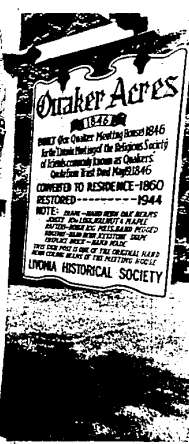




LONELY BUILDING WITH A HISTORY — This 118-year-old building has seen lots of Livonia's past but currently is opened only once a month



for meetings of the city historical society. (Observer photo)

# Old Quaker Acres Waits For Some Livonia History

One of the oldest buildings in Livonia, historic Quaker Acres, stands today as an unfulfilled dream, and an unfulfilled dream, the 1846 structure, first a church, then a home and now a municipal building, is on the north side of Seven Mile between Farmington Road and Gill.

Once a month it is the site of a meeting of the Livonia Historical Society.

Members of that group have brought a few items of historic interest to the seasonal building. They'd like to add many more, and their real dream is to make it a museum that local school children — and their parents — could visit to learn of life in these parts in earlier days.

But there are problems.

"WE IN THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY couldn't undertake to operate a museum without outside help," said Mrs. Gladys Ryder, charter member, past president and active participant

in society doings. "We're just not big enough."

"There's definitely an insurance problem," said Mrs. Marie Spanish, head of the Livonia historical commission and society member. "Away from the business district, a building like this is susceptible to fire loss."

MAYOR HARVEY MOELKE has expressed his personal hope that "we will be able to preserve a building like Quaker Acres."

"At the present time there are many other pressing matters before the city," he said, "but I have voiced my support of a bill before the Michigan Legislature that would enable cities to set up Historic Zoning Districts to prevent destruction of old landmarks until they can make purchases and restorations."

"Too few buildings are left to remind us of our heritage," said Mrs. Spanish.

WHATEVER its eventual use...



DURING OPEN HOUSE — A community open house at Quaker Acres six years ago brought lots of visitors. Some of the Livonia Historical Society members who greeted them in old-fashioned dress were, seated from left, Mary Ellsworth, Mrs. Nancy Curtner and Mrs. Ruth Walburn. Standing, from left, were Mrs. Gladys Ryder, Mrs. Isabell Dubpernill and Mrs. Cora Ellsworth.



OLD TYPEWRITER — Chairman Marie Spanish of the Livonia Historical Commission looks over an early typewriter now kept in one of the back rooms. (Observer photo)



SPINNING WHEEL — This household necessity from yesteryear is one of the few antiques now found in Quaker Acres. (Observer photo)

All of Observerland is rich in pioneer heritage, and preserving it is the work to which many present-day residents have dedicated themselves. The story of Quaker Acres is the story of keeping fresh some Livonia history. In future issues, THE OBSERVER will take a look into the historical archives of other communities.

## The Observer Women m.m. memos

I admit to being a pinch-of-this, dab-of-that cook.

It's not expertise in the kitchen that makes me this way but rather a basic laziness when it comes to looking up recipes, and it's a great burden to the junior cooks in the family when they need advice.

"How much flour do you put in the gravy?" they may ask.

"Some," is the standard answer.

"How much vanilla in the icing?"

"Oh, just a little."

(Of course, they can return the favor by saying they did "some" practicing or watched television "just a little.")

But I fear a recent episode convinced one of the girls I'm really a hopeless case.

She was whipping up a batch of biscuits—which she does better than I — and couldn't remember the amount of baking powder needed.

"Look on the cornmeal box," I told her, "and see how much is needed for corn bread."

"Mother, I'm making BISCUITS," she explained patiently.

"I know, but it's three teaspoons for one recipe and four for the other, so look on the box and then use the other amount."

Resigned, she followed by advice. It's tough having a pinch-of-that cook for a mother.

—Margaret Miller

## Continuum Gets New Director

Dr. Gerald Self has been named to direct the Continuum Center for Women, a program at Oakland University that has helped many women in the Observer area return to the business world.

Dr. Self has been a member of the Continuum staff since 1966, coordinating testing, counseling and educational functions of the center's "Investigation into Identity" program.

