

The Ball Room Decade in Alma

by Jeffrey J. Smith

I will be looking into the various ways that people “pasted the time” during the early years of the 20th century. I will be focusing specifically on the year 1910 and on Alma, Michigan. The goal of my research is to understand the different kinds of activities that people participated in during this time period and in the region for fun or recreation. I will primarily be using the *The Almanian* and *The Alma Record* as my primary sources, I may also use any of the following secondary sources to help supplement my research; David McMacken, *Built on Pines*; David McMacken and Louise Davenport, *Down Twelve Decades*; and Alma College faculty, *Within Our Bounds*. I expect to find that some of the main sources of recreation included, but were not limited to, activities such as going to dance halls, playing cards or board games, and enjoying nature by doing things such as bird watching.