

LOCAL HISTORY
COLLECTION
BOX FILE



In the Village of DeWitt, on Washington Street, we have a Memorial Building that was erected to honor all War Veterans and to provide opportunities for wholesome recreation, education, civic and other leisure time activities. The chief source of funds to equip and maintain this building is an OX ROAST, which is held one day each year, the latter part of August. This year the Ox Roast will be on August 27th. — Memorial Association.

WILL DEDICATE PLAQUE

DeWitt to Pay Tribute To Dead of Two Wars

A heart-shaped plaque honoring seven DeWitt servicemen who died in World War II and the Korean war will be dedicated at the DeWitt Memorial building Wednesday at 8:30 p.m.

A new 50-star flag will also be presented for use at the building.

The Blue Star Mothers prepared the new plaque, which will replace a time-worn roll of honor. Mrs. Marion Ritter will present the plaque on behalf of the club, which worked with the DeWitt Veterans club in preparing it. Mrs. Hazel North will give the dedication.

The Veterans club will give the flag, with Charles Ruble, secretary-treasurer, presenting it.

Gaylord Ward, treasurer of the Memorial association, will accept the flag and Woodrow Armstrong, president of both the Veterans club and the Memorial association, will accept the plaque on behalf of both groups.

The servicemen to be honored include Vincent Paul Lerg, Lewis Phillips, Jr., Russell Ribby, Don Ingalls, Francis A. Richmond and Earl H. Benson, all of World War II, and Richard Pike of the Korean war.

4774451

October 16, 1945

A group of townspeople representative of the various clubs in the village and township met at the school house Tuesday evening Oct 16 for the purpose of discussing a billage meeting to be held at the school house. The meeting was called to order by L. J. Givens who acted as temp chairman.

E. Walker reported the beginning of the school started at the Civic Club in 1944 - Mrs. Carris reported a recreation room for young people. Mrs. Walker spoke in favor of the project for the Blue Star Mothers organization. Mrs.

WSP (d/undated)

Program was rather
short. Remarks and
extend the two letters
filing the action as full
with forth building board
in the Regency. He then
said that they will
pay back on the budget
all parent budget steps to
that a motion he made
and placed before the
gathering for the purpose
of deciding about the
proposals. Mr. Hubert
then made remarks about
the possibility of the program
Mr. Walter. He said
that everyone present in
favor of a memorial
to the President - (I said)
all voted in favor that
thought representatives

should get the support
of the various agencies.
Mr. Coover and Mr.
Andrew spoke for the
1.7% club and indicated
already voted some money
for the project.
Mr. Wagner of the Regency
thought the project of the
expansion to be considered.
Mrs. Wagner spoke in
favor of a memorial
for the boys.
Mrs. Leckman of the
same body of the Regency
said the boys & their
club - I thought you were
not would donate money
freely if building time
when they appeared.
The President explained
about present year spent
average

The committee will do the necessary work. Mr. Woodruff reported Mrs. Hunter will draw up the corporation ^{articles} when we are ready. Mr. Woodruff drew plans on the board as he thought.

Mr. Blaggard thought the committee should now go to work to get the plan formulated.

Mrs. Curran thought the building should house recreation facilities and be used rather than the library.

Mrs. Curran thought ideas should be presented as to what recreational facilities were needed.

Mr. Green thought a room should be provided for 4 H. Clubs and Boy Scouts.

Mr. Blaggard thought a room should be a good help to Boy Scouts for meetings.

Under Block building - rough estimate 60 x 100 - story & half for \$10,000 - Base building - also heating plant -

- Meeting adjourned - The next meeting to be held as soon as plans are formulated and ready for inspection a motion was made and seconded to make Mr. Green permanent chairman - Motion carried

a good room on the
basement. - with a
large room on the first
floor for a dining room
stage, kitchen etc.
The building
The heating of the building
as an auxiliary to the school
- was mentioned. Mrs.

Greenwood spoke of an oil
burner and heating unit
thought it would be a
more satisfactory arrangement
Mrs. Carpio was asked to
state since the library would
need.

Mrs. Bliggard thought
we should make the
building large enough
when the building is
originally constructed
Also thought we must

have a set of definite plans
before we start collecting
money

Mrs. Carpio suggested
Mr. Greenwood appoint a
committee to go

ahead with plans
The following committee were
sent. Spaydel = chairman

Leon Bliggard =

Verne Walker - J.B. Vincent

Mildred Carpio

Angel Morris

A copy of the aims
of the building was
read - turned to the
one drawn up at St.

