Chagrin Falls Exponent

Chagrin Falls Historical Society 21 Walnut St. Shute Memorial Building
Web Site: www.chagrinhistorical.org

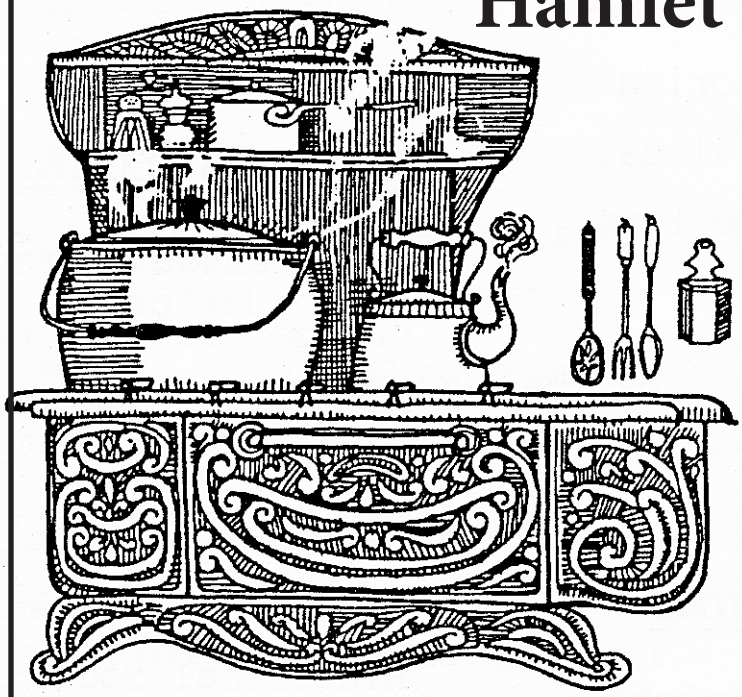
John Bourisseau, Editor | January, 2014 | Ron Humphrey, Graphics Editor

Soups and Breads Luncheon

Wednesday January 15

12 Noon

Hamlet Atrium



Come join us for great soups and hear

Kevin Horak speak on

"America's Time Capsule: The Mail Order Catalog"

Call Ann Goss 247-6319 and tell her what kind of soup you will be bringing.
If you are not contributing food for the luncheon, please bring canned food donations.

Welcome New Members

Patricia Cooper
Dan Groth
Justin Herdman
Elizabeth Hijar
Mary Alice Horner
Sandra Bean Milton
Robert Norwick
Rita Owen
Robert Page
Don Raker

Condolences to

the family of Bonnie Kolberg-Nagy, daughter of Ed Kolberg

and

to the family of Alice Taylor Mother of Lynn Taylor Arnold

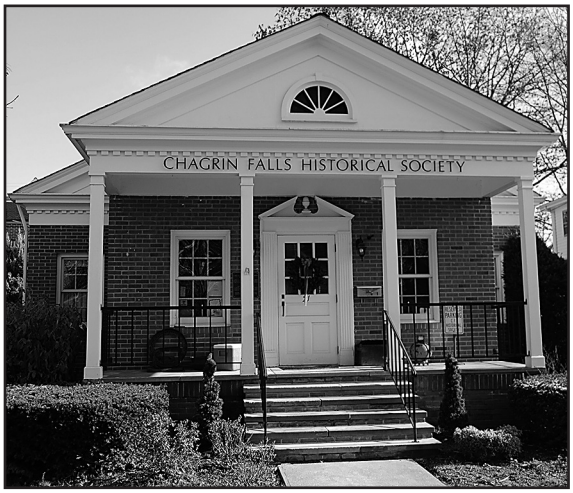
JANUARY SOUPS AND BREADS

Once again Hamlet Atrium will be housing our Soups and Breads luncheon on January 15. The program will feature Kevin Horak, speaking on "America's Time Capsule: The Mail Order Catalog." A former retailer and teacher, Kevin has been a minister at The Church in Aurora for 30 years. His talk will explore the rise and fall of the printed American retail catalog, specifically Montgomery Ward and Sears & Roebuck. In addition to a fascinating story, there will be a display of almost 40 catalogs spanning over 130 years.

Setup will begin at 11:30 a.m.. We will have lunch at noon and the program will immediately follow. Please call Ann Goss at 247-6319 to let her know what kind of soup you will be bringing.

Remember to bring your soup bowls.

Program Chair Ann Burr



THOUGHTS FOR THE NEW YEAR

2014 is likely to be a pivotal year for the Chagrin Falls Historical Society. I have written frequently about our Strategic Planning. While not completed, the process has helped us to focus intensely on our present status and our future needs. Our facilitator, Andy Verhoff from the Ohio Historical Society, would invariably remark at every session he led something to the effect "you know you have to move"

For years we have discussed our needs, lack of space, inaccessibility for handicapped--and so on and so on. We have to find new space--irregardless of the status of the Shute Building.

We have looked at a variety of properties in the Village and have had discussions with Realtors and owners of rental property to try and understand what our options might be.

