



Exponent

The Monthly Newsletter of the Chagrin Falls Historical Society

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John Bourisseau, Editor

Jan 2016

Thank you Sponsors!!

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

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Soups and Breads

Wednesday, January 20th

12 Noon

Hamlet Atrium



1.22M



Join us for one of our most popular events of the year!
Hosted by the **Hamlet Retirement Center**, at the Atrium, 200 Hamlet Hills Dr. Come warm your tummy with homemade soup and breads. Following lunch, you will be entertained by the music of Ken Roby and his old time string band.

Set up will be at 11:30, with lunch at noon. If you are bringing a soup or bread, please contact Patti Widmar at 216-409-1455, or pwidmar@roadrunner.com.

If you are not bringing a soup or bread, please bring a canned food donation.

Valet Parking will be available.

Anne Burr

Then And Now: 1963 - 2016

I recently came across a document in our archives which was prepared for the Chagrin Valley Chamber of Commerce in November 1963 titled Chagrin Falls, Ohio Trading Center of the "Hundred Million Dollar Valley." The hundred million referenced the estimated annual income of families in the Valley from the 1960 Census. The average family income in Chagrin Falls was reported as \$7,400. The report offered advice to the Chamber and to the Village of Chagrin Falls on how to take advantage of the enormous wealth and spending power of the local residents. Encouraging exclusive shops, maintaining the area as a select residential area, supporting the schools to attract wealthy parents and continued careful control of the architectural character of the community to conform with traditional Western Reserve atmosphere were the recommendations made to the Chamber.

The mix of stores in the Village was different 53 years ago. There was a Fisher Foods and an A&P and the closest competition was the Heinen's at Lander Circle and a Kroger and A&P in Solon. Now we are all waiting anxiously for Heinen's to open a store in the Village. In 1963 there were 3 drugstores in the Village and Barron's was about to open. Now we have one drugstore. There were 3 hardware stores and now we have one. There were 4 banks then and we have 4 banks now. Then there was one antique store and now Your Home Town Chagrin Falls lists 11 stores under "Arts and Antiques."



Now we have businesses that didn't exist **then**. We have 5 fitness facilities, a cell phone store, a computer store and a pack and ship. We even have a store that sells olive oil. Alas, we no longer have laundromats. We

lost our movie theater but still have the Chagrin Valley Little Theatre.

The report lamented that Chagrin had "no restaurant of any distinction whatever, that attracts any substantial local patronage." Quinn's, The Lion and the Lamb, the Fife and Drum and Colonial Lanes were referenced as the sort of restaurant that Chagrin needed. Now we have 22 restaurants and that number does not include Burntwood and others on East Washington just "out of town."

In 1963 there were 6 clothing stores and now we have 20. Brewster and Stroud Furniture Co. was listed as the best known retail business in the community. I still miss Havre's, Nall's, the Bavarian Bakery, Channon's, Woolworth's and so many other stores that used to serve this town. I miss Dink's but I welcome North Main Street Diner. We are blessed that we still have Fireside Book Shop. The complexion of our shopping district has changed dramatically over the last 53 years but I think it is more vital than it was then. One of the recommendations in the report prepared for the Chamber was to "emphasize the obvious opportunities for exclusive shops." In that we have succeeded.

Now, if we can once again have a grocery store. A florist would be nice too.

Zo Sykora

HELP WANTED NO MINIMUM WAGE

There is a lovely reception desk here at the museum that likes to receive visitors at all times when we are open. If it is unoccupied when a docent is attending to visitors, well, that is not very welcoming.

This is an undemanding yet rewarding way to enjoy a couple of hours of volunteering service. When not greeting visitors, there are our interesting publications to enjoy while you learn more of our Chagrin History.

I find my 2 hour stints from 1 to 3 on Saturday and 5 to 7 on Thursday to be very useful, interesting and easy to do. The Saturdays during the holidays brought quite a few first time visitors to our door. However, it would be good to have all hours occupied with other greeters or have a list of possible substitutes available. If this sounds interesting to you, contact Jane Babinsky, our very busy Museum Director. She can fill you in on the times coverage is needed. 440.247.4695.

Joyce Gorretta, Volunteer Receptionist

Poker Night

The Chagrin Falls Dad's Club and Historical Society co-sponsored a Texas Hold-em Tournament. These types of events are fund-raisers where 50 % of the overall proceeds are donated to a non-profit.