Johns

Mrs. Bliggard asked to be
excused from the committee
because of working hours
Mrs. Vincent was
appointed in his place

Meeting was called
to order by Pres. minutes
read.

Various clubs were asked
if the clubs were in favor of the
project.

Civic Club - in favor
Thurs. P.M. " "

Parent-Teacher Board are
in favor - will be potentiam
Wed eve.

Grange - absent

Eastern Star - No answer

Blue Star 74 others - no meeting

S. A. Community Church - favor

M.C. - absent

R. N. - In favor

Seaside Club - In favor

F. X. A. M. - Morally in favor

Village Council - Favors the

building - Have a

Community Hall

Large enough for pairs
etc - not for fire insurance
though. The Council still
stands its share of the
expense.

The chairman thought
we should all put our
shoulders to the wheel
and put the thing across.

Mr. Doak said he
thought the same thing.

Mr. Rogerson, was asked
about the size of the lots -
80' x 100' or 100' x 100'. Was the size

- At the Council it was
better about a building
60 x 100 ft. would be about

the right size.

Mr. Woodruff took
of this idea - a one story
building with adequate
basement room for a

Mr Woodruff asked if
different organizations
could approximate from your
their large meeting and
if they would like to
attend that when they plan
for the coming meeting
of building.

Miss Queen of the Royal
Neighbors spoke in favor
of the building and would
help erect it.

Wm. Harris also spoke
in favor.

Miss Cook thought

DeWitt wouldn't grow

very fast unless we helped

and kept giving money
here was turning

to secure vote of
the no dog in the
house.

for their gift.

A date of Nov 6th
was decided on as
the next meeting of
this group to finish
decides the financial
meeting adjourned.

J. Walker Sec.

December 6 the date
of the next meeting at
18 o'clock.

Meeting adjourned

54	C.	Club	<div> <div>1111</div> <div>1111</div> </div>
			<div> <div>1111</div> <div>1111</div> </div>

December 6, 1945
Meeting called to
order by the chairman
J. S. Edwards
Minutes of Nov. 26 meeting
were read.

Butt has been
reported that the
Building Committee
had met and that
plans ready for
approval.

Yours V. A. deWalt
read a letter from
Mr. Melville - attached.
concerning the building
- with dimensions mentioned.
etc.

different members the com-
dred rough planes on the
board so that the other
members present could
get some idea of the

size and shape of the
services room mentioned
60 X 90.

Formal acceptance of the
lots was discussed. Mrs.
Woodruff said it was only
a tentative plan and couldn't
be accepted until the plan
was incorporated.

Mrs. Spryde spoke about a
non-profit organization.
went to the board and
mentioned a suggestion made
at the board meeting and
drew plans to indicate her
suggestion.

~~At 25:00~~ would be the
best to be figured on for
the building - Mrs. Spryde
thought that idea should
be considered before we
went any further.

Mrs. Elvenger thought
the idea the large
Mrs. Spryde thought the
money could be raised
if a concerted effort was
made. The money could

Mrs. Pearson had asked
the original idea some
about raising money.
If each organization could
help.

Mr. Vincent spoke about the
last city of the building.
with lack of it. That is

It was suggested we
set a date and have
Mrs. Hunter come over
and explain the legal
necessities for the project.

- The chairman spoke about
accepting the lots from
the Rogues.

Mrs. V.A. Walker moved
that we accept the wonderful
of the Rogersons. - ~~See~~ ^{see} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~idea~~ ^{idea}
by Leo Spayde - Carried.
The chairman asked for
other remarks by those
present with ~~about~~ the ability
to raise the money.
Mrs. V.A. Walker thought they
could.

~~Mrs. Elvenger spoke about~~
Mrs. Rogers and spoke about
clubs paying a fee for the
use of the building.
Mrs. Elvenger spoke about
a janitor for the building.
Regarding expense etc.

Mrs. Hunter will be here
mon. Dec. 10 to discuss
the legal aspect of the plan
at 8 o'clock.

