Chagrin Falls Exponent

Chagrin Falls Historical Society 21 Walnut St. Shute Memorial Building

Scrap Zalba, Editor/Mil MacRitchie, Ass't Editor May, 2010 Ron Humphrey, Graphics Editor

SPRING CLEANING DAY AT THE MUSEUM

Tuesday, May 18, 2010 10:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.



Pauline Huggett (Annie Gumprecht's Mother) in her Spring Cleaning Outfit

OUR WORK DAY

It's time again to pitch in together to clean up our Museum. Many hands lighten the load, so if you come help us on Tuesday, May 18, 2010, between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. for an hour or two, or half a day, you can become a "Worker Bee" of the Historical Society. Bring a brown bag lunch if you wish. We will provide the soap, water, mops, dust cloths, and whatever else is needed. Please call Pat Zalba (247-5209) and let her know if you can come to help.

THE MALTZ MUSEUM WAS SUPER!

Thirty-three of us shared car rides to the Maltz Museum on April 21, 2010, and we were led on a guided tour through a labyrinth of exhibits and movies that demonstrated the experiences of Jewish immigrants to the Cleveland area. Many could not speak English. They were denied employment, had to live in segregated housing, and could not be buried in the existing cemeteries. We also saw some beautiful Jewish artifacts that had been confiscated by the Nazis in World War II. Many of us agreed that we needed to return to the Maltz when we had enough time to look at the exhibits in a more leisurely fashion.

Later we met for a very pleasant lunch at the Corky & Lenny Restaurant. Tasty food and good conversations. We're grateful to our Program Chairwomen - Joyce Teeft, Dee Bomback and Tim Scott - who put together such a good program for this past year!



Lunch at Corky & Lenny's

SAVE THE DATE

The Historical Society will sponsor an Antique and Collectibles Faire on Saturday, July 31st, at the Township Hall from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Spaces will be available to Historical Society members on a first come basis. Spaces are 10 feet by 10 feet, and the fee will be $30. per space. The Faire will feature antiques and collectibles (not garage sale or flea market type items). The Society will also have a space, so we welcome your tax-deductible antique and collectibles donations to raise money for the museum's acquisition fund. Details on dropping off your donations will follow in the June Newsletter. If you wish to reserve a space, please call Nancy Haag at 338-3040.

WE HAVE BOOKS FOR SALE

Many of our members may not realize how many books we have published and have for sale: CHAGRIN FALLS - An Ohio Village History ($45); ANNIE'S ANECDOTES - Annie Gumprecht's childhood reminiscences of growing up in Chagrin Falls ($7); A TASTE OF THE PAST - A cookbook of Soups, Breads and Desserts by our members, illustrated with drawings of the houses of some of the contributors ($10); THE DRAWINGS OF MAX BARNARD - Drawings of the Village's early residents by Chagrin's award winning primitivist artist ($25); THE HISTORY OF THE STRANAHAN FOLDING CANVAS BOAT CO. ($4); THE HISTORY OF THE OBER MANUFACTURING CO. ($13); THE HISTORY OF THE CHAGRIN HARDWARE STORE ($15); THE HISTORY OF THE CLEVELAND TO CHAGRIN FALLS INTERURBAN RAILWAY ($22); CHAGRIN FALLS -Whence the name? ($5); TAKING CARE OF YOUR CENTURY HOME (Free).

SCHOLARSHIPS

Eight applications were submitted for the three $1,500 scholarships we will be granting this year. We will be interviewing the four finalists on Monday, April 26.

Gini Fast, Chairwoman

HERITAGE FUND

In Memory Of:

Kenneth E. Shutts
by Arline Moore, Lucy Beattie

Norma Stockdale
by Madeline Baker

In Celebration of the Marriage Of:

Margaret Thoren and Tom Luckay
by John and Janet Mitchell

Lucy Beattie

A HISTORY BOOK ON RUSSELL TOWNSHIP

The Russell Township Historical Society has just published their history book - A PICTORIAL HISTORY OF RUSSELL TOWNSHIP - which is for sale for $49.00.