He succeeds Mrs. Priscilla Jackson, who developed the program and will continue working with experimental programs to further education for women.

Dr. Self earned his Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Adelphi University in 1964 and held a fellowship at the University of California before joining the OU staff.

He is past president of the Oakland County Psychological Association and a member of national and state psychological associations.

He and his wife, Sharon live in Bloomfield Hills.

The new appointments for Dr. Self and Dr. Jackson were announced by Lewitt Eklund, dean of the OU Division of continuing education.

## Westland BPW Elects

Westland Business and Professional Women members installed Mrs. Clarice Nesbitt as new president at their June 10 picnic and meeting at the Nesbitt home.

Other new officers are June Sanderson, vice president and program chairman; Ruth Pfeiffer, recording secretary and bulletin editor; Irma Yankee, treasurer, and Ruth Orwin, corresponding secretary.

Newly appointed committee chairmen are Harriet Cagion, civic participation and publicity; Justine Barnes, legislation; Grace Luca, world affairs; Marie Gabriel, personal development and Pat Kosak, membership.

Mrs. Nesbitt and Mrs. Muriel Tucker, special projects chairman, who attended the recent state convention in Grand Rapids, presented the national Criteria Award received at the convention to the members.

Margaret Thompson was appointed chairman of the BPW Westland annual fashion show scheduled for Sept. 17. Proceeds of \$500 earned by their 1968 show were donated to the Kidney Foundation.

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## New Series On Babies Set AAUW Has New Leaders

The Wayne County Department of Health will begin a new series of classes for expectant parents at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, July 10, in the Wayne County Health Center.

The classes will meet for eight consecutive Thursdays.

They will be conducted by a member of the Public Health Nursing Division staff.

The group will discuss growth of the baby, care of the mother during pregnancy, labor and delivery, and care of the newborn infant.

For registration, those interested may call the Health Center any week day between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. The telephone number is CR 4-2800 or PA 1-0300, ext. 6604.

Mrs. Erick Reickert and Mrs. Arthur Medwedoff take office officially July 1 as president and first vice president of the Farmington branch of the American Association of University Women.

Both recently returned from the AAUW national biennial convention in Chicago, where they met with delegations of college-educated women from all parts of the country.

Other new officers and study group leaders also are taking over their new posts.

MRS. JOHN SMITH is second vice — president; Mrs. Herbert Wang recording secretary; Mrs. Richard Justice corresponding secretary; Mrs. Francis Weber

treasurer and Mrs. Clarence Stoll historian.

Mrs. Joseph Hovanec will head the publicity committee for the group; and Mrs. John George Fries and Wilma Northway are in charge of hospitality.

Study group leaders also will be part of the branch's executive board.

Four main study areas have been chosen by the AAUW to be considered in branch meetings all over the country during the next two years.

FARMINGTON LEADERS in the study areas include:

Mrs. James Arge, leading study on "Education: The Academic Community — New Look on Campus."

Mrs. Robert Benjamin, head-

ing study on "Community Problems: This Beliequered Earth — Can Man Survive?"

Mrs. Ernest Gaston, chairman for "Cultural Interests: Human Use of Outer Space."

Mrs. Walter Frontczak, study leader for "World Problems: American Foreign Policy."

Two implementation chairmen for the study groups also have been named. Mrs. Lolita Hansen for Education and Mrs. Myron Greenfield for world problems.

Mrs. Reickert and Mrs. Medwedoff, returning from the national meeting, reported that an outstanding part of the program was presentation of special grants to 18 young women through the new AAUW Coretta Scott King educational fund.

MRS. KING, widow of the late Martin Luther King, was a convention speaker and told the delegates that the recipients, all but four black, will use the grants to work in the fields of Afro-American studies, non-violence and peace.

"There is entirely too little research, writing and understanding of these fields," she said.

The special fund, which now has reached \$145,000 of its \$150,000 goal, is part of the AAUW program of endowments to further higher education for American and foreign women, and the Farmington branch regularly contributes with proceeds of its annual book sale, scheduled this year Sept. 25 to 27 in the Livonia Mall.