Mrs. Peterson made a motion
that G. Walker be made
permanent Secy - motion carried.
- It was suggested that
we have more publicity
in the paper -

(Meeting adjourned.)
G. Walker, Secy.

It was suggested that
Mrs. Peterson be asked to
attend the meeting.

Mrs. V.A. Walker made
a motion to organize this
Mrs. Elvenger seconded
motion carried.

Mrs. Walker gave \$1000.
Mrs. Walker suggested
the project be called the
"Civic Center".

Mrs. Walker suggested
a plaque be placed in
the lobby to recall it

Dec. 10, 1945

Chairman called the meeting to order & introduced Mrs. Hunter who talked

similar to me in St. Johns which has had a non-profit organization since July -

= 10-12 incorporators on a non stock basis.

\$11,500. cash - La Grange

~~with 100 shares~~

minimum 200 - 300 more

amt of cash not too important

Does require a filing fee of 5⁰⁰ - Franchise fee 10¹⁰

Annual report of \$2.00

It is indefinite -

9 directors

11 original incorporators per St. Johns project

The board of supervisors may assist with the St. Johns project - Mrs. V. A. Walker asked what steps should be taken.

Like your articles may start anytime.

Subscription needed of at least \$1000.00

At least 3 directors needed

Mr. V.A. Walker made
a motion to organize this
gathering. Mr. Ellwanger
seconded the motion.
Motion carried.
Mr. Walker gave \$100.00
Mr. Walker suggested
the Project be called
"Civic Center".

Mrs. Walker suggested
Replanning be placed
the lobby to commemorate
"Community Memorial"
was suggested as a name.
May think about name.
Mrs. Walker suggested
that the original Board of
Trustees be appointed.
Trustees. The
following agreed to
sign the agreement.

~~The following project~~
Mr. & Mrs. Rogers, the
grade-trustees.
Mr. Griswold.

Leone Blizard.

Mr. Edw. Ellwanger -
will form the organization
to elect their officers and
directors. State passport.

Mr. Ellwanger asked
about the policy for running
the building. Should it
be rented etc.

Mrs. Hunter thought
the Board of Superintendents
would help support
the building.

May receive contribution.
amptance.

The Chairman suggested
we give Mr. Hunter the
rising vote of thanks.

These contributions may be deducted from income tax same as a church gift.

Mr. Maliskey will meet with the building committee to

Mr. Pearson made a motion that we accept the proposal for a community center - seconded by Mr. Walker - Carried

Name of "Memorial Building" was suggested
Voted 17 ballots

13 Memorial Bldg.
Devoted Peace " "

" Memorial Center
" " Assoc.

Memorial Assoc.

Mr. Blugard suggested that we have 10 directors.

Mr. Woodruff suggested 7 directors

Mr. Grisswald ~~suggested~~ for suggestions as to when

to have meeting for officers - Thurs. mite was decided upon.

at Grisswald's garage at 7:30. meeting made no meeting adjourned

H Walker Secy.

Article I have -
 Sec 1. The name of this
 organization shall be
 Memorial Association

The object of this association
 shall be to (a) to erect
 equip, maintain and
 operate a memorial
 community building
 to honor our War Veterans
 (b) to provide opportunities
 in such building for
 wholesome recreation, education,
 civic and other leisure-
 time activities on a democratic
 community-wide basis.

Art II Membership -
 Any individual who
 contributes toward the
 construction, equipment

or maintenance and
operation of the municipal
community building shall
be an active member
of this association.

Sec. 2. all active members
shall be qualified to
nominate officers and
members of the board
of directors of this association
to vote and their election
at the annual meeting
and to vote in the
transacting of any other
business that may
be presented at such
annual meeting.

Art III Board of Directors
The management &
administration of the

affairs of this Assoc. shall
be vested in a board
of nine directors, of whom
shall be elected for one
year - $\frac{1}{3}$ for 2 years - $\frac{1}{3}$
for term of 3 years. Thereafter
3 members shall be elected
annually by the members
of the Association.

Part IV Officers

Sec I The officers shall
be Pres. - Vice Pres. Secy
Treasurer
and trustees.

Sec II The duties of Officers
shall be such as their
titles by general usage
would indicate.

Sec III The Treas shall
furnish security bond
in such amount
as the board of directors

be necessary, the cost to be paid by Ass.

