

Historical Society of Greater Lansing Historical Society of Greater Lansing Historical Society of Greater Lansing Historical Society of Greater Lansing

March 2002

The David R. Caterino

Collector's Showcase

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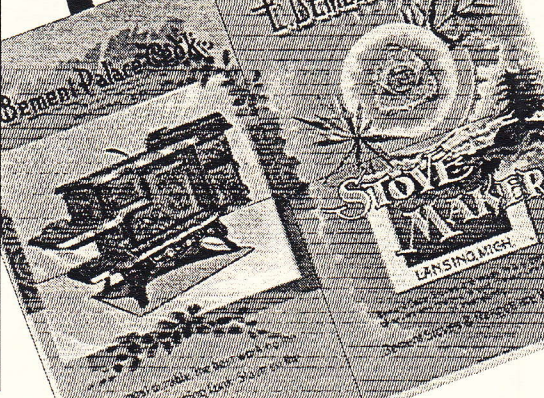
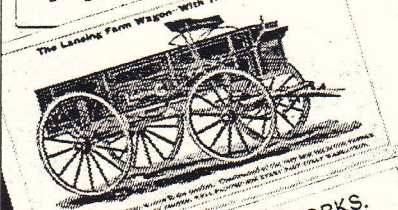
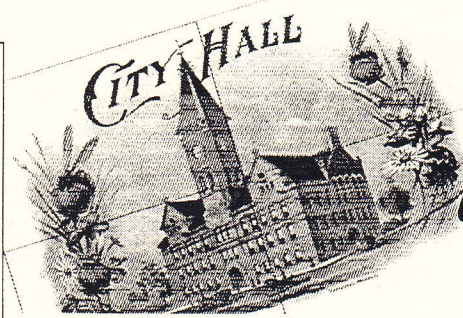
How to contact us...

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This newsletter is published during the months of September to May. Articles and news of historical interest are always welcome.



LANSING collectors will be displaying a variety of Lansing and area history from their private collections including exhibits of Lansing Photographs, Architecture, Postal History, Lansing Milk, Beer and Medicine Bottles, Antique Firearms, Railroads & Interurbans, Post Cards, Lansing Advertising & Cigar Boxes, Olds & REO Memorabilia, LFD & LPD History, MAC/MSC/MSU items; Local Authors and Much More!

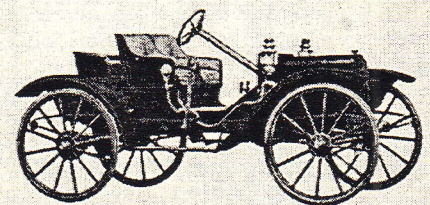
You may bring items to share or ask questions about.

*Join Us. . .
 March 16, 2002
 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM*

Lower Galleries

Capital Area District Library
 401 S. Capitol, Lansing

NEW CLARK MOTOR CAR



Manufactured by **CLARK & CO., Lansing, Mich.**
 DELIVERIES WILL BEGIN TO BE MADE IN AUGUST

President's Message

Craig A. Whitford

Dave's passion was Lansing history. He openly shared his knowledge and collection of Lansing items with those who expressed an interest. Whether one had a mild or intense interest in Lansing research, he was always ready and willing to assist. It was in this way that I first met Dave so many years ago, and from that first meeting we became close friends.

Dave would often stop by my office on his way to B-O-C and share his latest finds. It didn't matter if it was a single artifact or the occasional truckload from a local estate; Dave was always searching out the past of our capital city.

He was well organized. Each item or collection he acquired was carefully ordered and prepared for archival storage and future research. From memory he was able to recite the ownership or occupants of numerous family residences in the city with great accuracy, or had prepared detailed index cards with such information.

In 1991 Dave published a reprint of Mudge's 1878 City Directory indexing Lansing residents and businesses to make the work easier to use in research. Dave closed his introduction in the reprint with these words: "Researching Lansing History can be difficult at times, but it is the challenge that makes it fun. I hope that you enjoy Lansing history as much as I do."

When the Centennial of Oldsmobile in 1997 neared, the state museum was preparing for a yearlong exhibition titled "Lansing 1897." Dave's

Remembering Dave

Our March 16th Collector's Showcase event is named in honor of David R. Caterino. I would like to tell you a little bit about Dave.



David R. Caterino
1952-1999

friends at the museum contacted him for assistance in providing artifacts for display - the quality and number of which greatly enhanced the exhibition.

During this same time, preparations were underway for a Lansing Sesquicentennial - 150 Years Photograph Book - and when asked to assist, Dave gladly accepted, providing numerous images and historic captions. They say that a picture is worth a thousand words; well, Dave's collection contained thousands of pictures.

In 1998 Dave was diagnosed with a brain tumor that would take his life in the summer of 1999. In October of 1999 Dave's collection of Lansing history was donated to the Local History Room in the lower level of the Capital Area District Library. The ultimate goal is to make the collection available to the public for study and research. The depth of his 3-D artifact collection, photographs, brochures as well as other items number into the thousands. Dave saved the past so future generations of Lansing historians would have the opportunity to look back.

