



# Exponent

*The Monthly Newsletter of the Chagrin Falls Historical Society*

*John Bourisseau, Editor*

*March 2015*

Chagrin Falls  
Historical  
Society



*Join the Campaign*

For Yesterday ♦ Today ♦ Tomorrow

## March 19 Program to be held at Chagrin Falls Library

7:00-8:45 p.m. Main Floor Meeting Room  
Parking: Valley Lutheran Church, *lower level*

When you come to hear author Sam Thomas speak on "Midwives, Witches and the Devil's Familiars", you will learn the fascinating story of witches and witchcraft in 17th Century England and the role midwives played in detecting and prosecuting them. Thomas holds a Ph.D in History with a focus on Reformation England. He has published three books in his Midwife Mystery Series which is based on the real life of midwife, Bridget Hodgson, born in England sometime between 1610 and 1620. Thomas became interested in Bridget when he discovered her will while conducting research in York, England. With Bridget as the central character, he has created historically accurate and fascinating reads. For more information on this speaker go to [www.samthomasbooks.com](http://www.samthomasbooks.com).

Books will be available for purchase and autographing.

Please contact Hospitality Chair Patti Widmar at [pwidmar@roadrunner.com](mailto:pwidmar@roadrunner.com) or 216-409-1455, if you can bring cookies for this program.

Anne Burr



1 Million

Condolences

to the Family of

**Renon M. Hoge**

Father of

**Wendy Hoge Naylor**

## Support Our Special Event Sponsors

### Curator

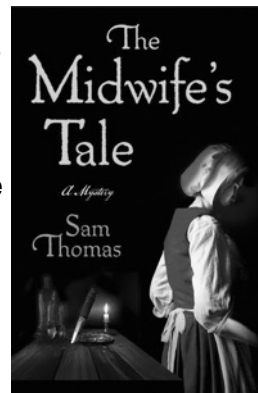
The Chagrin Valley Times  
Hamlet Retirement Village  
Michelle and Ted McQuade  
Dwight Milko, RE/MAX Traditions

### 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.



## Welcome New Members

Jan Carlson  
Patricia Cresap  
Cathryn Murphy  
Robert Stratton

We are thankful for all the new members this year! Look for a special welcome for our new members in the next few months.

*John Bourisseau*

## Sno Way it's been 4 months since the Gala!

We have not gotten much done on the outside of our new home of the Historical Society's Museum at 87 East Washington but we have made great strides towards completion inside out of the cold. Who would have guessed that we have been blessed with the coldest month in Cleveland history? Despite the cold we have really seen a tremendous amount of progress!

### Here's the update:

All of the rough in work has been completed for the electric and plumbing. The entire building has been insulated top to bottom which makes it much warmer for our workers.

The heating and air conditioning duct work for the 3 recently installed furnaces are complete and we look forward to getting them up and running when the final cleaning has been performed. You would not believe the amount of dust that has accumulated in 140 years and during the construction process.

Carpentry is completed and the entire second floor is dry walled awaiting primer and paint. The first floor drywall is nearly completed and we have begun to install doors and trim.

What's in the Box? We get a lot of questions why there is a large wooden box on the front porch. What's behind the mystery box is the restoration of the old door way and half round transom window that has been custom built to replicate the original double entry doors and window.

The design committee has selected interior colors and floor coverings thanks to the recommendations of **Janna Lutz** and **Ann Thompson**.

The new elevator has been installed and we have passed all of our inspections with flying colors. It's nice to hear compliments from the state inspectors that the quality of the work is well above the norm. This is due to the caring and commitment of the trades and the execution of the designs and daily over sight by our architect **Phil Koepf**. The next time you see Phil thank him for his efforts and passion for the project.

I also want to thank **John and Margi O'Brien** for their generous donation of Corian counter tops, refrigerator, dishwasher, stove top range, microwave, sink, and disposal for the new kitchen adjacent to the community room.

### What's next on the To Do list?

Interior priming and painting, installation of the new windows and doors, installation of the cabinets and trim work including lighting, wood trim, plumbing fixtures.

Weather permitting? Repair and replace exterior siding, gutters, roof on the new addition, painting of the exterior of the building.

*Ken Kvacek*

## Campaign Update

We are entering a new phase in our three year Capital Campaign for **Yesterday--Today--Tomorrow**. In some ways, to make a sports analogy, we are into the 'grind'. So many people in the circle of our organization have been so generous! Meeting the 'silent phase' goal of 1 million dollars is a major accomplishment. Now it is time to expand the circle. In order to accomplish this, our CORE committee will be organizing a number of small events for people who have donated, and for people we hope will want to share our future. These 'events' will include activities like wine & cheese parties at places throughout the Village. We will invite people we believe will support our mission, and each event will include a presentation about some aspect of Chagrin history, or be themed to some annual event. In February, Pat and some members of the CORE team hosted a Valentines Before Hallmark event for 14 people at the Shute Building. A great time was had by all! Our next event will be a wine tasting at Chuck's where John will talk about 'Mechanic's Row'.