Spring Rituals: House Cleaning & Decorating

Annie Gumprecht
April, 1998

The Bayard family clocks chiming in the Chagrin Falls Historical Society museum reminded me of Frank Bayard, spring decoration and housecleaning. I think Frank should be pleased with his daughter Jeanette Bayard Zimmerman's donation of Bayard family memorabilia to the museum. Gaither Perry faithfully keeps the clocks wound and ticking. They are quiet only when Anne and Gaither are out of town.

My mother conned Frank Bayard into wallpapering a bedroom, provided my husband, Roy, would paste and trim for him, since Frank stated he was getting old. Frank told her not to get paper with definite horizontal lines since old houses were out of plumb and matching was "h..."! Ceilings were papered too, in white with little tiny designs. Wallpaper was not pre-trimmed and you usually trimmed one edge then lapped the other. At this time, trimming both edges and butting was just starting to be done, so Frank and Roy decided to try this. A fun time followed. Roy learned how to wallpaper and Frank and Mother entertained with their reminiscences of Chagrin Falls, Chaville Club dances and town characters and incidents. Mother prepared lunches and then ended up going to Cochran's (later Davis's, then Dean Berry) for more wallpaper. Frank talked her into papering the dining room too!

Ruby and Frank Bayard eventually moved to Florida. Prior to their move, Frank called Roy and said, "Get down here, I want you to have my wallpapering equipment. "Roy used the six-foot straight edge the rest of his life for papering and many other projects. I use it now! We visited Ruby and Frank in their new Florida home where wallboard and latex paint had been utilized. With a twinkle in his brown eyes, Frank looked at Roy, and said, "No wallpaper!"

Due to coal heating, by spring a very fine black soot was throughout a house - notably on wallpaper and woodwork. Furnaces using fuel oil left a brownish film. Gas heating was not available until the late 1960s and early 1970s. The tricky part of spring housecleaning was cleaning wallpaper. Louise Johnson stated recently, "Ceilings were awful, trying to not have black streaks on white paper." Pink or green wallpaper cleaner was used, and children liked to model with it - a forerunner of "Play-Doh". Chagrin Hardware still has wallpaper cleaner; Rob Schwind showed it to me. It is now in a plastic container instead of a can and is still pink! Washing woodwork was next, then rugs were carried out, placed over clothes lines and beaten. Wall-to-wall carpet was not "in" at the time. Curtains were washed, starched, and put on stretchers over little pins to dry in the backyard, making sore fingers for the housewife! Mattresses were turned, and bedding, cushion covers, etc. were laundered and hung out to dry.

A good Chagrin Falls homemaker would have eliminated winter heating dirt by mid-May. Although exhausted, she would then be ready to start garden projects.

CURATOR'S CORNER

Overview Calendar

May

11 Historical Society Board Meeting, Shute Building, 10:00 a.m., Lt. Ryan Shorr will present a brief "Fire Safety in the Museum" program.

Afternoon: "Victorian Dress Up" by Pat Zalba for a 3rd Grade Girl Scout Troop.

12 Don Barriball presents his Interurban Program to the Mayfield Township Historical Society.

13 Chagrin Falls High School Scholarship Awards Night.

18 SPRING CLEANING DAY at the Museum, 10:00 am.-4:00 p.m.

26 Scrap Zalba and Ron Humphrey present a brief program on the Ober Manufacturing Co. to the Know Your Antiques Club.

PLEASE PLAN TO HELP WITH SPRING CLEANING DAY

We will be cleaning the glass display cabinets - upstairs and downstairs - and the inside windows of the museum. After a bit of dusting we will re-hang the clean curtains in each room. The mannequins will need to be dressed in their summer clothing, and the quilts and comforters need to be replaced with summer weight quilts in the bedroom.

The downstairs refrigerator is in need of a good cleaning. There are other general sorting and arranging projects, and collections care that can be done this day, but it will depend on our turnout of helpers. Could you help out for an hour two? If so, please call Pat Zalba at 247-5209.

THANKS IN ADVANCE!

Pat E. Zalba,
Volunteer Curator