C H A G R I N F A L L S

Exponent

The Monthly Newsletter of the Chagrin Falls Historical Society

440-247-4695 www.chagrinhistorical.org 'like' us on Facebook

John Bourisseau, Editor Nov/Dec 2015



Christmas Past Open House

Saturday, December 12, 2015 • 2-4 PM

Cookies, hors d'oeuvres, eggnog and other treats. Come visit our new location and add a delightful afternoon to your Christmas celebrations. Our carolers will once again sing and stroll through the Village. *Join us!*

** *Please park at the adjacent Intermediate School Parking lot.*



87 East Washington Street
Chagrin Falls, OH 44022
www.chagrinhistorical.org • 440-247-4695

Bakers needed for Christmas Open House

With all of the attention the Historical Society has gotten recently we are expecting a large number of visitors for our open house on Saturday, December 12. Anyone who would like to bake Christmas cookies or make tea sandwiches would be most welcome. There will be a cooler outside the main entrance (side) door on Thursday, December 10 and Friday, December 11 where you can leave your cookies. If you're bringing tea sandwiches, please bring them Saturday morning. Contact **Pat Zalba**, 440-247-5209 or **Patti Widmar**, 216 409-1455, pwidmar@roadrunner.com, to let them know what you're bringing. Thank you!

Campaign Update

In the next few weeks you will receive a solicitation letter for our Capital Campaign/Annual Fund drive. Please give thoughtful consideration to your gift for your Historical Society. As you can tell from the barometer on the right, we started off strong, but have slowed down.



Your gift will allow the Society to move closer to completing our goals of conserving and restoring our collections, creating interesting and informative exhibits utilizing modern technologies, and paying off our mortgage—among other things.

There are still a number of naming opportunities available, or perhaps you would like to 'honor' someone with a gift, or give a gift in memory of a close friend or loved one.

Sustainability will be one of the most important questions that donors will have going forward. We no longer receive any support from the Village and will totally depend on our membership's generosity, grants and bequests.

The Chagrin Falls Historical Society has a bright future, but how bright it will be will depend on each of you.

John Bourisseau

October Activities

October was a very busy month at your Historical Society, and is the reason that our newsletters are falling a bit behind schedule. The '87' Club fund raiser was a huge success! Once again people thoroughly enjoyed themselves and the event was viewed by many as the party of the year. Many thanks to **Anne Burr** and **Ashley Henry** for all of their help in making it a huge sucess. See Anne's article.

Our Ribbon Cutting and Open House were a huge success! Over 150 people came through the museum and a number became new members. Speaking of new members, take a look at all who have joined on page 4. Expanding the membership is an important objective of the Society. Please don't forget to renew your membership. If you are unsure about renewal—call membership chair **Jo Roeder** at 247-7102, or **Jane Babinsky** at 440-247-4695.

Our Potluck was also very successful, and the food was great! Thanks to all for sharing such good food. I think everyone enjoyed the evening, and I know most went home with a full stomach!

The final event in October was the Ghost Hunt. On Halloween, 22 people spent the evening at the museum. A great time was had, and many who attended experienced something unexplainable—and some captured images on their camera or video. This will most likely become an annual event.

John Bourisseau



Ray & Kathy Kolkaba
enjoy the '87' Club

Thank you Sponsors!!

Our Sponsors are critical to the success of your Historical Society. Please support their businesses and thank them for their support.

Legacy

Ted and Michelle McQuade
The Chagrin Valley Times
Hemlock Landscapes, Inc.

Heritage

Cowan's Auctions
Hamlet Village
Elizabeth Juliano
Phil Koepf, Architect
Dwight & Mary Milko, RE/MAX Traditions
Timan Custom Window Treatments, Inc
Polcar, Brahler, Heil, Belden of Wells Fargo Advisors

Curator

Scott and Steven Balogh
Jan Evans, Evans Printing
AquaDoc
Tod & Susan White

Docent

Anonymous
John and Mary Bourisseau
Bill and Gretchen Hamann
Myers Precision Grinding, Inc
Todd & Jodi Lyle
Cliff & Diana Nazelli
John & Margi O'Brien
Carolyn and Herbert Sihler, Jr.

