



Exponent

The Monthly Newsletter of the Chagrin Falls Historical Society

John Bourisseau, Editor

January 2015

Soups and Breads Luncheon

Wednesday January 21st

12 Noon

Hamlet Atrium

Condolences
to the families of
Margaret "Maggie"
Batchelor
and Jane Harris

Support Our Special Event Sponsors

Curator

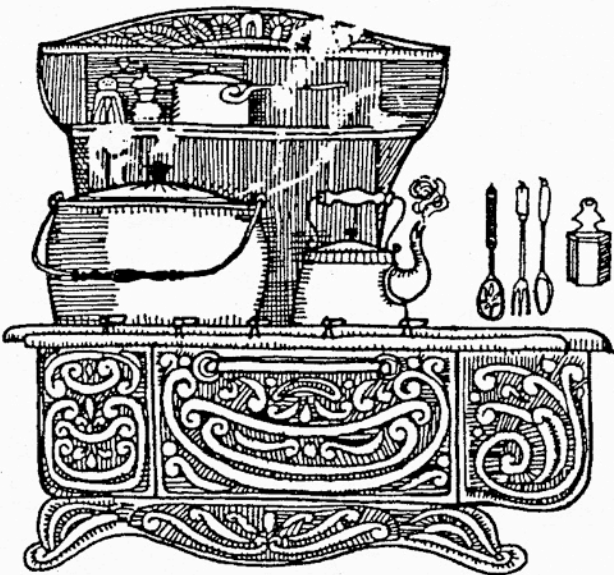
The Chagrin Valley Times
Hamlet Retirement Village
Michelle and Ted McQuade
Dwight Milko, RE/MAX Traditions

Docent

Diana Weber Gardner
Mike & Connie Gleason
The Glenmede Trust Co.
Drs. Raymond and Katharine
Kolcaba
Myers Precision Grinding
Naylor Wellman, LLC
The Ohio Valley Group, Inc

Historian

John and Mary Bourisseau
Gregg Hill & Carol Dolan
Chagrin Valley Optometrists
Earth & Waterscapes, Inc/Blazin Bills
Highway Auto Center
John & Margi O'Brien
Palmieri Builders, Inc.
Steve and Sara Schneider,
Schneiders Saddlery
Carolyn and Herbert Sihler, Jr.



Come join us
for great soups!

and hear
Mike Fath

Mike Fath is a trustee for the South Newbury
Union Chapel

Call or email **Patti Widmar** 216-409-1455,
pwidmar@roadrunner.com and tell her what type of soup
or bread that you will be bringing. If you are not bringing
food, please bring canned goods for donation to the food
pantry.



Singing Carols at the Open House

Victorian Christmas

By all accounts, this year's Victorian Christmas Open House was a wonderful affair. More than eighty members and friends dropped by to say "Merry Christmas!" and partake of the delicious array of homemade treats. The museum was beautifully decorated and harpist Gina Mulh's music filled the air with the sounds of Christmas. Member Kris Tesar, with the Glee Singers, roamed the streets of Chagrin caroling, and encouraging folks to drop by. The Carolers came back to the museum to lead us in a few carols. It was great fun and a lovely way to start the holiday season.

Thank you to the Decorating and Program Committees, friends, bakers, and singers for making this event so special.

Anne Burr



The Museum beautifully decorated for the Victorian Open House

Books Selling Well

The new Edition of *Chagrin Falls an Ohio Village History* is selling well at Fireside Book Shop, at the Museum and online.

Laura Gorretta will be signing the new book at South Franklin Circle on January 22nd, and at Hamlet Retirement Community on the 28th.



L-R Jane Babinsky, Janice Hill and Ken Kvacek show off their Christmas sweaters at the Victorian Christmas Open House

Fund Raising Update

Our Fundraising goal is to raise a total of 2 million dollars over a period of three years. We are pleased to announce that through donations and pledges-- ***we are half way there!***

We have 100% participation from our board and have begun to create more of a fundraising culture within the organization.

