

# DeWitt-- Yesterday and Today

By Faye Hanson

THE OLD DEWITT MOTHER'S CLUB was organized in 1913. They worked with mothers and children and sometimes sewed for needy mothers; at one time they made an entire layette. They also sponsored an annual teacher's reception, the first one held at the home of Mrs. C. C. Woodruff. They also presented a framed picture to the High School.

They sponsored a circulating library which was in the home of Caroline Smith for two years. (This was the forerunner of the present DeWitt Public Library which was established in 1934 by this club which was then called the DeWitt Civic Club).

They joined the Federated Women's Club of Clinton County and entertained them at the old Methodist Church.

The club was discontinued in April, 1917, because of the war. Members voted unanimously to disband and become members of the DeWitt Red Cross. They turned their treasury of \$14.00 over to the Red Cross. They had one more formal meeting when they decided to sponsor a teacher's reception at the home of Mrs. McLouth.

Near spring of 1919 several members met at the home of Mrs. Viola Thompson to talk about reorganizing the Club. In two weeks they met at the home of Mrs. Grace Coon where they reorganized and elected officers. After much discussion it was decided to call this Club the DeWitt Women's Club. It was later called the DeWitt Civic Club and went out of existence during World War Two.

In 1934 Mrs. Mildred Carris, with the help of this club, established the DeWitt Public Library. It had many homes, the only one surviving is the Family Barber Shop, until Mrs. Gerda Rogerson gave the land that the library now stands on to be used for a Public Library.

De Witt Civic Club  
1942-1943

C. Newman	President
G. Walker	- Vice Pres.
M. Caris	- Secretary
M. Van Fleet	- Treasurer

Sept 21, 1943

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The first meeting of the Civic Club of the Mill after the summer vacation, was held at the home of Mrs. Clara Woodruff, Tues. afternoon, Sept 21. President Gladys Walker presided.

Meeting opened by repeating the Collect.

The minutes of the April meeting were read and approved with the following correction: -

The nominating committee appointed were Eva Cole and Lily Scott.

A communication from District President, Mrs. Sumner relative to the State Federation was read by the Pres.

A bill of \$2.00 for flowers for Sadie Humble funeral was presented by Ola Chapman.

A motion was made to allow the bill.  
Carried.

A bill of \$1.10 for material for programs was presented by Elsie Woodruff.

Remarks recommending the payment of \$4.00 for printing programs.

A motion was made to allow the bill also to allow the \$4.00 for printing.

Reports of Committees -

Elsie Woodruff reported the work done on the programs.

A motion was made to give the committee a rising vote of thanks, Carried.

Library committee reported several new books. Times 1 to 5 on Mondays,

Tuesdays and Saturdays, also 7 to 9 Sat.

April  
1952

The April meeting of the De Witt Civic Club met on Wed. April 10<sup>th</sup> at the home of Alice Hewitt at 2:30 P.M. The club collect was read by Carrie Newman. The roll call and minutes of the last regular meeting was read by the secretary. A motion was made to give \$5.00 to the Cancer fund. motion carried. A motion was made and seconded to pay all bills.

Due to the small membership in the club for the past 2 years it was voted unanimously to disband the club, hoping that at some future time the club may be able to reorganize.

A motion was made and seconded to donate the balance of funds in the club treasury for the use of the Library.

Mrs. S. Pike Sec.

Am't on hand	\$ 39.34
Bills for flowers	3.89
	<u>\$ 35.45</u>
flower funds	2.38
	<u>\$ 37.83</u>

