

The Culver Antiquarian & Historical Society Quarterly

Vol. 1, Number 3, Summer 1995

Ice Cream Social:

The Culver Antiquarian & Historical Society will be having an old fashioned ice cream social on Sunday, June 11, 1995 from 1 to 4 p.m.. The social will be held at the Sea Breeze addition on the East Shore (1480 East Shore Dr. To 1784 East Shore Dr.) The event will be a recreation of a Lake Maxinkuckee social gathering of the early 1900's.

The event will feature ice cream, cookies, lemonade, and Coca-Cola. Many members of the historical society will be attired in circa 1900 costumes. There will be children's games, as well as exhibits and demonstrations of lakeside leisure activities. Children will have the opportunity to experience hopscotch, marbles, and hoops; popular games in Culver in the early 1900's.

Historical society members will demonstrate golf, tennis, and croquet. A sail boat from the period will be sailing on the lake. In addition a row boat and a canoe will be plying the waters of Lake Maxinkuckee just as they did at the turn of the century. The ice cream social will be open to the public as well as members. Admission is free to historical society members. The admission for non-members is ~~\$~~^{\$10} per family, or the family can join the society for \$10.

Historical District:

The Culver Antiquarian & Historical Society has nominated the downtown area of Culver

for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. In addition a multiple application has been submitted to set guidelines for historic designation requests throughout Union Township.

Research indicates four areas of possible historic significance in Union Township, the Town of Culver, the Culver Military Academy, the Lake Maxinkuckee resort community, and the outlying farm community. The multiple application will make it easier for applications to be submitted for all the above mentioned areas. Among the benefits from the creation of a historic district are tax credits for building improvements and eligibility for grant money.

Culver History on CD-ROM:

The Antiquarian & Historical Society is moving forward with plans to place historical information and photos on CD-ROM. A CD-ROM is much like a compact disc sold in music stores, but it can contain text and photos in addition to music and spoken words. The amount of material that can be placed on one CD-ROM is extensive. For example, The Library of the Future 3rd Edition CD-ROM contains over 1,750 complete, unabridged books, including illustrations.

The Culver History CD-ROM will be capable of holding thousands of pages of text in addition to photos, maps, and narration.

One advantage of the CD-ROM is cost. What would cost hundreds of dollars to publish in printed form will only cost a fraction of that amount on CD-ROM. The CD-ROM will also be of great benefit to students and historians as it will be possible to print out any information that appears on the CD. This project will help to preserve the history of Culver and Lake Maxinkuckee for generations to come.

The CD-ROM can be used with any computer that is equipped with a CD player. Virtually all computers produced today come with a such a player already installed. Any "multi-media" computer includes a CD-ROM built into the computer.

Even individuals who are not computer literate will find that the Culver History on CD-ROM will be easy to use. The terminology may sound foreign, but users will find that they will be able to use the program with ease. The CD-ROM cannot be played on standard stereo CD players, a CD-ROM only works with a computer.

The following is a poem recently published in Culver Yesterdays: Poems of C.M.A. on Lake Maxinkuckee. It originally appeared in the "Culver Herald" on July 16, 1897, not long before the time to be featured during the Ice Cream Social this summer. The poem provides a glimpse of what Culver was like at the turn of the century.

Ode To Oasis by H.E. Winks

It's the lake called Maxinkuckee
That people love so well.
And of it's scenes and pleasures too
We all do love to tell.
And round it's shores and on the banks
To sit and walk and lounge.
To look and see and feed upon
The sights that there abound.
To look into her peaceful face
To feel her cooling breath.
To listen to her gentle voice
Will soothe the savage breast.
But, we upon her broad expanse,
When waves and billows roll,
Will make you think the time has come
To hunt a safer hole.

It's to this lake the thousands come
To drive dull care away.
To lay themselves in nature's arms
And rest the live long day.
They come by train and wagon way
By "foot-back" some do come.
For any way to reach this lake
Is just the way for some.

Here lawyers, doctors, merchants come
And "statesmen" great and small.
The politician may be seen
And with him to his gall
The lover and his "choicest one"
Beneath the tree you'll see.

But not a word will either speak
Nor is there time for three.

To go upon the lake's broad space
So wide, so deep, so clear.
To fish, to sail, or ride the waves
Is sport for thousands here.
Oh yes indeed it's quite a place
To rest, to "spark", to swim.
And one can drink a "little bit"
Or "fill up to the brim".

Numerous little cottage homes
With flowers, gardens round.
With hammocks swinging here and there
And music's charming sound.
With little children, boys and girls
And Mama's, Papa's too.
And here and there in family groups
As they are wont to do.

For there's no sport of any kind,
Too high or low in price,
That is not here for all to "git"
And all of course is nice.
A "straight and narrow" path is closed,
The "broad road" has no gate.
You take your choice and pass along
From early morn til late.

It's from this lake that nature makes
The tons and tons of ice.
Shipped around in summer time
For use in "ven vater's hie".
There are three handsome steamboats here
The "Peerless" and "McSheehy",
But the favorite of the people is the
"Aubbeenaubbee".

There are six hotels round the lake.
There's boarding houses too.
You take your choice and pay the price
And eat til you get through.
Old "Maxinkuckee" feeds all well,
It's nature's paradise,
You take a breath in summer time
In winter get your ice.

"Culver's" military school is here,
Where students by the score,
Are taught the "art" of soldier life
On Maxinkuckee's shore.
"H.H.C. - the grand old man",
The founder of this school,
As one of God's philanthropers
Obeys the "golden rule".

He is a man in thought and life,
A benefactor sure.
He's made the lake in "Culver Town"
The place where pleasures cure.
The ills that disappointments cause
And business cares inflict
And never has he failed to fight
In nature's fierce conflict.

Every heart has sorrow much,
Because affliction's hand,
Has laid it's blight upon the health
Of this dear good old man;
But we're told he's "pulling through"
May God his health restore.
For never will another come
To Maxinkuckee's shore.