Art. V.
The board of directors shall withhige and define the powers and duties of all committees

Art. VI The pres. shall appoint all committees subject to confirmation by the board of directors

Art. VII Meeting, I
There shall be an annual meeting in March of each year at such time & place as directors shall determine
Art. VIII Special Meetings
~~shall~~ may be called by giving notice and stating purpose of meeting

Sec. III There shall be at least 10 monthly meetings each year
Sec. IV Five members of the board shall constitute a quorum.

Art. VII

The board of directors may make bylaws or rules not inconsistent with the constitution of the Association

Art. VIII

This constitution may be amended by the active members of the Assn - at any time by a vote of a majority of the members present at any meeting of active members of Assn

3rd Annual Ox Roast
 Sat., Sept. 11, '48 - DeWitt, Mich.
Benefit Memorial Building
 1949 FORD 2-DOOR SEDAN
 • Table Model Radio
 • Boy's or Girl's Bicycle
 • Automatic Toaster
 • Mixer
 YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE PRESENT - WINNERS WILL BE NOTIFIED
 Tickets 95 Cents Each - - Five (5) for \$1.00

No 13451

LOCAL HISTORY
 COLLECTION
 BOX FILE

6th Annual
OX ROAST

AUGUST 24 - 25

DEWITT, MICH.

2 Nites -- FREE ATTRACTIONS -- 2 Nites

**Friday Night - Indian
Ceremonial Dances**



Saturday - 4 - 8 p.m.
Direct from WJR - Detroit -

DEWITT, MICH.

2 Nites -- FREE ATTRACTIONS -- 2 Nites

**Friday Night - Indian
Ceremonial Dances**

**DeWitt
High School Band**



Saturday - 4 - 8 p.m.

Direct from WJR - Detroit -
with a Carload of Laughs!

**"Pie Plant Pete
and Bashful Joe"**

KIDDIE RIDES - EATS - CONCESSIONS

**1951 Chevrolet 2-Door Sedan and Other Prizes
To Be Given Away Saturday Nite. Tickets On Sale.**

FUN FOR ALL!

EVERYBODY WELCOME!



LOCAL HISTORY
COLLECTION
BOX FILE

A Brief History of the DeWitt Memorial Building

On October 16, 1945, Mrs. Earl Pierson, Assistant Librarian, issued a request to every organization in DeWitt Township to send two representatives, to discuss the possibility of building a community building. A piece of property on West Washington Street, had been donated by Mr. and Mrs. William Rogerson, for the purpose of building a library, but they were agreeable to the construction of a community building, provided a library was accommodated.

The first donation was a pledge of one thousand dollars given by Mr. and Mrs. Verne Walker. All of the organizations agreed to raise money for this purpose. They formed a non-profit organization to erect and maintain a building, and named their group the Memorial Association.

The first Ox Roast was held in the Spring of 1946 and has become an annual event to provide funds for the operation and maintenance of the building. Jack Lenneman and Don Reed were the principle chefs and became known as the "barbecue kings" of Central Michigan.

The original building incorporators were L. J. Griswold and J. B. Vincent, Leo Spayde, Leon Blizzard, Mildred Carris, Hazel Norris, Verne Walker, and Mr. and Mrs. William Rogerson.

This building was to be dedicated to all veterans of all wars. It has been the meeting place for all local organizations and is quite unique in its inception and use.

The building was opened for partial use for the 1947 Ox Roast and was dedicated at the annual event in 1948. A bronze plaque placed in the lobby of the library by the DeWitt Blue Star Mothers, reads: "Lovingly dedicated to the men and women who served in all branches of military service, and to those who gave their lives to their country." The plaque also lists the eight names of local boys who gave their lives in World War II.

Our building now houses one of the most modern libraries in the state, for an area of this size. It is a member of the Central Michigan Library System. There is currently one meeting room, with complete kitchen facilities, in use by the public, with plans well under way for completion of the second room.