Historian

Door to Door Solutions, etc.
Paddock Group
Ray and Kathy Kolcaba
Michael J. Perry

Education Committee

The Education Committee for grades K-6 met in November for the first time. The committee consists of four retired teachers and two third grade teachers currently teaching. We were able to give direction and begin to plan our third grade lesson. We don't want to teach anything the current teachers are teaching, we want to add content to their lessons that maybe they couldn't do but we can. For example they asked for examples of objects that Chagrin Falls manufactured during our identified time period. We can pick from our collection to add to their lessons. We also will focus our lesson on the child and what their life was like in the 1900 - 1920s.

The second part of what we are doing is to begin to collect artifacts, photos, books and ideas to leave with the students. We will write a guide of how to use these items in the "education trunk" to enhance their History Core.

We are gathering information on the identified time period and will meet with our photo archivist, **Zo Sykora**, for our next meeting. I will be speaking with the Principal of the Intermediate School to begin the groundwork for fourth grade.

Gretchen Hamann, Committee Chair

Constitution and Bylaws

One of the next major tasks we have as an organization is to update our organizational documents to better meet the needs of the Historical Society. Since the constitution was last updated in 2009, the Society has gone through major changes and the document no longer meets our needs. This first became apparent when we engaged in strategic planning and the limitations of the document have become more critical as we have moved through the fund raising process.

Laura Gorretta has put in a great deal of time reviewing our present constitution and her work has been turned over to members **Bill Tomko, Bill O'Neill** and **Adam Henry.** They will work on developing a document that can be presented to the Executive Committee within the next 4-6 weeks. Once the document is approved by the Executive Committee it will be distributed to the membership for ratification.

John Bourisseau

Where there is a Will, there is a way!

Planned giving is important to the future of the Historical Society. Your gift can make a large impact and help us to achieve our goals. Please talk to your financial advisor, or contact **Laura Gorretta** to discuss how you can be a permanent part of our future.

Evening at The '87' Club a *Roaring* Success

For the second year in a row, the Event Committee has put on an entertaining and financially successful event. This year's 'An Evening at The '87' Club, saw nearly 200 people, most in 1920s attire, enjoy the many period details that made the evening special.

A prescription for 'medicinal alcohol', 100 'clams' for gambling, and a glass of sparkling wine at registration were only the beginning. At Bright's Drugstore, guests with a prescription had pharmacists Tom Bright, aka **Mick McGuire** of Grove Hill Restaurant, and Orrin Frazer, aka **Adam Henry**, working nonstop to serve their Ohio Bee's Knees Signature Cocktail.

The fun continued all night with the Get Hep Swing Dancers performing a mean Charleston and Federal Agent **Tim Gardner** raiding the joint. **Ken Kvacek** and **Frank** and **Kim Kanzinger** were arrested. **Pat Zalba** (who was home ill) was declared 'on the lam' and charged with 'Harboring History'.

There were wonderful decorations and artfully displayed historical collections, fabulous food by Kater to You, fun music by Buzz Cronquist Musicians, great silent auction items, delicious appetizers by **Patti and Jeff Widmar**, awesome wines in the wine pull, and so much more.

Thank you to the Event Committee and all of the many volunteers who worked to make this evening such a success. Together we raised nearly $60,000!

Congratulations and thank you!

Anne Burr





Pat Zalba, Curator

Curator's Corner

Overview Calendar

December

4 Chagrin Falls Dad's Club Poker Night

8 Chagrin Falls Historical Society Board Meeting, 87 E. Washington, 9:30 am. Bo Burr Community Room

8 American Legion Meeting 7:30 pm in the Bo Burr Community Room

11 2nd Grade Brownies Program and Tour of the Museum.

12 Christmas Past Open House. Everyone Welcome! 2:00-4:00 pm

Welcome to New Members

Alexander's Estates
Chris & Carl Brondel
Terry Blair
Rose Pospisil
Salvador & Kathleen Esposito
Lynn Kovach
Cynthia & Joseph Murphy
Nicole Paolozzi & Nick Bush
James McWeeney
Corinne Reid
Donna Krohn
Reed Walters & Mary Echle
Lynn & Matt Lofton
Joseph Vishey
Doris Smith
Rob & Becky Thomas
Marilyn Lavalette
Dewey Forward
William & Anna Braun
Bill Bowers
Phil Barrows
Joyce Poplar
Linda Henry
Bill O'Neill
Kathy Mayhew
Beth Donfro
Linnea Rostek

THANK YOU, TOO! Thank you to **Jan Evans** and **Mariann Kvacek** for helping with the September 18th Safe Routes Scavenger Hunt for Historic Sites. I'm sorry I left you off the list earlier.

