



Chagrin Falls Exponent

Chagrin Falls Historical Society 21 Walnut St. Shute Memorial Building
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John Bourisseau, Editor

June, 2013

Ron Humphrey, Graphics Editor

The Year in Review

This has been another dynamic year for the Historical Society. There are many people to thank--and I know I will miss someone.

First I would like to thank all those from the membership and community who participated in the initial session of our strategic planning. The ideas and concepts generated are driving our work. The strategic planning team of Pat Zalba, Anne Burr, Gretchen & Bill Hamann, Bruce Adler, Jo Roeder, Zo Sykora, Carolyn Sihler, Laura Gorretta and myself have put in many hours, and will continue to do so, in order to develop a plan to map out the future of the Society. We will be meeting throughout the summer and hope to have a plan ready during the fall.

Thank you to Anne Burr and Tim Scott, our program committee. Once again they put together a year of interesting and informative programs and bus trips.

This year we resurrected 2 committees that will play an important role in the future of the Society. The Publications Committee, chaired by Laura Gorretta includes Jane Babinsky, Sheila Best, Don Barriball, Zo Sykora, Cynthia Reese, Tom Mattern, John Bourisseau and Pat Zalba as an ex-officio member. Thanks in large part to Don Barriball and Ron Humphrey, our publications continue to set the bar for excellence in documenting the history of Chagrin and we are getting ready to reprint the Chagrin Falls history book.

The Plaque Committee, chaired by Beth Skeel includes Gloria Beaven, Gini Fast, Phyllis Ekelman, Ray and Kathy Kolcaba, Michelle McQuade and John Bourisseau as an ex-officio member. The committee has spent many hours reviewing guidelines and developing language that will re-vitalize the program. It is hoped that the board will approve the program at our June board meeting.

Thank you to Zo Sykora for all that she does to train volunteers on the intricacies of our Past Perfect computer program. Zo is a good teacher, and her work has led the expansion of our computerized data base.

A special thank you to our volunteer curator Pat Zalba for all that she does to coordinate the activities of the museum. Pat thanks many of our 'regulars' in her article, but it is important to note that she is the one who makes it all happen.

We hope you have a great summer!

John Bourisseau

STRATEGIC PLANNING

We continue to meet with Andy Verhoff from the Ohio Historical Society to develop our strategic plan.

We have revised our mission statement to say--
The Chagrin Falls Historical Society discovers, preserves, and shares evidence of and knowledge about the history of Chagrin Falls and vicinity. The Society does this to enable all who live, work and visit the area to appreciate its past, understand the present, and plan for the future.

Our new Vision Statement says--

The Chagrin Falls Historical Society will inform and influence deliberations of residents and community leaders so that all will make decisions respectful of the community's history.

The six goals that we have identified are

1 The Chagrin Falls Historical Society will secure the physical space, equipment, and materials needed to achieve its mission both now and into the future.

2 The Chagrin Falls Historical Society will secure and responsibly manage the funding and resources needed to sustain its mission.

3 The Chagrin Falls Historical Society will expand membership and develop and support its current and next generation of leaders and volunteers.

4 The Chagrin Falls Historical Society will determine its audience, provide appropriate programs for those audiences and encourage them to participate.

5 The Chagrin Falls Historical Society will continue to develop relationships with other community organizations to achieve the mission and vision of the Society.

6 The Chagrin Falls Historical Society will become an even better steward of the historical collections entrusted to it.

This past Tuesday we worked with Andy to begin the process of identifying specific objectives and tasks associated with each of

these goals. We are making good progress. As we begin to formulate the specific tasks there will be many opportunities for you--and others to get involved.

Our next session will be June 11 and the team plans to work through the summer. It is hoped that we will have our plan fully developed and approved by the board sometime in the Fall.

John Bourisseau

Condolences
to
the families of
Davis Caldwell
and
Dona Shanklin



Left to Right: Bob Royer, Kyle Weber, Ana Federman, Katie Collins and Arlene Moore.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNERS

The Historical Society awarded three \$1500 scholarships again this year to Chagrin Falls High School Seniors. The Scrap Zalba scholarship was awarded to Katie Collins who will be attending the University of Florida next year. The other scholarships were awarded to Kyle Weber, who will be attending Bates College in Lewiston, Maine and to Anna Federman. The Scholarship Committee of Bob Royer, Kate Adler and Arline Moore met numerous times to determine the award winners.