*John Bourisseau*



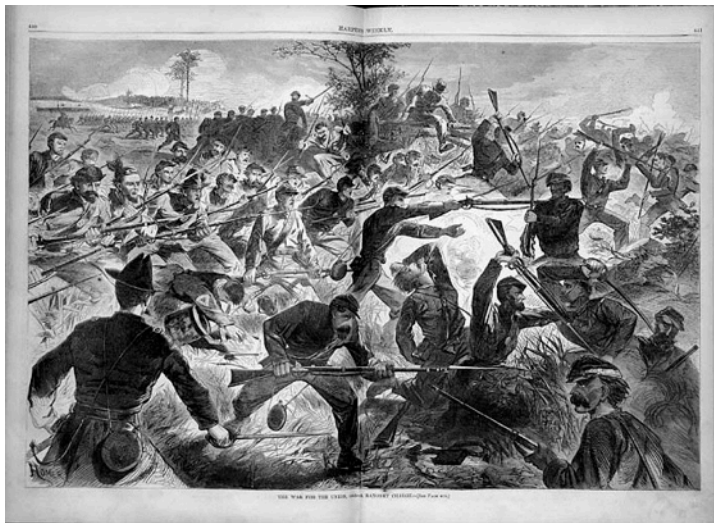
Valentines Before Hallmark

## Guest Column

### PTSD in Civil War Veterans

by Pat Hosmer

April 2015 marks 150 years since the end of our Civil War. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder was identified only about 25 years ago, although it existed to a lesser degree for millennia. It was first known here (by other terms) because this war saw many advances in weaponry inflicting much more dangerous wounds than had been experienced in previous conflicts. In huge battles, the constant roar of cannons and repeating rifles, the famous Rebel yell, the loss of limbs, heads, parts of faces of their friends or suffering themselves had long lasting effects none could have predicted or imagined. Some soldiers deserted, a few were invalided home with shaking or constant weeping. Worst cases were institutionalized, but most suffered through the war trying to control their emotions.



*Illustration from Harper's Weekly*

It was after hostilities ended and peace came, that men went home hoping those problems would go away. It usually did not happen. Younger men were more likely to experience "soldiers heart" (rapid breathing), or digestive disturbances leading to diarrhea which could last for their lifetime. Families noticed sudden unprovoked domestic or public aggression, inability to connect with a world he'd left years before, great stress in most situations, gastrointestinal problems, shaking, hallucinations, mood swings and cardiac problems. At first families tried to help or hide these problems. When the

situation became too difficult, doctors placed them in mental institutions known as insane or lunatic asylums. Thankfully, few remained there life-long. The public saw some suicides (usually by pistol or rifle), called men's depression "melancholy" or "nostalgia," noticed their "being strange," told them roughly to "pull your socks up," or pitied their "soldiers heart."

Some men became wanderers (vagrancy), unable to speak, did not accept jobs or opportunities offered. The worst opted out of society by disappearing forever. At least one or more future generations grew up knowing that grandpa or Uncle Daniel was always strange after his war experience. We shall never know the real number of mental or emotional casualties brought about by victory and defeat in this great American War.

## Board Business

We are trying a new format for our board meetings. There is a lot going on at the Historical Society, and our past Board format has involved committee reports with discussion. What we are trying to do is have people submit their reports the Wednesday before the Board meeting--they are then distributed by email and printed out and available at the museum. Members then have the time to review reports before the meeting. During the meeting members can ask questions about reports or to seek clarification. This process gives individuals an opportunity to consider ahead of time any questions that they might have.

The theory is that we will have more time to delve deeper into the many issues that we are dealing with. Last month we discussed an Education Policy and formation of an Education Committee, and also basic principles that should be part of an accession-deaccession policy. With so much happening, we talked about how to ensure that our communication is effective, particularly between members and the CORE team. (The CORE team is the fundraising arm of the organization).

The Board unanimously approved a resolution stating:

*The Board of the Chagrin Falls Historical Society urges the Chagrin Falls Board of Education to develop and implement an affordable and expedient plan to update school buildings that includes the retention, rehabilitation and renovation of the Intermediate School on Philomethian St. for continued use as a community centered public school in the Chagrin Falls School District.*

John Bourisseau

## Curators Corner



### Overview Calendar

March

CORE Committee (fundraising) and Design Committee are having meetings every 2 weeks. In addition, the Nominating, Accession and Fall Event Committees are meeting at various times. If you are unsure of the date and time of meetings, please contact your chairperson.

- 10 Historical Society Board Meeting, Shute Building, 9:30 a.m.
- 18 Century Plaque Committee, Shute Building 10:00 a.m.
- 19 Evening Program: "Midwives, Witches and the Devils Familiars" Speaker, Historian/Author Sam Thomas. Chagrin Falls Library, 7 pm

Pat Zalba

Volunteer Curator

### Accessions with a Chagrin Falls Connection:

Another item has been added to our "dug up in the back yard" finds! It is a large wagon wheel outer sheaf covering. It was found at 71 S. Franklin Street. Someday we will have a display of all of these items that speak of earlier times in Chagrin Falls.

*(Donor-Rod Chima)*

We received 3 telephone directories. Chagrin Falls 1949 and 1950, Chagrin Falls-Terrace, Dec. 1941

*(Donor-Frank 'Bo' Beaven)*

We have recently received the Eastlake style casement clock that once hung in the Exponent Editor W. Randolph Bailey's office. It was visible from the front window on North Main Street. Thanks to Beth Bailey Skeel for helping with this accession. When the Exponent closed in 1964, Mr. and Mrs. Harry F. Bower, Jr. purchased the clock. Mr. Bower has returned it to its beginnings.

*(Donor-Harry F. Bower, Jr and in Memory of Karen Dooley Bower)*

Happy St. Patricks Day and Welcome **SPRING!**



Pat Zalba



beginning drywall installation

re-crafting front door

elevator shaft