## DEPOSITED TO CREDIT OF

De Witt, Mich., Feb 7 5 1948

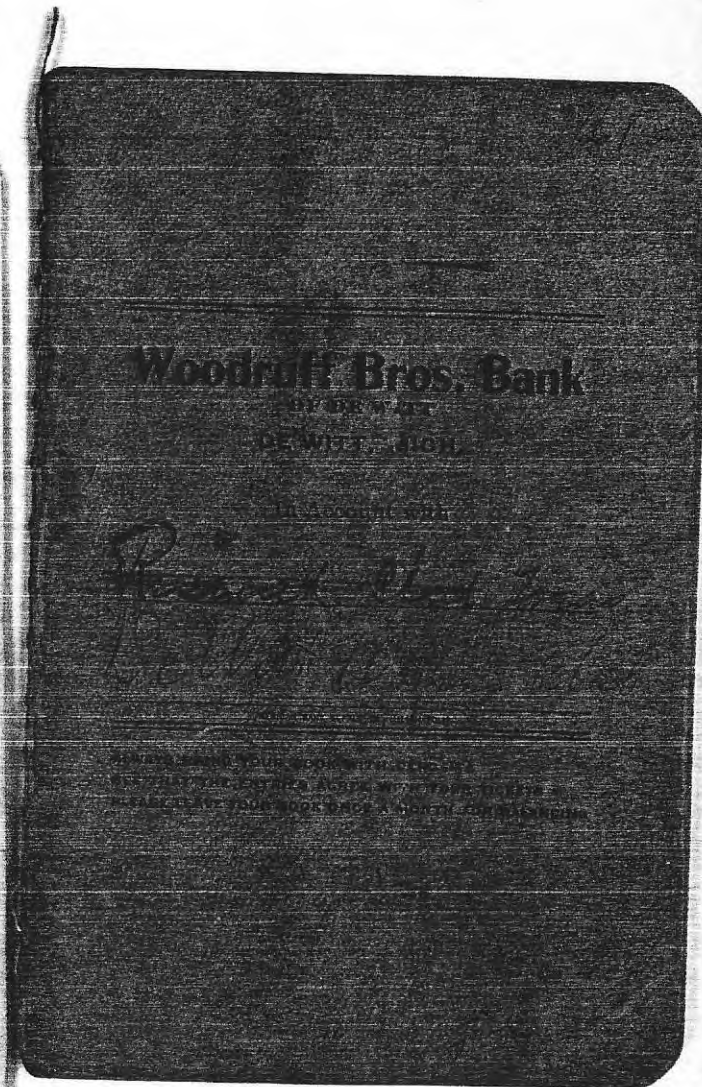
PLEASE LIST EACH CHECK SEPARATELY

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	DOLLARS	CENTS
Currency _____	19	00
Silver _____		45
CHECKS AS FOLLOWS:		
Total \$	19	45

SEE THAT ALL CHECKS AND DRAFTS ARE ENDORSED

LOCAL HISTORY  
COLLECTION  
BOX      FILE



46th  
Annual Convention  
of the  
Clinton County Federation  
of Women's Clubs

Thursday, May 18, 1950

METHODIST CHURCH  
ROCHESTER COLONY, MICHIGAN  
OVID-DUPLAIN LIBRARY CLUB, HOSTESSES

Dear Mrs. Miller  
Dewitt, Mich

April 24, 1950

Dear Madam:

Clinton County Federation  
is to be May 18<sup>th</sup>  
at the Methodist Church  
in Rochester Colony.  
Will you please let  
me know as soon as  
possible how many  
we may expect from  
your club for the  
Luncheon? The price  
of the tickets is  
\$1.00.

Mrs. John Spencer  
R. 2 L  
Ovid, Mich

LOCAL HISTORY  
COLLECTION

BOX

FILE

Annual Report of Secretary  
for Club Year 1949-50

The Senior Club has held 8

regular meetings this Club Year.

There is a membership of 18 paid

members. The acting officers were

President - Mrs. Beale Miller

V President - Mrs. Owen Barber

Secy. - Mrs. Carl Peterson

Treasurer - Mrs. Wm Hewitt

We have contributed to the Relief

Fund and the Red Cross as

well as helping towards the

Memorial Building Fund. The

Club has held last May was

our major social event at

which we recognized the work

of the art students of the  
High school. Our main line  
Project was the Summer Play-  
ground. Some of our most  
interesting programs have been  
the program on jewels and gems  
presented by Mr. Cook of Cardy  
Jewelry; the exhibits of portraits  
and colored slides shown by  
Miss Helen Gross of the Gross Studio  
at Mason. I should like to  
mention in closing our apprecia-  
tion to Miss Aleta Cutler for  
the lovely table decoration  
shown at our December Meeting.

Rhoda Peterson, Secy.

Sept. 19, 1950

Memorial Bldg.

Call to order  
Repeat Collect  
Roll call & reading of minutes (Pike)  
Treasurer report (Hewitt)  
Library report (Pierson)  
Legislative report (Baker or Walker)

DeWitt Civic Club - Hostesses to  
Clinton Co. Federation Women's Club  
Wed., May 9, 1951

Dues are in order

Request from Library for books  
and magazines

Library in need of assistance.  
Project for raising money for  
special equipment.