STAN HYWET HOME AND GARDEN TOUR

Twenty-seven Society members and friends enjoyed the trip to Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens earlier this month. We were divided into 2 groups and started our tour. While threatened at time; by rain, the tour of the magnificent gardens was both enjoyable and interesting. Touring the home took us all

back to a time of Victorian splendor. It was interesting to see all of the innovations throughout the home. We followed our tour with a pleasant lunch at East Side Mo's. Thanks again to Tim Scott and Anne Burr for all of their work in organizing this trip.

WE ARE SO LUCKY

Stashed away in our family archives are a very few items which belonged to our great grandparents - the odd watch or ring or book. Jane Babinsky is luckier and her luck became the Society's good fortune recently. Jane located 4 beautiful wooden boxes filled with glass plate photograph negatives in her attic. These photographs were taken by her great grandfather, Austin H. Church. Austin was born in 1869 and died in 1929 and was the son of Henry Church, Jr., Jane's great-great grandfather. Many of these images have never been seen by Society members and are a wonderful addition to our photograph collection. Jane and I have been kidded about our excitement as we have carefully gone through the plates, placed them in archival sleeves, numbered them, and have begun to scan them. The 170 images date from 1898 to about 1910 and include Church family members, Chagrin

houses and businesses and buildings in Orange Township, Solon and Twinsburg. Although a few of the slides have deteriorated over time, many are absolutely amazing and vibrant photographs. Marge Ingalls, Betty Runge, Ann Goss and Beth VanLente are assisting in getting these plates ready for scanning and Don Barriball is helping identify buildings and locations. He walked Evergreen Cemetery early this month to locate cemetery monuments which appear in one image. Thanks to Jane and all the Society volunteers who are helping bring this amazing collection of photographs to life.

I have chosen 2 images to share: one is of the Adams Bag Company taken around 1900 and the other is of Clint Eggleston's house also taken around 1900. This house is also known as the Sears-Adams-Windsor property at 115 East Summit Street. One hundred and thirteen years later both of these properties are about to enjoy a new life. Renovation of the Eggleston House is almost complete and it will welcome a new family very soon. Renovation of the Adams Bag Company, now owned by Spillway, Inc. will commence this summer.

Zo Sykora



Adams Bag Factory circa 1890.

Curators Corner

Overview Calendar

- June 4 Chagrin Falls Historical Society Board Meeting, Shute Building, 9:30 am.
(note date change)
- 11 Strategic Planning, Shute Bldg 1-4 pm

The museum will continue to be open on Thursdays from 2:00-4:00 pm, and by appointment throughout the summer.

THANK YOU ONE AND ALL

Thank you to our Chagrin Falls High School Senior, Jonathan Bourisseau, for all of his good work at the Historical Society while fulfilling his requirements for his senior project.

Thanks to the Village Service Department for their continued lawn and garden up-keep throughout the spring, summer and fall months.

Thank you to all of the Thursday "old faithfuls"--volunteers Cynthia Reese, Lucy Beattie, Jo Roeder, Arline Moore, Gretchen Hamann, Marge Ingalls, Don Barriball, Gini Fast, Bruce Adler, John Dagil, John Bourisseau, Zo Sykora--and our newest members and volunteers Frank & Kim Kanzinger.

Accessions with a Chagrin Falls Connection

We received 170 Glass Plate Negatives of photographs taken by Austin H. Church, circa 1890's. Please see related article in this issue by Zo Sykora.

(Donor- Jane Babinsky)

We received "The Treasurer's Book of the Famous Chagrin Falls Cornet Band" (by) W. S. Gates, 1888-1898. The treasurer's book by its listings of expenditures, members, names and locations of where they played tells us a story of earlier times. The band traveled to nearby areas to take part in "lawn fetes", concerts, picnics and parades. Their expenditures included uniforms, sheet music, horse feed and repairs of the band wagon--to name a few. Many of the little towns in our area had a town band and there were many competitive musical events held to determine the best group. Our BANDSTAND was built for the Chagrin Falls Cornet Band, in 1877, to present their musical events. So when you attend a concert in the park this summer you will be carrying on a long held Chagrin Falls Tradition.

(Donor--Jean Fugman)



Have a wonderful Summer!!

Pat Zalba

Volunteer Curator