

Nathan Power Journal Tells About Early Days

The son of one of the original founders of Farmington, Nathan Power kept a journal from Dec. 18, 1827 through Oct. 16, 1872 which relates many interesting anecdotes about the Farmington community as it was more than a century ago.

The journal, which was typed and indexed by Vayle Lorion of the Farmington Historical Society, comes to us and our readers through the courtesy of the family of Phillip H. Power, publisher of the Farmington Enterprise and The Observer of Farmington. Power is a direct descendant of Arthur Power.

Divided into seven different sections — first settlement and clearing, accounts of buildings, journeying and visits, accounts of birthdays, Nov. 3, 1864 through June 23, 1871, accounts of deaths, and an account of winters — the journal paints a composite picture of

life during the early days of the community.

Life was not harsh at that time compared to early Puritan settlements or the western frontier standards, but was not as comfortable as in today's mobile, affluent society. It was not without its pleasures either. Visits from friends and relatives are recounted in detail as are the annual and monthly meetings of the church and weddings of the younger folk.

Nathan Power was a leader in the community, served on the Village Council, and was elected to the Michigan Legislature in 1854. He was also an active member of the Underground Railroad which stopped in Farmington on its journey for run-away slaves bound for Canada.

Power's deeply religious feelings run through the entire journal. In one section he mentions that he has been pro-

posed as an elder in the church and states:

"What great responsibility I felt was now placed on one so poorly qualified to exercise this important trust in the Church. How shall it serve to keep me more humble?"

On his 63rd birthday in 1863, which fell on a Sunday, Power wrote: "This is the first day of the week. Patience (his wife) and I sat alone in a meeting capacity. Alone it really was. We are now stripped of nearly all our members of Meeting this year in which Stephen Lapham 16th of seventh month, 62 he was married to Camilla Lapham in the second month this year and lived but five months after I moved into Meeting on the last day of the year, 62. Abram Moore still fails to come to our Meeting. Savile Adrich is about all that we have in attendance and he is in some what a deranged. Whortberries."

My prayers are that my life may be more devoted and truly Christian as life was once."

Earlier in an entry on March 19, 1833 Power wrote that "Another year has gone and what has been my improvement during its passing away. Have I improved any from my former life which has deviated too much from that of the Christian? Lord help me in the coming year if my life should be prolonged." In 1853 he reports that "Cousin Julia S. Hathaway made us a visit. Francis went to Detroit and brought her out in his buggy, she having come from the normal school at Ypsilanti. She staid six days and went to Detroit on the stage and on the morning of the 30th took Steamboat for Toledo, Francis or Ira went with her visiting every P.M., except her visit, 24th. We went to meeting and on third day they all went 11 miles towards Pontiac to pick up some what a deranged. Whortberries."



THE FRANKLIN VILLAGE Band, which will give a concert on the Village Green Thursday evening after the crowning of the Festival Queen, is pictured here during a performance at

Ford Auditorium. Dr. Conrad Lam of Farmington is conducting and his wife, Marian, is playing the bass drum.

Most Elite Musical Organization Sets Thurs. Open Air Concert

Thursday evening Festival visitors will be privileged to hear what might well be called the "most elite musical organization in the world," the Franklin Village Band.

as the "Band that is All Brass" because of a large number of the musicians are business executives, the band received nationwide notice after Gene Krupa filled a vacancy in the

drum section for a concert in Franklin.

Its roster reads like a Who's Who of the Detroit area business and professional world and includes three Farmingtonites, Dr. and Mrs. Conrad R. Lam, 28130 Westbrook Ct., and Ron Nightingale, 29221 Mingwood.

The Franklin Village Band was organized in 1959 to take part in the Village's September 2nd and professional world and includes three Farmingtonites, Dr. and Mrs. Conrad R. Lam, 28130 Westbrook Ct., and Ron Nightingale, 29221 Mingwood. It was the first time the villagers had heard such music for over a generation. The crowds were enthused when the band appeared. Since then, the band has become an integral part of every important community function.

Thursday evening, after the crowning of the Festival Queen, the band will play at the Village Green, just west of the Masonic Temple. Selections to be played are as follows: March, "National Emblem" E. E. Bagley; selections from "Okahoma," Richard Rodgers; Patriotic Fantasy, George M. Cohan; "The Jolly German," special arrangement, "America The Beautiful," arranged by Louis Katzman; "Colonel Bogey" March, William Steffe; "Battle Hymn of the Republic," Kenneth J. Alfred; "Bis of Old Time Hits," special arrangement; "Lassus Don Stewart."

Trombone, Henry Fillmore, and "Barnum & Bailey's Favorites," K. L. King.

Farmington's Festival — How Did It All Begin?

This week sees the Second of what is hoped to be a long string of Annual Farmington Founders Festivals sponsored by the Farmington Board of Commerce get underway.

of the community," she explains.

This year's festival promises to be bigger than last year's. Planning started early this year when the Board of Directors named Jack Cotton and Harley Walters co-chairmen of the event.

The two put together a representative committee and the group has been at work ever since. Various committee chairmen have been meeting with an executive board of the festival — Cotton, Walters, Mrs. Benya, and last year's chairman Bill Bowman, Russ Gilbert, and Bill Conroy — ever since.

"I don't even remember who originally proposed the idea," she says. "The Board of Commerce had been thinking for a long time about something that would help to draw the entire community together and would help the merchants during the summer months."

This year's general committee includes: Bud Resume, C. A. Spencer, Chuck Williams, Ross Berbering, Dave Comfort, George Assemany, Delos Hamilton, Sue Chughnessy, Ned Oplesty, Omar Sanderson, Steve Nahina, Ed Galden, John Dinan, Pat Nowak, Winona Woods, and Don Stewart.



Howard W. Thayer

The Thayer family name has been a part of Farmington since the first Thayers arrived here in 1826 from Richmond, New York.

For the past quarter century Howard W. Thayer a descendent of our early settlers has operated a funeral home in Farmington and recently opened the new Thayer Chapel.

The new home is designed in Early American architecture and offers the finest in modern facilities to this community.

We are proud to have been a part of Farmington over these many years.

Our congratulations to all of the individuals and organizations who have worked so hard to make this, our second annual Founders Festival in Farmington, a huge success.



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7.75 x 14 tubeless whitewalls For models of Chevrolet, Dodge, Ford, Plymouth, Mercury, Pontiac, Rambler, Studebaker, Willys.	\$15²² plus \$1.88 Fed. Ex. Tax and old tire	\$20⁴⁴ plus \$2.20 Fed. Ex. Tax and old tire	\$22⁸⁸ plus \$2.20 Fed. Ex. Tax and old tire
7.75 x 15 tubeless whitewalls For models of Chevrolet, Dodge, Ford, Plymouth, Mercury, Pontiac, Rambler, Studebaker, Willys.	\$15²² plus \$1.91 Fed. Ex. Tax and old tire	\$20⁴⁴ plus \$2.21 Fed. Ex. Tax and old tire	\$22⁸⁸ plus \$2.21 Fed. Ex. Tax and old tire
8.25 x 14 tubeless whitewalls For models of Chrysler, Oldsmobile, Pontiac, Mercury.	\$17²² plus \$2.09 Fed. Ex. Tax and old tire	\$22⁴⁴ plus \$2.36 Fed. Ex. Tax and old tire	\$24⁸⁸ plus \$2.36 Fed. Ex. Tax and old tire

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