

ST. FRANCIS HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

PUBLISHED BIMONTHLY

March 2002 Issue

We have been informed by Sr. Doris Pehowski, OSF and Archivist Sr. Marita Maschmann, OSF that part of what was reported in our last newsletter was incorrect. Therefore, we are printing a correction supplied to us by Archivist Sr. Marita Maschmann, OSF.

"The Bavarians purchased for \$1,000 the 36 (not 38) acres on which they settled. They arrived in 1849 to establish a religious congregation and to minister to the German immigrants in whatever way the Bishop wished, not to start a seminary. The two priests who were with them died of cholera within a day of each other, in 1851, years before the idea of a seminary was conceived. The remaining women and men received little direction from the Bishop until 1854 when they were entrusted with the care of boys whose parents had died of cholera. An orphanage for these boys was built on the Sisters' land, just south of the seminary drive and east of the dry creek bed. (Stone columns still stand, marking where the entering road was.)"

"It was not until 1856 that Bishop Henni conceived the idea of building a seminary. The Sisters, at his request, gave him their land. They continued their work in the orphanage, but added the tasks of housekeepers, cooks, farmers, and laundresses for those who built the seminary and later for the faculty and students. The seminary is named after St. Francis de Sales; the convent and congregation is named after St. Francis of Assisi."

- Next Board of Directors meeting is Tuesday, March 5th. Everyone is welcome. Meetings are held at the Library - lower level- at 7:00 PM
- **KEEP THIS DATE OPEN: MONDAY, MARCH 25TH. WE ARE HOSTING THE ST. FRANCIS HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANTIQUE ROAD SHOW. FEATURING "RHONDA B."** She will evaluate your treasures for you. Please do not bring furniture or large objects. Limit your treasures to pottery, jewelry, china, kitchenware, etc. Only one item per person, please.

When: 7:00-8:30 p.m., Monday, March 25

Where: Lower Level of St. Francis Public Library

- We are enclosing a copy of plans for a proposed log cabin which the Society would like to build directly north of the Lupo House. This, of course, depends on whether we get approval from the City of St. Francis.
- Look for additional information about St. Francis' history in future newsletters.

SEE YOU AT THE ANTIQUE ROAD SHOW!