Dance

Qued party

Raffle

Baked goods sale.

Oct. 17, 1950

Luncheon & trip to art  
exhibit at College

Nov. 21, 1950

Call to order

Reading of Collect

Roll call & reading of Sec. minutes.

~~Sec.~~

Treasurer's report.

Library report

Old business

Money raising project - Library

New business

December meeting & Xmas  
program.

Social Committee

Dec. 19, 1951

Dec. 1950

Call to order

Bow heads in prayer

Reading of minutes of last meeting  
(Mrs Pihe)

Treasurer's report \$ 40.00  
3.00 dues  
16.30 Baked Goods

Library report.

Card & flower fund - Lillie Scott  
resigned. Appoint B. Davenport

Report of Baked Goods (E. C. Miller)

Report of raffle tickets.

move to pay cost of yarn.

Any other bills?

Any new business?

January meeting?

Hostesses -

Drawing of winner in raffle

Adjourn.

Rhoda Pierson & Mrs Bessie Lill Scott

1951-52 Officers

DelWitt Civic Club

President - Betty A. Overport  
Vice-President - Adah Tuma (Resigned)  
Secretary - Lucille Pike  
Treasurer - Alice Hewitt

1951-52 De Witt Civic Club Membership

Mamie Acker

Edith Baker

Zella Buys (Resigned)

Evelyn Butler

Betty Sarnaport

Alice Hewitt

Zella Holt

Hazel Kimball

Beulah Macbri

Dorothy Miller

Carrie Newman

Rhoda Pearson (resigned)

Lucille Pike

Mamie Tenny

Adah Turner

Gladys Walker

Honorary

Eva Cole

Maud Van Fleet

Mabel Walker

Jan. 1951

Call to order & reading of Collect  
Roll Call & reading of minutes.  
Treasurer's report  
Library report

Old business

Baked goods sale report - Pikes  
Dues are payable!

\* Thank Mrs. Holt for her work

Special fund for Library

Dictionary, globe & record player  
Appoint Hewitt & Pierson

New business

Clinton Co. Federations May 9 -

Luncheon - Kimball, Davenport, Holt  
Meeting - Walker, Hewitt, Cutler

March meeting

Hostesses - Cutler, Hewitt, Newman

Feb. 1951

Reading & collect  
Roll Call & reading of minutes  
Treasurers report  
Library report

Next baked goods sale at Mac's market  
Kimball  
Davenport  
Newman  
G. Walker

New business  
Polio fund.

Annual meeting in April  
nominating committee  
ch. E. W. Cutler  
Lucille Pike  
Betty Davenport

Hostesses for Feb. meeting  
Kimball & Pilgraw

March 1951

Call to order - dispense with reading  
of collect, minutes & treasurers report

New business

Red Cross drive

Announce meeting of Cancer Soc.  
Pictures & Film

Guests

Mrs. Low Galtart & Mrs. Hunter  
Slake - Am. Red Cross

Home nursing or first aid

Annual meeting

April 11, 1951

Call to order

Reading of collect

minutes of March meeting  
letter of thanks from  
County Association dues -

Old business

Clinton County Association May 9 -

Preservation by May 2 - Miller

1. Dunbar - Kuntz, Davenport, Hays

2. meeting - Walker, Hays, Davenport

3. Dunbar - Davenport, Hays, Davenport

4. Arrangement - Chair - Davenport

5. First grade - Baker

6. Male Walker + Male Dan Fleet

7. New business

Request for donation - Green Lane

Honorary members - male Walker

Male Dan Fleet, Little Rock

Annual Convention

North - Walker 2 m. in March

Annual meeting and W.O.A. April

Annual meeting report

Dissemination report

Normative Committee report

Executive

Secretary

President

Life Pres.

Executive

Secretary

President

Life Pres.