A few years ago we talked about the Sears-Adams home--which was subsequently deemed beyond our financial capabilities. Then we entered into active negotiations for a nearby building. We were looking at a purchase price around $320,000, with the knowledge that we might have another $300,000 to $400,000 in upgrades and renovations before the building could be used. When we couldn't come to agreement with the owner on a purchase price, negotiations broke down and the building has since been purchased and renovated.

Over the years, we have also discussed renovating the Shute building. But it didn't seem to make any sense to sink a large sum of money into a building that we didn't own with no guarantee that we would be able to stay there for the foreseeable future. Recently, we have been made aware that the Police Department has plans to begin using the basement of the Shute Building for lockers. While we have not yet received anything in writing, it would seem that this will happen sometime over the Summer. It is probable that we will have to move and store much of what we have in that space. We hope to have some clarity on the timeline by the next newsletter.

As you read this newsletter, we are in active discussions regarding another property in the Village. By almost everyones assessment--it would be a good fit for the Historical Society. But can we afford it? How can we maintain it in the future? In order to try and answer these questions, we are doing a number of things.

We are having the building assessed by an architect. We have provided him with basic

information about how the building will be used, space allocation, accessibility, meeting space etc. He will come back to us with some ideas and costs so that we can have some type of reasonable cost estimates for renovation.

What are the costs involved in moving? We will get estimates from at least 2 moving companies so that we have a reasonable idea of the actual costs involved in moving.

What can we expect from the Village in the future? For almost 50 years the Society has benefitted from the Shute bequest to the Village. The Village has paid for almost all utilities and maintenance during this period. The basement of the Shute Building has been utilized as a public space for meetings operated and controlled by the Village while the upstairs and attic have been operated by the Historical Society. If we can continue to offer the Village a public space for meetings and community activities can they continue to provide us with some level of financial support?

We plan to have discussions with Village officials within the next month regarding our future.

Personally, I would like to thank all of those members of the board who have actively participated in our discussions. The Society is fortunate to have so many dedicated members who are willing to give of their time.

John Bourisseau

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

Though the weather outside was frightful, our Christmas Open House was just delightful. Saturday, December 14, saw snow falling by the inch making roads slippery and driving a challenge, yet between 50 and 60 brave souls ventured out for this year's Christmas gathering. The atmosphere was festive, the food and drink delicious and the music of harpist Gina Mulh was a splendid addition to our holiday celebration.

Huge thank you's to the Open House Committee for their setup, baking, serving and cleanup and to the Decorating Committee for making the museum look so beautiful. Thank you to Kris Tesar and her singers for carolling through town advertising our event once again. To John Bourisseau and Don Barriball, thank you for manning the book selling table and greeting all who entered--and thank you to Frank Kanzinger for keeping the walkway clear of snow. To all who attended, thank you for supporting the historical society. We hope your holidays were merry and that 2014 is a great year for us all.

Program Chair Ann Burr



Toy display designed by Frank Kanzinger



Chagrin Gifts



Christmas in the Parlor

Curators Corner

Overview Calendar

January	**7**	**Chagrin Falls Historical Society Board Meeting, Shute Building, 9:30 a.m. (note change of date)**
	13	**Publication Committee Meeting, Shute Building, Noon**
	15	**Plaque Committee Meeting, Shute Bldg, 10 am**
	15	**Soups and Breads Luncheon, Hamlet Hills Atrium lunch 12 noon, with speaker to follow. Kevin Horak "Time Capsule: Mail Order Catalogs"**
	16	**Arts Roundtable, Shute Bldge, 7:30 am**

Many Thanks to Our Volunteers

Thank you to all of our volunteers who "decked the halls" of the museum in the "Holiday Spirit". It looked very festive and we received many compliments at our "Victorian Open House" (If you missed the December event the displays will be in place through January 30th) Thank you to those who welcomed our visitors. Some special awards are in order. To Frank Kanzinger goes the SNOWMAN award, as he kept our entrance way clear of snow and sidewalk shoveled throughout the afternoon. And to Kris Tesar and her group of carolers goes the SONGBIRDS award. They caroled across town and invited people to visit the museum open house. THANK YOU ALL for your help!

Accessions with a Chagrin Falls Connection

The following soft-backed books by Chagrin Falls authors were received: *REAL CHAGRINITES DON'T STAND IN LINE AT THE POPCORNSHOP* by Joan Brandon and Barbara Christian, illustrated by Joan Kerber, 1st Ed. 1983; *DOWN THE RIVER ROAD-TOURING THE CHAGRIN VALLEY*, words by Martha Towns, photographs by Ron Humphrey, 1981 A VHS of the movie *THE GATHERING* was also received.

Donor-- Jim Murley

Four individual photographs of Chagrin Falls High School class of 1931, taken by Chagrin Falls "Robinson Studios" were received.

Donor-- Stu Mathews

A 1950's "prom bag" (purse) circular in shape with pearl design and pearl handles, a reticular (purse) in silk lace and embroidery, circa 1890's and a delicate pair of embroidered white kid gloves were received. They all had belonged to members of Ann Goss's family.

Donor--AnnGoss

Happy New Year to All!!

Pat Zalba, Volunteer Curator