education, provided great leadership during one of the most difficult and troubled times the district has ever known. Clarence was the stabilizing influence during the desegregation efforts of the district and, with his capacity for exerting creative leadership, minimized the potential for massive civil disruption in the community. He epitomized the appropriate role that the public schools and the library must play in educating the community, not only in basic skills, but also in moral values and democratic principles so important to the progress of our system of democracy.

"Clarence held the Public Library and its evolution uppermost in his mind and heart, always. His continuing contribution to the improvement of the Lansing Public Library is but one example of the debt Lansing owes this giant. He is a powerful symbol for the community to look to for on-going inspiration, for he had a dream to permit all children and adults to live and grow together in harmony and in peace, using the library as a tool for progress." ^{HSGL}

ELECTION TIME

Nominations for the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and (4) two-year term Trustees will be accepted and voted on at our Annual Meeting & Dinner, Wednesday, May 19, 1993. We invite your active participation in the future of the Historical Society of Greater Lansing.

If you are interested in serving on the board or know of someone who may be, please let us know.

HSGL Bookshelf Suggestions*

*Books marked with a '★' will be available for purchase at the May meeting of the Society.

1878 Lansing City Directory

★ Under the auspices of the Historical Society of Greater Lansing, board member Dave Caterino has reprinted and cross referenced Mudge's 1878 Lansing City Directory. The directory is indexed alphabetically by business and street. The reprint with index is 200+ pages. Available at \$15.00 (Add \$2.00 postage if ordered by mail).

Behind the Badge: The History of the Lansing Police Department

By Pat Heyden

★ This 256 page book features 85 photographs and illustrations, bibliography, glossary, index and a library binding. "Takes us on a historical walk through a century of police organization and development from its primitive beginnings to its current professional and technical excellence" – Noel Bufe, Director of the Northwestern University Traffic Institute. Available at \$22.98 (Add \$2.50 if ordered by mail).

BLASTS From The Past

The following 'news' items have all been taken out of issues of the **Lansing Republican Weekly**, written in the style of the time.

The legislature of 1883 closed at midnight Wednesday with the usual boys' play, only a little more so. The senate committee was fairly bombarded from the room, and grave and reverend seigneurs were visible in various parts of the house speaking to motions with waste-paper basket bomb-proofs on their heads. *LRW 6/13/83.*

The many friends of agent Mulliken of the M.C. and D., L. & N. railroads have noticed that he has added, within a week, about an inch to his previously stalwart proportions, and that his usually solemn phiz wore a perpetual smile. The cause of it is a very young lady who arrived at Mr. Mulliken's home, last week, and so won the heart of the railroad man that he has concluded to charge himself with her maintenance for an indefinite period. *LRW 8/15/83.*

A new sidewalk has been laid in front of Glickman's. The old one had been worn so thin by the feet of Glickman's customers that he was afraid they might fall into the basement in their search for "bottom prices." *LRW 11/21/83.*

Annual Dinner Historical Society of Greater Lansing

Rosa Public Library

401 S. Capitol

Galleries - Lower Level

Wednesday,

May 19, 1993

6:00 P.M.

Buffet Menu

Tortellini in Alfredo Sauce

Pepper Steak Mexicana

Blended & Wild Rice

Blended Mixed Vegetables

Mixed Green Salad

Rolls & Butter

Dessert

Come & Join Us!

\$12.50 Per Person

Reservation Form Below

Parking is available to the

East of the Library

Annual Dinner Reservation Form

*Historical Society
of Greater Lansing*

P.O. Box 12095
Lansing, MI 48901

Please reserve _____ places for dinner. I am enclosing \$ _____
(\$12.50 per person). Please make your check payable to:
Historical Society of Greater Lansing.

Please Send in Reservations by: Wednesday, May 12, 1993

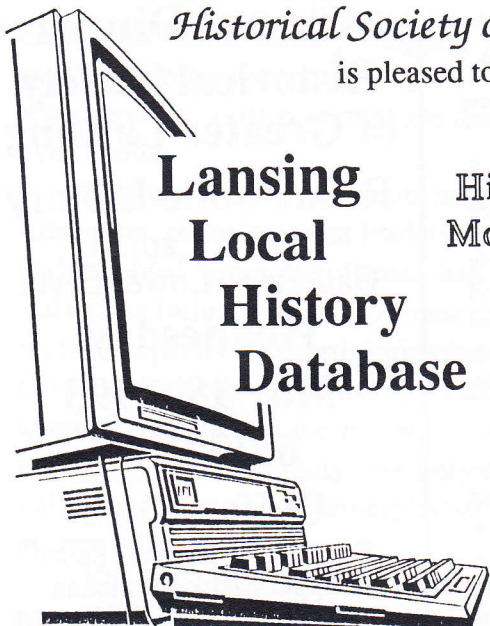
Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

The *Historical Society of Greater Lansing* is a non-profit corporation,
and we appreciate your support.

Historical Society of Greater Lansing
is pleased to introduce



**Lansing
Local
History
Database**

Historical Archives +
Modern Technology =
GLALHUD*

**7:30 P.M.
Wednesday,
May 19, 1993**

The Public Is Invited

Clarence H. Rosa Public Library

Lansing Public Library
in the Galleries - Lower Level
401 S. Capitol

*Greater Lansing Area Local History Union Database

Lansing Public Library
401 S. Capitol Avenue
Lansing, MI 48933

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