

Historical Society celebrates 50th year of Highland House Museum

Pamela Nickell, H.C. Historical Society

The Rev. John G. Carson

This is the 16th article in a series from the Highland County Historical Society featuring members of the HCHS Hall of Fame and recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Highland House Museum.

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The Rev. John G. Carson 1925-2007

John Gregg Carson was one of Highland County's most active civic leaders and for 35 years served as rector of St. Mary's Episcopal Church parish.

Born in Cincinnati and a graduate of Withrow High School in Cincinnati, John Carson earned a bachelor of science degree from Purdue University and a master of divinity degree (cum laude) from Bexley Hall Episcopal Seminary, ranking first in his class. He later earned a master's degree in special education.

In 1951, he married Jean Kessel.

The Rev. Carson was ordained in the Episcopal Church in 1954 and served as rector at Hillsboro's St. Mary's parish from 1956-91. He was active in and served as president of the Hillsboro Area and Highland County Ministerial Associations as well as being instrumental in the Highland Community Hospital Association, Hills and Dales School and the Highland County Mental Health Association.

John served on the boards of the Hopewell Special Education Regional Resource Center, the Highland County Health Planning Council, the Rotary Club and the Hillsboro Human Relations Group. John and his wife, Jean, were founders of Samaritan Outreach Services.

Through these community organizations, Rev. Carson endeavored to serve the poor, the downhearted and those in particular need. His work in ecumenical activities did much to bring together Highland County's spiritual community. His ministry to our small town continues to be a blessing to all.