Dad's Club members getting ready for the Texas Hold-em tournament.

40 players participated in a fun evening.

The Kanzinger family, Greg, Frank and Kim provided the food and beverages.

This was one of the more successful events for the Dad's Club in recent years. The Dad's Club donated the proceeds of **\$3010** to the Historical Society.

John Bourisseau

Lost and Found at the "87 Club" Party

Lost: one pair of woman's elbow length white gloves with pearls up the side.

Found: one woman's glove, elbow length, black with glass buttons.

Please call 247-4695 to arrange for return.



Photo by John Dagil

1/5/16

Condolences

To the Family of **Peg Hetrick**

To **Roberta Stokes** on the death of her daughter

Tracey Jane Stokes

To **Carolyn Sihler** on the death of her husband

Herbert A. Sihler, Jr.

To **Pris Hoag** on the death of her friend & companion **Jack Bennett**

We received many gifts in honor and in memory of individuals, they are listed below.

A gift in **honor** of the **Robert J. Roeder Family**, by **M. Barnes & Sally Taft**

A gift in memory of **Dorothy Pauly** by **Margaret M. Price**

A gift in memory of **George Copeland** by **Shirley Copeland**

A gift in memory of **Phyllis Patton** by **Linda Patton Tierney**

A gift in memory of **Gladys Arnold** by **Priscilla Hoag**

A gift in memory of **Gordon W. Champlin** by **Lydia Champlin**

A gift in memory of **Sandy Bartter** by **Amy Bartter**

A gift in memory of **Thomas M. & Stephen M. Evans** by **Jennifer Evans**

Gifts in memory of **Jack Bennett** by

Priscilla Hoag and **Joan Matilo**

Gifts in memory of **Herbert A. Sihler Jr.** by

John Bourisseau, Bill & Gretchen Hamann, John Whitten, Adrienne and Ron Rasmus, Arline M. Moore, Joan Matilo, Joyce Teeft, Lucy L. Beattie, Beth Bailey Skeel, Betty Jo Runge, Jerry & Patty Hridel, Mickie & Larry Caughlin, Charles E. Ford, Martin & Jane Eble, Denise Gaskins, Sharon Gosche, Ray & Kathy Kolcaba, Marti McHugh-Curtis, Pat Zalba, Jane Babinsky, Tina Martens, Gloria Wallace, Jordan & Karin Truthan, Reid's Tree Care, Thomas & Margo Brackett, Madonna Lewis, Mary Ellen Potter, Beverly Coughlin, Herbert Hoppe, Rose Dziak, Jill Welsh, James Wolf, John & Margi O'Brien, Betty Fredman, Louis Will, Ellen & Ben Richman



Pat Zalba, Curator

Overview Calendar

January

Curator's Corner

- 7 3rd Grade Brownie Troop "Tour and Talk About History" with Curator Pat Zalba
- 11 "Molly Goes To War" program for Federated Forum (at Fed. Fellowship Hall) by Archivist Laura Gorretta
- 12 C.F. Historical Society Board Meeting at 87 E. Washington St. 9:30 am.
- 12 American Legion Meeting 7:30 pm in the Bo Burr Room.
- 13 Federated Elderlife Group visits for a Tour and presentation by President John Bourisseau and Properties Manager Ken Kvacek. 1-3 pm
- 20 "Soups and Breads Luncheon" at Hamlet Atrium, set up 11:30, lunch at Noon. Program to follow with Ken Roby and his musical group.

Welcome to New Members

Marnie Albers
Karen Savel

Roger Fuhrmeyer
Christopher and Margaret Gibson

Bill, Tina, Cullen, Halle and Ryan Reed

Jason Jerry

James and Michele Nichols.

Looking Ahead to February's Program

- 18 The Evolution of Valentines. A program by member Sally Taft presented in the Bo Burr rm. 7:30 pm



Curator Pat Zalba showing children how wind-up toys work



Barb & Terry Taggart



Jane Babinsky & Joyce Gorretta

Thank You Christmas Elves!

The museum looked lovely for the holidays. Thank you to the following: Jane Babinsky, Lucy Beattie, Joyce Gorretta, Gretchen Hamann, Sally Hawkins, Frank and Kim Kanzinger, Ken Kvacek, Jo Roeder, Beth Skeel and Pat Zalba.