PRESENTING PLAQUE IN BEHALF OF BLUE STAR MOTHERS

Mrs. Marion Ritter
(Current President -Blue Star Mothers)

ACCEPTING PLAQUE IN BEHALF OF THE VETS CLUB AND
THE MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

Mr. Woodrow (Woody) Armstrong
(President of both organizations)

FLAG COMMENTARY

Mr. Arthur (Art) Newman
(Postmaster and member of Vets Club)

PRESENTING NEW "50 STAR" FLAG IN BEHALF OF VETS CLUB

Mr. Charles (Chuck) Ruble
(Sec.-Treas. of Vets Club)

ACCEPTING FLAG IN BEHALF OF THE MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

Mr. Gaylord (Gay) Ward
(Treasurer of Memorial Association
and Custodian of Memorial Building)

MUSICAL SELECTION - "GOD BLESS AMERICA"

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(At conclusion--Please remain standing)

BENEDICTION

Rev. A. M. Carson

OUR MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO MADE THESE DONATIONS AND CEREMONY POSSIBLE.

DE WITT MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PLAQUE DEDICATION AND "50 STAR" FLAG PRESENTATION CEREMONY
DE WITT MEMORIAL BUILDING, DE WITT, MICHIGAN
JULY 27, 1960 - 8:30 P.M.

Regarding Plaque

It is dedicated to Veterans (male and female) of all wars. It bears the names of seven young men who gave their lives for our country during recent wars. (World War II: Vincent Paul Lerg, Lewis Phillips, Jr., Russel Ribby, Don D. Ingalls, Francis A. Richmond and Earl H. Benson---Korean Conflict: Richard Pike). Our greatest hopes are that additional names will never be added. If need be, however, space has been provided for same. The Plaque is intended to replace the Roll of Honor Board that has been enshrined in the Memorial Building Lobby. Proper and solemn disposition will be made of the Board at the appropriate time. The Plaque is a gracious donation from the De Witt Blue Star Mothers and it will occupy its place of honor on the west wall of the Memorial Building Lobby.

Regarding Flag

A New "50 Star" Flag is a donation from the De Witt Vets Club.

Master of Ceremonies

Mr. Richard (Dick) Keck
(Village President Pro-Tempore)

In charge of Guest Register

Mrs. Fern Wellington

In charge of Music

Mrs. Pat Armstrong

PROGRAM

MUSICAL SELECTION - "THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER"
(At conclusion--please remain standing)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. A. M. Carson

GENERAL COMMENTARY

Mrs. Faye Hanson
(Librarian -De Witt Public Library)

BLUE STAR MOTHERS COMMENTARY

Mrs. Hazel Norris
(Past President -Blue Star Mothers)

Memorial Plaque Given In Colorful Ceremony

On Wednesday night, July 27, at the DeWitt Memorial building, a colorful dedication was held. A plaque was dedicated to Veterans, male and female, of all wars.

This plaque bears the names of seven young men who gave their lives to their country during recent Wars — World War II: Vincent Paul Lerg, Lewis Phillips, Jr., Russell Ribby, Donald Ingalls, Francis A. Richmond, Earl H. Benson; — Korean Conflict: Richard Pike.

Our greatest hopes are that additional names will never have to be added, but if need be, space will be provided for more.

THE PLAQUE is intended to replace the Honor Roll board, which was also a Blue Star Mother project and has in late years been in the lobby of the Memorial building. Proper and solemn disposition of same will be made of the board at the appropriate time.

The plaque is a donation also of DeWitt Blue Star Mothers and is now occupying its place of honor on the west wall of the Memorial building lobby.

A new 50-star flag which is a donation of the DeWitt Vets club now graces the north wall of the auditorium. The master of ceremonies of the evening was Richard Keck in absence of William Buck, village president. He and the rest of the committee were seated on a platform at a long table spread with red, white and blue.

Mrs Fern Wellington of DeWitt Blue Star Mothers had

charge of the guest book. Mrs Pat Armstrong had charge of the music.

THE PROGRAM was as follows: musical selection, "The Star Spangled Banner". Rev A. M. Carson made the dedication prayer. Master of ceremonies then introduced Mrs Faye Hansen, librarian of the DeWitt Public Library. She gave a general commentary of when the library was started as a project of the active Civic club and how the Veterans building was started and for what purpose. She told of the many users of the building; how money was raised to start with. She introduced the Board of Directors of the building and the present officers that were present.

The officers of Blue Star Mothers were also introduced as was Earl Hendrix, who is a Spanish American War Veteran and makes his home in DeWitt. She spoke of each of the seven gold star boys and several who had received citations. Not all names were available as the society only had clippings of newspapers for information. It would be nice if mothers and fathers would give Mrs Hansen this information, these boys' names and their medals received to place on file for future use.