As an active board member of this Society, Dave organized a few 'Collector Showcases' allowing other collectors, including him, the opportunity to display their Lansing related collections for the public. He organized showcases at the Lansing Public Library, The State Museum and at the Turner-Dodge Mansion - It was only fitting that our March 2002 event be named in Dave's honor.

Come share with us on March 16, 2002 in the lower level of the Capital Area District Library. I look forward to seeing you there.

The ultimate goal is to make the collection available to the public for study and research.

A Call for Nominations

In May, members will elect Officers (President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary) and four Trustees for the 2002-2003 year. If you have an active interest in moving the Society forward into the 21st Century, please consider including your name among the nominations. Nominations will be accepted until April 15, 2002 by contacting Society Trustee Jim MacLean at 517.333.9585.

When we last left Charles Mead, his gang had just encountered the warrant carrying Justice Pinckney...

Story of a Crime;

Or The

CRUISE OF THE SARAH BERNHARDT

Scene III

There was an able-bodied doubt in our minds whether any other justice in Lansing would issue such a warrant, or any other officer serve it than the one who did. The demands of the officer were that we pay \$10 for the boat, and costs, or be taken back to Lansing in chains, as it were. The evident intention of the whole scheme was so strongly apparent that United States talk was again adequate to the occasion.

There was the old battered scow, Sara Bernhardt, with the wood rotting away from the nails that held her bow together; with her side broken and rotting; whose owner we had so diligently searched and inquired for, and which was hardly worth 27 cents. There was the honorable justice, who knew the older members of our party, and knew there was absolutely no call for issuing a warrant - no call for sending an officer to double on his track, except the hope that the party, when found, would pay the demands of the warrant, together with the 10 cent mileage, up and down and back

and around, besides other legal expenses, rather than have their trip interrupted.

It was six miles by river to Portland and hardly three across country. With a picked crew, the best boat, and one of the party placed at his disposal, the officer was invited to ride. Possibly it was a dim idea of a watery grave that induced him to let the prisoners go by water, while he marched in military order and battle array by land. We found him drawn up in single file on the left flank of the dam at Portland, and proceeded with him immediately to the train, then about due.

The Honorable Mr. Pinckney was in his shirtsleeves and a chair in front of his temple of justice, with several habitues of the court around him when we presented ourselves. We asked him why he felt called upon to send a warrant after us. "My God!" exclaimed His Honor; "Is it you? If I had known it was you I never would have made out a warrant."

His Honor inquired if we had had our fun, and if we were ready to come back. On being told that we were not, he told us to go and have our fun, and come back when we got ready; it would be all right. Availing ourselves of this kind permission, in a little over 100 minutes we were in camp on the bluff of the Portland pond, where the rest of the party had a warm fire and hot coffee on tap.

In the morning we bought a good, dry, clean boat, with a pair of elegant oars leathered and ironed, for five dollars, to which we transferred our baggage and sent the old tub back to Lansing,

when it was placed in the pond, just where it was taken from, and in better order, inasmuch as it was clean, and had a name, ready as of yore for the boys to dive from, to turn over, to fill with mud and water, and float about with whomsoever would go in her.

The Pirates' Cruise

A THRILLING STORY OF PERILS ON THE GRAND

Strange Sights and Peoples - Shooting the Rapids - A Forest Christening
Defense of the Farmhouse - The Pirates Baffled



NE of the pleasurable features of a trip like ours, is the anticipation of what we may see around the bend. Therefore Saturday noon found the fleet safely over the Portland dam, ready, eager to get on to pastures new. The river is full of rocks, but there is plenty of water if you are only lucky enough to find the channel. The Looking-glass filters itself through the machinery of mills and the timber of the dam and joins the Grand just where the water begins a swift descent, swirling around big stones which so narrowed and twisted the channel as to make it sufficiently doubtful whether the water or the



Election Time Approaching

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

In May, we will elect Officers and four Trustees for the 2002-2003 year. Nominations will be accepted until April 15.

If you are interested, or know someone who is, in serving as an Officer or Trustee please contact:

Jim MacLean, Nominations
Tel: 517.333.9585

Historical Society of Greater Lansing

Proudly announces the

David R. Caterino Collector's Showcase

Saturday, March 16, 2002

10:00 AM to 4:00 P.M.

Capital Area District Library
401 S. Capitol, Lansing

If you collect history of the greater Lansing area and would like to share it with the public we invite you to join us as an exhibitor.

If you are a local author or artist of the greater Lansing area we also invite you to participate.

Please contact us today!

For an application or more information contact:

Craig A. Whitford	Harry Emmons
517.394.4443	517.485.5998
email: cawhitford@aol.com	

Please RUSH to:

Change Service Requested

P.O. Box 12095 Lansing, MI 48901

*Historical Society
of Greater Lansing*