Achieving our fundraising goals will allow us to restore/renovate the historic Ober House, pay off our mortgage and have 3 years of operating expenses. We will expand programs and be open at least 20 hours per week.

We need **your** participation to be successful. There are many naming opportunities still available. If you would like to meet with someone from our core team to discuss your contribution to the future of the Historical Society, you can contact John Bourisseau at jbouresseau@gmail.com or call 440-821-3630.

We hope you would also consider planned giving. Contact your financial advisor, or you can contact Laura Gorretta at 440-247-5585.

Construction Update

The deconstruction of the building is almost complete and the framing for the interior restoration is well underway. The rough plumbing for the bathrooms has been inspected and approved, as has the framing for the elevator shaft.



Looking down the elevator shaft

We have put a total of seven steel beams in the building. Four beams were necessary in the basement, with three additional beams supporting the 2nd floor.



New steel beams in the basement

The drainage along both sides of the house has been completed and back filled. A sump pump was installed in the basement that feeds into the outside drainage system. We are hoping for a totally dry basement.

The new addition, that will be part of the Lawrence J. 'Bo' Burr Community Room and Gallery has been completed. All aluminum siding has been removed from the exterior and

preparations are underway for the new siding to be attached.



rear of building with new addition

Once the new beams were in and leveled, we began jacking up the floors to even them out. As expected, jacking up the floors had the consequence of cracking and breaking some of the plaster upstairs.



Damaged caused to the plaster walls when the floors were leveled.

It is exciting to watch this building being transformed. We continue to focus on the restoration of the original building, while reconstructing and refurbishing the newer areas.

John Bourisseau

If you have questions or are aware of suppliers who are willing to support the project with donated or reduced cost materials and services please contact John or Ken at 216-570-9136.

Ken Kvacek

Curators Corner



Pat Zalba

Volunteer Curator

Overview Calendar

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| January | 6 | Design Committee meets, Shute Building, 4 pm |
| | 13 | Chagrin Falls Historical Society Board Meeting, Shute Building, 9:30 am |
| | 21 | Century Plaque Committee, Shute Building, 10 am
and "Soups and Breads Luncheon" <u>Hamlet Atrium</u>
Set-up 11:30 am, Lunch at noon, program to follow.
Speaker, Mike Fath, Trustee of the South Newbury Union Chapel |
| | 22 | Book Signing with Laura Gorretta and John Bourisseau at South Franklin Circle 5 pm |
| | 28 | Book Signing with Laura Gorretta and John Bourisseau at Hamlet Retirement Village |

Thank You Very Much!

Thank you to the following for "hanging the greens", decorating and cleaning the museum for the holidays: Sally Hawkins, Judy Joseph, Beth Skeel, Karen Hunter, Kim and Frank Kanzinger, Gretchen and Bill Hamann, John Bourisseau, Kathy Conn, Karen Johns, Anne Burr, Jane Babinsky and Zo Sykora. We seem to be getting more efficient each year.

Accessions with a Chagrin Falls connection:

I want to tell you more about some interesting accessions that we have received over the past few months. The first item continues to be a bit of a mystery. John Bourisseau found a 'something' while digging on his property. It is about 4 feet long, made of forged metal and quite rusty. The closest idea that we think makes sense is that it is a trap of some sort. Come take a look at it. Maybe you'll solve the mystery. Other items were found by Ken Kvacek in the Chagrin River at various sites. They include a section of a water wheel once used by a Chagrin Mill, and two graphite molds also thought to be from a Chagrin Mill. Last but not least are 5 items found at our new Historical Society home at 87 East Washington St. They are an old hat rack, a wooden picture frame, a wooden 'stir' for making applebutter, a sharpening stone and part of a wooden sign. We will have them on display at some time in the future.

Happy New Year to all!

Pat Zalba

Volunteer Curator