Next to be introduced was Percy Carris, a veteran of another war. This came after Mrs Hansen read a poem written by Harry Decker while on duty with the navy called "Percy and His Boys".

MRS HAZEL Norris, a charter member and past president of DeWitt Blue Star Mothers was then introduced and gave the dedication commentary. Mrs Norris in turn introduced two visiting Blue Star Mothers, the department of Michigan president, Mrs Mary Sharar of St. Louis Chapter and Mrs Chloe Bartholomew, 1st vice-president of Department of Michigan Blue Star Mothers and a member of St. Johns chapter.

DeWitt was honored to have these ladies present. Mrs Norris then introduced Mrs Marion Ritter, president of DeWitt chapter and Woodrow Armstrong, president of DeWitt Vets club and of the Memorial building board association.

Mrs Ritter presented the plaque in behalf of DeWitt Blue Star Mothers to Mr Armstrong, who received it in behalf of the Vets club and the DeWitt Memorial Building board.

Mr Keck then introduced Arthur Newman, DeWitt Postmaster and member of the Vets club, who gave the flag, commentary and gave the history of the flag from a few stars up to the present 50-star one.

Charles Ruble, secretary treasurer of the Vets club was introduced as was Gaylord Ward, treasurer of the board of directors of building and also custodian of the building. Mr Ruble presented the new 50-star flag to Mr Ward, who accepted it. Benediction was given by Rev A. M. Carson.

LOCAL HISTORY
COLLECTION
BOX FILE

PLAQUE DEDICATION AND "50 STAR" FLAG PRESENTATION CEREMONY
DE WITT MEMORIAL BUILDING, DE WITT, MICHIGAN
JULY 27, 1960 - 8:30 P.M.

Regarding Plaque

It is dedicated to Veterans (male and female) of all wars. It bears the names of seven young men who gave their lives for our country during recent wars. (World War II: Vincent Paul Lerg, Lewis Phillips, Jr., Russel Ribby, Don D. Ingalls, Francis A. Richmond and Earl H. Benson--Korean Conflict: Richard Pike). Our greatest hopes are that additional names will never be added. If need be, however, space has been provided for same. The Plaque is intended to replace the Roll of Honor Board that has been enshrined in the Memorial Building Lobby. Proper and solemn disposition will be made of the Board at the appropriate time. The Plaque is a gracious donation from the De Witt Blue Star Mothers and it will occupy its place of honor on the west wall of the Memorial Building Lobby.

Regarding Flag

A New "50 Star" Flag is a donation from the De Witt Vets Club.

Master of Ceremonies

Mr. Richard (Dick) Keck
(Village President Pro-Tempore)

In charge of Guest Register

Mrs. Fern Wellington

In charge of Music

Mrs. Pat Armstrong

PROGRAM

MUSICAL SELECTION - "THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER"
(At conclusion--please remain standing)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. A. M. Carson

GENERAL COMMENTARY

Mrs. Faye Hanson
(Librarian -De Witt Public Library)

BLUE STAR MOTHERS COMMENTARY

Mrs. Hazel Norris
(Past President -Blue Star Mothers)

PRESENTING PLAQUE IN BEHALF OF BLUE STAR MOTHERS

Mrs. Marion Ritter
(Current President -Blue Star Mothers)

ACCEPTING PLAQUE IN BEHALF OF THE VETS CLUB AND
THE MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

Mr. Woodrow (Woody) Armstrong
(President of both organizations)

FLAG COMMENTARY

Mr. Arthur (Art) Newman
(Postmaster and member of Vets Club)

PRESENTING NEW "50 STAR" FLAG IN BEHALF OF VETS CLUB

Mr. Charles (Chuck) Ruble
(Sec.-Treas. of Vets Club)

ACCEPTING FLAG IN BEHALF OF THE MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

Mr. Gaylord (Gay) Ward
(Treasurer of Memorial Association
and Custodian of Memorial Building)

MUSICAL SELECTION - "GOD BLESS AMERICA"

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(At conclusion--Please remain standing)

BENEDICTION

Rev. A. M. Carson

OUR MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO MADE THESE DONATIONS AND CEREMONY POSSIBLE.

