

Hunt + Grunt

Club's Meeting Its Tomorrow

By W.W. EDGAR

One of the most notable edifices that links Farmington with the past is a little, old log cabin, hidden in the wooded area at Farmington Road and the Expressway.

It isn't much to look at -- and you could drive by day after day and never have an inkling that some of the most notable residents of the entire metropolitan area look upon it as one of the gourmet capitals of the land.

OFFICIALLY, it is known as the Huron Valley Hunting and Fishing Club. To many of those who have partaken of its sumptuous meals it is known, familiarly, as "The Hunt and Grunt Club". It is by that name that it is known from one end of the land to the other -- wherever gourmets meet.

Why would a club in Farmington be listed, officially, as the Huron River Hunting and Fishing Club?

The answer to that furnishes some of the rich history of the place. And this history is more important now than ever, since plans are under way to raze it and build an entirely new club.

The club had its inception in 1923 in a wooded area near Brighton, Michigan, when a man named Eugene Renard, who owned 123 acres of woodland, decided to build a club and restaurant.

He felled the trees on the property -- or a sufficient number to construct the cabin that originally was 60 feet wide and 80 feet long. There he set up

a club that served meals and all of the cooking which was done over wood and coal fires.

Later, three Delcom units were used to cook with electricity. The old-time members laugh now when they recall times when the storage batteries failed and they had to eat by candle light.

THE CLUB prospered for a time, but the original sought more worlds to conquer. After scouring the area he settled on the Farmington Road land in 1934.

He and his helpers hauled the logs from their Brighton site with an old Cadillac car and, finally, on Christmas Day in 1937 it was finished.

Renard's reputation for food preceded him and the gourmets scarcely could wait for the opening which came on Mother's Day in 1938.

It has been a Farmington fixture ever since. Food always has been the lure -- though service was not always what one could expect. The elder Renard and his wife insisted on preparing each order personally. Hence, there were times when customers would be forced to wait as long as three hours

for food. But it was worth it after it was served.

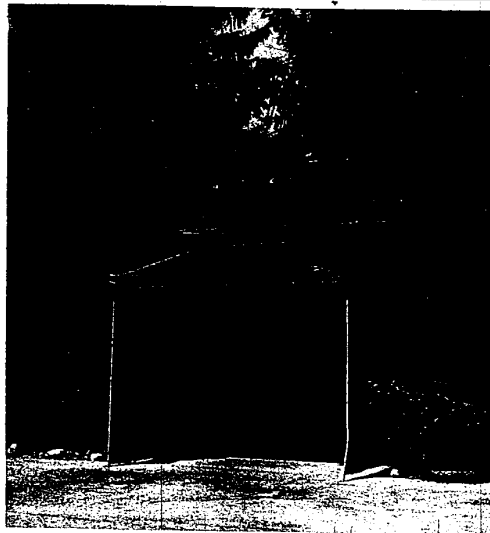
THE SPEARHEAD of the club -- Renard -- passed away in 1961 and the cooking has been placed under the supervision of a manager. For a long time a Mrs. Lidhea did a bang-up job. But she left in February of this year and a Miss Madeline Gerastin, long experienced in the food business is taking over.

But there is a great change in the offing. After Renard's death, the club members purchased the property. It has been run as a private club with a closed membership of 250 with a like number on the waiting list.

The members, too, have decided that the historic quarters, hidden in the woods, no longer are adequate and plans are underway for a new club house.

The plans, it is understood, have not been presented to the membership but the ground has been re-zoned.

And when the old log cabin comes down it will carry many memories with it as the Huron River Hunting and Fishing Club moves from a colorful yesterday into a tomorrow.