Executive

Secretary

President

A. E. Miller

#### OFFICERS

President — Mrs. Spencer Bartlett, Ovid-Duplain Library Club  
Vice President — Mrs. Murl Stedman, Elsie Woman's Literary Club  
Recording Secretary — Mrs. Arlo Stitchler, Victor Civic Club  
Corresponding Secretary — Mrs. Nina Wall, Victor Civic Club  
Treasurer — Mrs. LeVere Harte, Bath Friday Afternoon Club

#### COMMITTEES

Program — Mrs. Murl Stedman, Elsie Woman's Literary Club  
Mrs. Wade Olin, St. Johns Woman's Club  
Mrs. Rayman Hamer, Ovid Crescent Club  
Registration and Credentials — Mrs. Nina Wall, Victor Civic Club  
Mrs. LeVere Harte, Bath Friday Afternoon Club  
Mrs. George Brooks, St. Johns Woman's Club  
Nominations — Mrs. Lewis Hillyer, Ovid-Duplain Library Club  
Mrs. Fred Cochran, Bath Friday Afternoon Club  
Election — Mrs. Donald Warren, Ovid Acme Society  
Mrs. Maxwell Smith, St. Johns Woman's Club  
Miss Mary Cole, Maple Rapids Sorosis Club  
Tellers — Mrs. Ray Scott, Victor Civic Club  
Mrs. Elsie Turner, Elsie Woman's Literary Club  
Auditing — Mrs. John Spencer, Ovid-Duplain Library Club  
Mrs. Alice Hewitt, DeWitt Civic Club  
Time Keepers — Mrs. Bruce Elliott, Ovid Crescent Club  
Mrs. L. A. Field, Ovid Acme Society  
Courtesy — Mrs. Donald Kendall, Maple Rapids Sorosis Club  
Mrs. Abbot Nelson, Bath Friday Afternoon Club  
Greetings — Mrs. Blake Miller, DeWitt Civic Club  
Response — Mrs. George Blayney, Elsie Woman's Literary Club  
Publicity — Mrs. Dale Exelby, Ovid Acme Society  
Corsages — Mrs. George Blayney, Mrs. Lawrence Hess, and  
Mrs. Andrew Cobb, Elsie Woman's Literary Club

## 47th Annual Convention

OF THE

## Clinton County Federation of Women's Clubs

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 1951

MUNICIPAL MEMORIAL BUILDING

DeWitt, Michigan

DEWITT CIVIC CLUB, HOSTESSES



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## MORNING SESSION

9:00 a.m. Registration

9:30 a.m. Call to Order by President — Mrs. Spencer Bartlett,  
Ovid-Duplain Library Club

Invocation — Mrs. Edward Dull, Maple Rapids Sorosis Club

Pledge of Allegiance

Community Singing — Led by Mrs. Mae Goodrich,  
Elsie Woman's Literary Club

Greetings — Mrs. Blake Miller, DeWitt Civic Club

Response — Mrs. George Blayney, Elsie Woman's Literary Club

Presentation of Past Presidents of Clinton County Federation of  
Women's Clubs

Ovid Girls Trio — "Whispering" "Alice Blue Gown"  
Betsy Squier, Gwen Maurer, Paula Underhill,  
Accompanist, Miss Barbara Ackley, Ovid

Business Session

Roll Call of Clubs — Presidents Report of Outstanding  
Achievement of the Year

Bath Friday Afternoon Club — Mrs. Fred Cochran  
DeWitt Civic Club — Mrs. L. A. Davenport  
Elsie Woman's Literary Club — Mrs. Murl Stedman  
Ovid Acme Society — Mrs. Leta Parker  
Ovid Crescent Club — Mrs. Beryl Elliott  
Ovid-Duplain Library Club — Mrs. John Spencer  
Victor Civic Club — Mrs. Ray Scott  
Maple Rapids Sorosis Club — Mrs. Donald Kendall  
St. Johns Woman's Club — Mrs. George Brooks

Greetings from West Central District

Art Appreciation — Mrs. Clyde Wilcox, St. Johns Woman's Club

Report of Committees on Nominations

Presidents Report — Mrs. Spencer Bartlett,  
Ovid-Duplain Library Club

## LUNCHEON 12 O'CLOCK

### Community Church

Invocation — Mrs. Lewis Hillyer, Ovid-Duplain Library Club

## AFTERNOON SESSION

1:15 p.m. — Call to Order

Invocation — Mrs. Ada Wood Tuma, DeWitt Civic Club

Readings — Mrs. Vernon Cutler, DeWitt Civic Club

Music — St. Johns Morning Musicales

Address — "Button, Button, Who's Got the Button",  
Charles E. Irvin, Lansing, Assistant Professor Speech  
Michigan State College