DE WITT MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

12th Annual OX ROAST

DE WITT - MICH.

Saturday, Aug. 27

— Benefit of the DeWitt Memorial Building —

THE EVENT GETS UNDERWAY AT
11:30 A.M. WITH A PARADE

FUN FOR EVERYONE!

RIDES - EATS - DRINKS

GAMES - CONCESSIONS

FREE ENTERTAINMENT



The DeWitt Memorial Building (located on Washington Street) was erected to honor all War Veterans, and to provide opportunities for wholesome recreation, education, civic, and other leisure time activities. The Memorial Building houses a well-equipped "Cancer Closet" which gives aid, free of cost, to all who seek help. The DeWitt Public Library, which is located in the Memorial Building, is considered one of the finest in rural Michigan.

The chief source of funds to equip and maintain this Memorial Building is an OX ROAST, which is held one day each year, the latter part of August.

LOCAL HISTORY
COLLECTION
BOX
FILE

Sun Shines Brightly on DeWitt Ox Roast

Ox Roast

Continued from page 1

beef sandwiches, potato salad, and all the trimmings, including homemade pies donated by DeWitt ladies.

The game tent was also a center of attraction, featuring tests of skill for small prizes.

A temperamental ferris wheel was defunct most of the afternoon, but the rest of the rides were well patronized.

ROY GILBERTSON, with assistants, acted as master of ceremonies throughout the day with the aid of a sound truck and P. A. system. His services were also utilized by parents looking for lost children, children looking for lost parents, and to recover the owners of other lost articles.

Dusty Walker took over the mike in the evening and provided recorded music for dancing.

Woodrow Armstrong, president of the DeWitt Memorial Association and general chairman of the ox roast, extended his appreciation to his committeemen and others who helped to make the affair a success. Although the financial results hadn't been tabulated as yet, he expressed optimism that the Memorial building fund would be increased.

PARADE chairmen were Rev A. M. Carson and Gaylord Ward, assisted by Harry Bollinger. Judges were L. J. Briswold, Archie Moore and Hazel Norris.

Other chairmen and assistants were Glen Strahle, Ray Join, John Reust, Herb Hardtke, Lucille Ward, Donna Balderson, Norma White, Margaret Roberts, John Hiatt.

Officers of the DeWitt Veterans club are: president, Woodrow Armstrong, vice-president, Herbert Smith; secretary and treasurer, Chuck Ruble, and sergeant-at-arms, Bob Wilcox.



COME AND GET IT—The cookbooks say don't use a fork to turn meat. But the pitchfork Jack Lennemann is using (Above) certainly didn't spoil the flavor of the 1,000 pounds of beef he and son Stan (left) cooked for the DeWitt Ox Roast last Saturday. The Lennemanns were on the job at 4:30 a.m. Saturday and were still going strong 12 hours later. Although their outdoor kitchen was in the shade, the steam from the huge covered pans made things a bit hot for them.

The DeWitt Veterans club couldn't have picked a finer day to have their 12th annual Ox Roast. The sky was cloudless from sunup to sundown, and a huge crowd was on hand at 11:30 a.m. to watch the parade.

Over 30 entries marched down Bridge street, led by the DeWitt high school band and the Veterans' color guard. The entries ranged from costumed kids on foot to horse-drawn vehicles and floats.

The aroma of pan-roasted beef began to drift over town laylight as Jack Lennemann and son, Stan started practicing their out-door culinary art.

THE RIDES and tents were set up Friday and the four corners of DeWitt were transformed into a carnival midway.

The ox roast is put on each year by the veterans to raise money to equip and maintain the Memorial building, the village civic center.

Cash prizes for parade entries in several classes were donated by DeWitt merchants, who also participated in the parade.

First prize for floats went to the DeWitt Community

church, second to DeWitt Grange float, third to the Kings, an Indian group from the DeWitt area, and fourth to Roger Sloat with his horse-drawn Standard Oil delivery truck.

OTHER WINNERS were Connie Ferguson, Cindy Gilbertson, Randy Lankford, Mike Strahle and Jackie Batsdorf, all youthful bicycle riders, and LaVerne Rossow, who paraded as Uncle Sam on stilts.

When the parade had passed, many of the spectators lined up at the food tent for roast

See **NOMINEES** page 2

LOCAL HISTORY
COLLECTION
BOX