OUT OF THE WOODS -- Lost in the woods is the clubhouse of the Huron Valley Hunting and Fishing Club located at Freedom Drive and Farmington Rd. It is one of the most notable edifices that links Farmington's yesterday with tomorrow. (Evert photo)

Farmington Founders Festival

CARNIVAL

12 MILE and FARMINGTON ROAD

JULY 23 thru 26

SPONSORED BY

KIWANIS

Of North Farmington

SALE

ON ALL GIFTS

July 24 - 25 - 26

GREAT SAVINGS

ON ODDS and ENDS,
PAPER ACCESSORIES

A Complete Line of

HALLMARK

CARDS - CANDLES - PARTY GOODS

TREND GIFT SHOP

DEMERY'S SHOPPING CENTER

Phone GR 6-3570

Christmas Nears, So Shop Early

When Farmington Founders Festival opens July 24, Christmas will be only 155 days away, which is an early reminder to shop early. Bargains will be available at the sidewalk sales plus at the many concession stands during the festival on July 24, 25, 26.

Some of the organizations operating concession stands, many with gift items, are:

Demery Mothers Club, Job's Daughters, White Shrine, Farmington Business & Professional Women's Club, Farmington Township Lions Club, the Greater Farmington Shrine Club.

Mrs. F. Stills will operate a stand for the Plymouth State Home and the Farmington High School Association will have a concession.

Other concessions include: Clarenceville Optimist Club; Farmington Soroptimist Club; VFW and VFW Auxiliary; Farmington Artists Club; Farmington Jaycees and Auxiliary; Farmington Town Club; Our Lady of Sorrows Latin Club; and the Farmington Elks.

Also: Farmington Junior Football Association; Trinity Shrine; Order of Eastern Stars; Suburban Concert Band; Michigan Citizens for a Presidential Primary; Republican Committee; Farmington Democratic Club and the Clarenceville Players.

It's No Fun Without Buttons

It's no fun going to the Festival without a booster button on your collar or a bumper sticker on your car.

Bumper stickers advertising the Festival are available free of charge at the Board of Commerce office, 23715 Farmington Rd., or The Enterprise & Observer office at 23623 Farmington Rd.

Festival Booster Buttons can be purchased for 25 cents each at the Board of Commerce office. The buttons contain the slogans: "HURON," "Clean Air Smells Funny," "Sock It To Me Time," and "Tomorrow We Must Organize."

Who To Ask About Festival

Arrangements have been made to answer every question about the festival that can be asked.

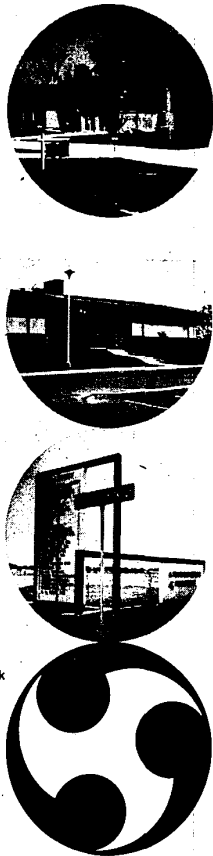
If you are looking for a particular concession or event, look for members of the Festival Committee who have all the answers. They will be easily identifiable with their gayly banded straw hats.

Area officials, dressed with orange vests, will also be available to assist festival visitors.

We're proud to have laid part of the groundwork for the Farmington Founder's Festival. We've done a lot of growing together since Thompson-Brown joined forces with Farmington in the early 'Fifties. Besides being the site of our Home Office, Farmington is the focus of some of the most outstanding Thompson-Brown new-home subdivisions: Canterbury Commons; Woodbrook; Old Homestead; Normandy Hills; Independence Commons; Kendallwood; Briar Hill; Kimberly; plus industrial/commercial develop-

ments such as the Farmington Freeway Industrial Park. All of them have helped make Greater Farmington one of the most progressive communities in the Midwest. In keeping with our motto, "Everything in real estate from the ground up," we even offer our customers a Used Home Service to help make it easy to move up to newer homes when the time comes. Farmington is our hometown, and we're proud of it. So to all our good neighbors we say, "Let's make this the greatest Founder's Festival ever!"

Thompson-Brown Company
Everything in real estate from the ground up



JENAY SHOP

DEMERY SHOPPING CENTER

33238 12 MILE at FARMINGTON ROAD

Phone 646-0100