

# HSGL

# Newsletter

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Official Publication of the  
*Historical Society of Greater Lansing*      *August 1997*

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## *Pioneer Ghost Walk*

Wednesday, September 17, 1997  
6:30 p.m. Mount Hope Cemetery

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When **Mount Hope Cemetery** opened in 1874, it was Lansing's fourth public cemetery. A few burials after 1845, had taken place in an earlier burial ground at the northeast corner of Turner and Franklin (Grand River Avenue). After 1848, burials were made on land the state had given to the new town on Saginaw near Larch. Only a few burials were made before the site also was abandoned.

In 1851 James and Horatio Seymore sold 20 acres to the town for a cemetery on Saginaw closer to Pennsylvania, the site of the present Oak Park. This cemetery was used until 1874.

In 1873, the city purchased the 80-acre Miller Farm at Mount Hope and Aurelius Roads for a larger cemetery, and from 1874-1881 nearly 1100 bodies were *moved* from Oak Park Cemetery to Mount Hope Cemetery.

Mt. Hope is a beautiful rolling cemetery above Sycamore creek. As you walk, watch for typical monuments with willow trees, symbols of death; unusual monuments, such as stumps of the Longstreet family or the dog on his master's grave; and the special monument to the Unknown Firemen (C110), a red call box.

Mt Hope Cemetery owes its developed beauty to H. Lee Bancroft, Supervisor of Parks and Recreation from 1914-1957, who established the plans for the landscaping and maintenance of all of the parks and cemeteries in Lansing. *Join us on September 17th!*

By LINDA PECKHAM

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.  
*Newsletter Editor- Paula Gangopadhyay*

# HSGL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## 1997-1998

September 17th, 1997

**PIONEER GHOST WALK**

A Walking Tour in Mount Hope Cemetery  
6:30 p.m. Aurelius and Mt. Hope Roads.

November 19, 1997

**FINDING YOUR ROOTS.** Researching Old Records.

State of Michigan Archives  
7:00 p.m. 717 W. Allegan Street.

December 14, 1997

**CANDLE LIGHT AND CAROLS:**

A Downtown Church Walk.  
2- 4:00 p.m. Starts at Ottawa & Seymore Sts.

January 14, 1998

**150th ANNIVERSARY OF LEGISLATURE IN LANSING**

To be announced.

March 18, 1998

**SIGNIFICANT WOMEN IN LANSING'S HISTORY**

7:00 p.m. Lansing Library.

April 1998

**SHOWCASE OF EARLY AVIATION.** To be announced.

May 20, 1998

**ANNUAL DINNER & SALUTE TO EARLY LANSINGITES**

Michigan Historical Center  
6:00 p.m. 717 W. Allegan Street.

### EVENTS TO NOTE

<u>September</u>	12-13	Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Festival.
	12-14	History Mystery Tour. Old Town Main Street. N. Lansing
	14	Mexican Fiesta - 12-7 p.m. Hispanic Cultural Center.
<u>October</u>	4-5	American Heritage Festival. Woldumar Nature Center.
	4-5	Hmong New Year's Celebration. Francis Park.
	10-12	Old Town Art & Octoberfest '97. N. Lansing.
	18-19	Apple Butter Festival. Fenner Nature Center. 11-4 p.m
	19	Westside Home Tour. Westside Neighborhood/Advent House 1-5 p.m.
	30	Great Halloween Caper. Washington Square, Downtown Lansing.

The Historical Society seeks donations of local historical materials such as records, papers or photos. All loans or donations are available to the public for viewing or research at the local History Room, Lansing Library. Donations are tax deductible. Contact the Historical Society at 517-372-3385.

## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### *Volunteers Needed!*

Thanks to everyone who has helped with HSGL and Sesquicentennial projects, especially the Annual Dinner, Lansing's Birthday Party and the 1850s Base Ball Game. We need help now with the distribution of publications and the collections of material on Lansing women. INTERESTED?

### *Publications*

We have reproduced two rare maps, suitable for framing:

- \*1848 Hazen Map, 11x 17. \$ 3.00
- \*1866 Bird's Eye View of Lansing, 18x 24. \$ 10.00
- \*New book on Metta and R. E Olds. *Loves Lives Labor*. published by HSGL member Pat Heyden, covers the work and personal life of this Lansing family, known world wide. 100pp., paper, many rare photos. Stuart Publishing Company 882-9913. \$ 17.95
- \**Through the Years: A Pictorial History of Lansing 1847-1997*  
Vision Sports, P.O Box 338, East Lansing 48826-0338. Phone- 888-715-6500.  
or from www.150years.com. \$36.95
- Sesquicentennial T- Shirts printed with historic photos. Historic Apparels. 337-1410. \$15.00
- \**Available and Free- Significant People Buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery*, a walking tour brochure with biographies of 33 people, and the *Historic North Lansing: A Walking Tour of Lansing's "Old Town"*.

The Capital Area Library District is official! After a successful vote for a county-wide library system, it will go in effect on January 1, 1998. Watch for updates about the Local History Collections housed at the Lansing Library.

### *Give A Gift That Gives All Year...*

### *Membership in the Historical Society of Greater Lansing*

<b>Membership Application</b>			
<b>Historical Society of Greater Lansing P.O Box 12095, Lansing, MI 48901</b>			
Annual Membership in HSGL runs from July 1st through June 30th each year. Please clip and return this coupon with payment.			
NEW      RENEWAL			
Enclosed __ \$10 Individual __ \$15 Family __ \$150 Life __ Gift			
Name _____			
Address _____			
City _____		State _____	
Zip _____		Phone _____	
<b>The Historical Society of Greater Lansing is a non-profit corporation and we appreciate your support.</b>			

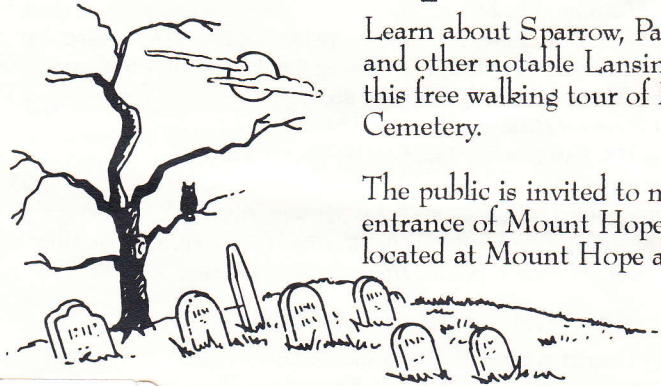
**A red dot on the mailing label indicates that we have not received dues from you for this year. Time to renew your membership!**

The Historical Society of Greater Lansing  
invites you to take a  
**Pioneer Ghost Walk**

**Mount Hope Cemetery**

**September 17, 1997**

**6:30 p.m.**



Learn about Sparrow, Pattengill, Olds, and other notable Lansing pioneers on this free walking tour of Mount Hope Cemetery.

The public is invited to meet at the entrance of Mount Hope Cemetery, located at Mount Hope and Aurelius.

Event is sponsored by Wolverine Development.

Phil & Mary Dean  
1044 Wildwood  
East Lansing, MI 48823

*Historical Society  
of Greater Lansing*  
P.O. Box 12095  
Lansing, MI 48901

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