Accessions with a Chagrin Falls Connection:

Handwritten papers pertaining to the sale of Locust Grove Farm. The papers mention the Kent, Harper, Didham and Walters families.

Two photographs: Milton Beattie and Revl Beattie

Donor Lucy Beattie

Large framed under glass, 15 photographs of an earlier Chagrin Falls

Donor Tom Burns

1993-1994 maps of the Chagrin Falls and South Russell sewer system and many Chagrin Falls photographs

Donor Terry Blair

An Ober "stand" (trivet)

Donor Jenny Hogan

Oversize photo, black and white, of buildings along Bell Street. It is a river bank view showing the back of the buildings on "Mechanics Row".

Donor Jan Evans

An Aerial view photograph of the Village, c 1950

Donor Carolyn & Herb Sihler

Happy Holidays to all!!

Pat Zalba

Condolences to
Ed Kolberg
on the passing of his daughter
Julie



Condolences to
Kathy Kolcaba
on the passing of her mother
Gladys Arnold

NEW PHOTOS FOR OUR COLLECTION

Jane Babinsky has donated a large collection of glass plate photograph negatives and early cellulose film negatives taken by Austin Church from about 1888-1910. Looking through them as we prepare them for processing has been exciting. While the glass plate collection includes many photos of family members, including many of Miriam Church as a baby, the collection also includes images of the Bullard dam and mill, the fairgrounds, the interurban accident in August of 1900, the People's Christian Church, prize cows and geese, Main Street, and unidentified people. Austin also photographed some of Henry Church, Jr.'s paintings, including one of a reclining nude!!

The cellulose film negatives were taken on a Kodak #1 Camera which was a "bullseye" camera which took circular images. This camera, developed by George Eastman in 1888, was advertised with the slogan "You push the button, we do the rest." It was like the disposable cameras so popular in the 1980s. You took 100 photos then you mailed the camera back to Eastman's. They developed and printed your photographs and mailed them back to you along with your camera reloaded with film. Austin Church decided to develop the film in his Kodak #1 himself. We now have the negatives and Jane is searching her collections at home to determine whether Austin actually printed these photos.

These old film negatives require rather special care and they have suffered from being stored in an attic for over 100 years. We hope to find a grant or donor to assist us in the preservation of these images.

Zo Sykora



Austin H Church Glass plate negative
Exponent Office, Phoenix Block



Curator, Pat Zalba, and Assistant Curator Sally Hawkins present a Chagrin history program for a Girl Scout Troop

FALL CONSORTIUM MEETING

The Solon Historical Society hosted the annual fall Consortium Meeting on November 14th. **Pat Zalba, Jo Roeder** and I attended. Solon's President, Bob Shimits, and other Solon Historical Society members provided the group with breakfast goodies and coffee. We also had a chance to tour Solon's museum. Members from historical societies from Aurora, Bainbridge, Beachwood, Chesterland, Chagrin Falls, Mayfield Village, Moreland Hills and Russell were in attendance. Members shared ideas for fund raising, attracting new and younger members, program meetings, and education programs for third graders. It is always nice to have a chance to talk to other societies' volunteers and officers. We will be hosting the Spring 2016 Consortium Meeting and we look forward to showing off our beautiful new facility.

Zo Sykora



Mary Bourisseau, Meg King & Sally Hawkins at the '87' Club

October was a Great Month!



KC Henry, Jim & Joan Brosius



Tom Florkiewicz



Steve & Meg King

’87’ Club



Kim & Frank Kanzinger, Anne Burr and Gretchen & Bill Hamann cutting the ribbon



Representative Marlene Anielski presenting a commendation to the Historical Society

Open House



Ed Shields getting some vittles at the Pot Luck



Ed Shields, Pris Hoag and Jack Bennett enjoy good food and good company

Pot Luck