

# The Wauconda Cemetery

By Inabel Fish

Way back in the homestead days, 1906 or before, a lady everyone knew as 'Grandma Smith' (C. Foster Smith) homesteaded east of Bonaparte Creek. She donated a piece of ground to be used for a cemetery.

Each family had fences - usually pickets - around their own plots. As the years went by the fences wore out, livestock knocking them down to get to the tall wild grasses inside.

None of the Smith's were in the area any more so the homestead land went back for taxes. Walt Summers then picked up the property for the taxes. It was discovered that the cemetery ground had never been deeded to the community and recorded. Walt Summers then deeded the land over and a Wauconda Cemetery Association was formed.

A slate of officers were elected, the articles of incorporation were drawn up, approved and filed with the Secretary of State—Earl Coe—April 6, 1954, with Ralph Turpen, Tom Scott, Agnes Shunn, Edward Shunn, and Agatha Turpen signing.

Mrs. Claude Gugat furnished fencing material, then the Cemetery Association bought

headstones (all alike) for the graves. The people all donated their time and labor to fence the property, and lay the headstones.

Usually the Sunday before Memorial Day, people gather there for a work-party, meeting, and even potluck dinners.

The cemetery has been kept in its natural state, wild grasses, wild flowers, evergreen trees, with some Lilac and Irises planted.

## Wauconda Cemetery

Dency Anna Shunn, 1870-1955; Roy Irvin Shunn, 1896-1947; Jessie Earl Shunn, 1898-1969; Baby Shunn (Earl and Doris baby, Ernest); James R. Shunn, 1861-1921; John Shunn, 1889-1919; Edith Turpen Shunn, 1892-1927; Leonard J. Fish, 1909-1970; Charlotte Schertenleib, 1933 baby; Dale Schertenleib, 1938; Evelyn Bradley, 1952; Sarah M. Bradley, 1935; Mark F. Bradley, 1935; Edna Mae Seigrist, 1936; Don Maycumber, 1926-1968; Danny Maycumber Nov. 1949-Spring 1950; Phillip Monroe Gliddon 1951 (baby).

Lou Smith; Jim Smith; Charles Spaulding; James W. Ramsey, 1832-1904; Effie G. Galloway, 1906; The Dutchman (name unknown); Allan Ellison, 1852-1932; Lee Freddenburg, 1874-1934; August H. Wegener, 1899-1969; Mary Ellen Howe, 1943; Henry Gray, 1821-1911; Donald Talbot, 1926 (baby); Baby Talbot, 1932; Baby Talbot, 1937; Thomas Bell, 1874-1961; Cora E. Bell, 1876-1909.

Archie Bell, 1909 (baby); George Harlan, 1839-1916; Hattie B. Gugat, 1882-1930; Charles Gugat, 1873-1950; Annabell Gugat, 1933 (Claude's baby); Claude H. Gugat, 1909-1951; George F. Gugat, 1911-1939; John Gallaher, 1871-1932; Elbe Elmer Doyle, 1888-1956; Elmer Ellsworth Doyle, 1861-1942; Nellie L. Doyle, 1887-1950; Bill Fyock, 1853-1948; Edward Shunn, 1900-1974; Mary Grafton, 1895-1976; William Grafton, 1894-1976; Rita B. Brooks, 1923-1976; Frances Ann Shunn, 1907-1979; Louvada Thompson, 1938-1977; Bobby Turpen (baby), 1906; Bob Schertenleib, 1891-1964.

Scattered Graves: Jessie Doyle Hill's grandmother, Baby Doyle, 2 or 3 babies on Westover place, Stebbins, Frank and Wife on Fox place, Baby Shertenleib, baby Thomason and Baby Galloway, baby Bushnell.