Reports of Committees —

Financial — Mrs. LeVere Harte, Bath Friday Afternoon Club

Auditing — Mrs. John Spencer, Ovid-Duplain Library Club  
Mrs. Alice Hewitt, DeWitt Civic Club

Courtesy — Mrs. Donald Kendall, Maple Rapids Sorosis Club  
Mrs. Abbot Nelson, Bath Friday Afternoon Club

Election—Mrs. Donald Warren, Ovid Acme Society

Invitational —

Presentation of New Officers

Club Collect

Adjournment

*President's Copy*

CONSTITUTION AND

BY-LAWS

OF THE

DEWITT CIVIC CLUB

ARTICLE IV

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

The name of this association shall be "THE DEWITT CIVIC CLUB."

ARTICLE II

The object of this club shall be the intellectual culture and enrichment of our lives; and an active interest in the civic improvement of the Community.

ARTICLE III

Membership in this club shall be of two classes, active and honorary.

Section 1. Active members shall consider themselves in honor bound, as far as possible, to study the subjects under consideration by the club, and to perform literary or committee work assigned them.

Section 2. Honorary membership may be conferred upon any member who has actively participated in the work of the club and is no longer physically able to enjoy contributing to the program.

## ARTICLE IV

### Officers

Section 1. The officers of this club shall be a president, a first vice-president, a recording secretary, corresponding secretary and a treasurer. These officers shall constitute a Board of Directors.

Section 2. All officers shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting, and continue in office one year, or until the next subsequent annual meeting.

Section 3. A majority of all votes cast shall be necessary to constitute an election.

## ARTICLE V

### Meetings

Section 1. The annual meeting shall be held the third Tuesday in April of each year.

Section 2. Regular meetings shall be held the third ~~Tuesday~~ <sup>Wednesday</sup> of each month from September to June, (inclusive).

Section 3. Special meetings may be called by the president, or by any three members. The call for the special meeting must state the business to be transacted and no business shall be transacted except that stated in the call.

## ARTICLE VI

### Quorum

Section 1. One third of the active membership of the club shall constitute a quorum at any regular or annual meeting, but at no time shall the lack of a quorum at a regular meeting prevent those present from proceeding with the program of the day.

Section 2. A majority of the membership of the club shall be necessary for a quorum at a special meeting.

## ARTICLE VII

### Amendments

Section 1. This constitution may be amended at any annual meeting by a two-thirds vote of all active members present, the proposed amendments having been submitted in writing, and read to the club at a regular meeting at least four weeks before being voted upon.

Section 2. Amendments may also be made at any annual meeting without previous notice by the unanimous vote of all members present.

Section 3. By-laws and standing rules may be adopted, amended, or repealed at any regular or annual meeting by a two-thirds vote.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I. DUES

Section 1. The annual dues of active members shall be One Dollar (\$1.00).

Section 2. Members failing to pay dues before the annual meeting shall be notified by the secretary, and those not paying dues before the end of the club year shall forfeit all rights of membership and their names shall be taken from the membership roll.

ARTICLE II. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The regular term of office of all officers shall commence in September after the annual meeting at which they were elected.

Section 2. The Duties of officers shall be such as are implied by their respective titles, and such as are specified in these by-laws.

Section 3. The president shall appoint all standing committees and be ex officio a member of the same without the right to vote.

Section 4. The secretary shall present all applications for memberships, keep an accurate list of the club membership; receive all money due the club and pay the same to the treasurer, giving or taking a receipt for each sum transferred; notify delinquent members and on December first of each year take from the roll of members all whose dues have not been paid. She shall also conduct the necessary correspondence of the club.

ARTICLE II - cont'd.  
Duties of Officers

Section 5. The treasurer shall pay bills when voted by the club, keep an itemized account of all receipts and disbursements and present a written report at the annual meeting.

Section 6. All officers upon retiring from office shall deliver to the president all money, accounts, record book, papers, or other property belonging to the club.

ARTICLE III. COMMITTEES ✓

Section 1. There shall be six standing committees, consisting of three members each: Program, Library, Legislative, Floral, Publicity and Membership. \*

Section 2. It shall be the duty of the Program Committee to plan the program for the entire year.

ARTICLE IV

The rules of Parliamentary Practice comprised in Parliamentary usage by Emma Fox shall govern the proceedings of this club, subject to the special rules which have been or may be adopted from time to time.