Thank you to the following for adding to our ornaments, wreaths, garlands and trees for decorating our "new Home". Gretchen and Bill Hamann, Carolyn Sihler, Jane Babinsky, Frank Kanzinger, Ed Shields and Sally Hawkins

Accessions with a Chagrin Falls Connection

A metal oil can with a painted label reading "Hardware Supply and Coal—C.F. Ohio phone 14 or 32."

An Ober wooden level, paper label marked, "Ober Mfg. Co C.F. Ohio."

A walking stick made on an Ober Lathe.

A C.F. Middle School, cotton sateen, orange and black, band cape.

C.F. High School Yearbooks: Annual-1914, 1920, 1921, 1924, Zenith-1946, 1948, 1949, 1954

Much educational/informational display boards, Interurban and canal boat models and research papers done by Donald Barriball

Donor-Don Barriball

Christmas Open House

Tables laden with holiday cookies and tea sandwiches on silver trays, a silver punch bowl of eggnog and pitchers of cold sparkling juice set the scene for the third annual Christmas Past Open House. For the first Christmas in our new museum, candles and greenery created a simple but elegant look that was fitting of this new home. With Christmas trees on both floors, the entire building was festive and inviting to the more than 150 visitors we welcomed that day. Musical interludes, thanks to Lynne Lofton on her bagpipes, Jane Babinsky and Laura Gorretta on their dulcimers and Kris Tesar with her carolers, added to the cheer.

We extend deep gratitude to all who played a role in putting this event together. Young and old shared in the fun of Frank Kanzinger's tremendous Lincoln Log display and children were invited to build their own log structures. They also had the chance to play with the array of antique toys demonstrated by Curator Pat Zalba. John Bourisseau entertained guests with an electronic photo display of Christmas Times Past in Chagrin Falls. Everyone loved watching for people and places they recognized.

Thank you: Museum Decorating Committee (names listed elsewhere in this newsletter), Open House Planning Committee--Frank and Kim Kanzinger, Jo Roeder, Pat Zalba, Sally Hawkins, Karen Thailing, and Gretchen and Bill Hamann. Hospitality Chairs, Patti and Jeff Widmar, Building Manager, Ken Kvacek, Zo Sykora and Laura Gorretta who 'manned' the Research Library, the many holiday bakers, and all of the wonderful volunteers who helped that day.

As with all events, many hands make light work. We are grateful for all of the wonderful volunteers who make these events possible. Thank you!

Anne Burr Program Committee Chair

Where is it Wednesday?

Check out our Facebook page



From the Director

I would like to thank all of our wonderful volunteers who helped with a multitude of tasks in 2015. Without volunteers our organization would not be able to flourish. If you have a special talent and would like to donate your time please call Jane at 440-247-4695. (See Joyce Gorretta's article). I will be developing a training program for our Docents and hope to have it in place by early Spring!

We had a successful holiday season at our new home on East Washington Street. Thank you to Carolyn Sihler for donating many of our new holiday decorations and to our attendees at the Christmas Open House who decorated a glass ornament to hang on our community room tree. It was wonderful to see so many people in attendance at the Christmas Open House and we hope to see you at our programs and visiting the museum. The displays will be changing from our 1920'S theme to an 1860's theme, so stop in to see the changes! Our January program, Annual Soups And Breads Luncheon, will be held at the Atrium at Hamlet Village. We will be back at 87 East Washington Street for our February program on the 18th at 7:30 p.m.

For those of you who haven't sent your membership dues in, please do as soon as possible. We don't want to drop you from our newsletter mailing list and you don't want to miss a single issue of The Exponent!

Jane Babinsky, Museum Director

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.

Christmas Open House



Children playing with Lincoln Logs



Lincoln Log Village and train built by
Frank Kanzinger



Pat Zalba and Sally Hawkins



Children decorating Christmas
Ornaments with **Sally Hawkins**



KC Henry and Bill Bowers in front of
Frank Kanzinger's display



Kris Tesar and Ann Lanza



Rod and Cinda Chima talking with
Beth Skeel



Justin Herdman and Elizabeth Hajar with
their children enjoying one of the displays



Lynne Lofton provided
us with Christmas Carols



Jerry and Patty Hridel
with **Pat Zalba**



**Jane Babinsky and Laura
Gorretta** playing carols on their
Dulcimers, with **Cynthia Reece**



Singing Christmas Carols