

# Museum Muses

HIGHLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

151 East Main Street, Hillsboro, OH 45133

937-393-3392

JUNE 2002

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

We recently had the pleasure of conducting the Hillsboro 4th graders through the museum. They were interested in all the rooms and displays, but it was evident the Military/Medical room was a favorite. We received thank you notes that we will post in the Pioneer Hallway.

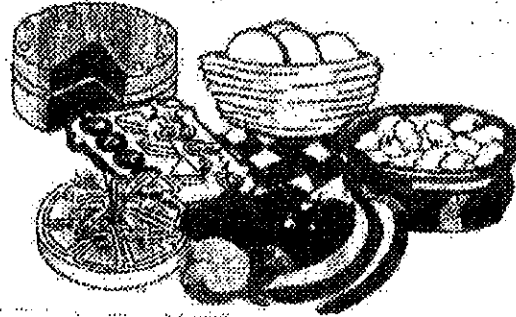
Our goal is to have the "Log House Opening" during the Festival of Bells. We have had outstanding assistance: Doug Knight installed a mantle, Elmer Wilkerson has volunteered to plane the lumber and install the ceiling, Servicemaster moved furniture, scrubbed and poly coated the floor at a reduced cost, and Ron Turpin is offering his items and labor at a great reduction. We are extremely fortunate to have had a beautiful antique cradle donated and a unique small rocker on loan. Other small items have been donated and recognition will be posted later. The refurbishing and furnishing of the Log House are being supported by the proceeds from Willa Stanforth's most recent book, "Faded Glory", donations from Hillsboro Women's Club and private individuals, and the 2001 "Home Town" Building Fund. We sincerely thank the latter's committee members.

Please stop by and view our newly planted Hosta Bed (courtesy of Shine and Sally Frydryk) and the Herb Bed where Paula Wright (Pond Lick Farm) has donated and planted additional plants.

Again we send out a plea for gardening assistance and any other assistance you might like to share.

## GIFT SHOP:

Now available at the gift shop are the Bi-Centennial Coverlets. There are two designs to choose from at \$50.00 each. New to the gift shop are polo shirts in three colors: black, white and navy, with the embroidered view and name of the Highland House Museum. Cost is \$32.50. These are great conversation starters.



## JUNE MEMBERSHIP MEETING CARRY - IN DINNER THURSDAY, JUNE 27 - 6:00 PM

The Highland County Historical Society Spring Meeting will be held Thursday, June 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P. M. at the Highland House Museum. Our guest speaker will be Dan Cruise, noted historical speaker, Greenfield area artist, and teacher in the Greenfield Schools.

After the meal we will be entertained by The Southern State Singers, under the direction of John Glaze.

Members are asked to bring a covered dish and table service. Beverages will be furnished. Membership meeting to follow.

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## MEMBERSHIP:

The Membership Committee express our thanks to our members who have been faithful in their support of the Historical Society in the past. Our new membership year begins July 1, 2002 and ends June 30, 2003. You may renew your membership by returning the enclosed membership card with your dues.

Continued on next page.

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Historical Society**

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# Highland County Historical Society

## MEMBERSHIP continued:

### Annual dues:

INDIVIDUAL.....	\$ 8.00	FAMILY.....	\$ 10.00
SUSTAINING MEMBER	\$25.00		
LIFETIME.....	\$100.00	MEMBER/SPOUSE	.\$150.00

The following members have renewed their membership in advance for the year 2002-2003:

Dr. & Mrs. Jeff Beery (New), Lifetime	M/M Harold Blanton, family
M/M Elsworth Cook, Family	M/M Creed Culbreath, family
Linda J. Ellis, single	M/M Jon Hapner, Family
M/M Robert Hern, family	M/M Harold Hollister, family
Kathryn Karnes, single	M/M A. Edward Lerch, family
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M/M Monti Pence (New), family	M/M Michael Rector, family
Jane A. Spargur, single	Clarence Thurman, single
M/M Thomas R. Watkins (New), family	M/M Albert Wettstein, family

Welcome to our new members, and special thanks to our new lifetime members.

Thanks again, Lenora and Frieda.

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## HIGHLAND CO. HISTORY EXPLORERS CLUB:

After a very successful essay contest the Explorer Club is off and running.

The essay contest with the title of "If you could live in any period of Ohio History when would you choose and why" resulted in approximately 250 essays from Highland County youth ages 9-18. Interest was generated in many fields including Indians of the region, the Civil War period, the WCTU, the Underground Railroad, and many other topics.

On May 28, the first program was presented at the Highland House Museum. This included a very informative talk by Keith Bengston, site manager of Fort Hill. Additional opportunities to talk to costumed representatives of a Revolutionary War soldier, a pioneer family and a Civil War officer were continued in the rooms of the museum. The meeting was well attended and very interesting.

The next program will be a trip to the Fort Hill Museum. All that are interested are to meet at the Highland House Museum at 8:30 a.m., Saturday, June 22. All interested youth of the area are invited and parents are welcome. Please call Dr. Ayres at 393-6512 or fax 393-0442 if you are attending, so transportation can be arranged. Please call before 8 a.m. or after 5 p.m.

We hope many new members would like to join the History Explorers Club for this or future adventures.

Dr. David Ayres

We would also like to thank Mr. Gibbs for the \$500 donation to support this project.

## MRS. CARRIE HOLMES PARKER

In late 2001, the Historical Society received a copy of a journal or diary from Peter G. Knowland, an architect in Asheville, North Carolina. The journal, written in a store ledger was found in an Asheville home that was being restored. Mr. Knowland was kind enough to contact our Historical Society, since at the top was written:

“Sugar Tree Ridge Highland Co. Ohio, 1864.”

By a reading of the manuscript, and a bit of genealogical detective work it was learned that it was written by Miss Carrie (Carolyn, Callie) Holmes, the daughter of Newton Holmes and his wife Phoebe Ann Lewis Holmes, who operated the “dry goods” store in Sugar Tree Ridge. At the time the journal was started, Carrie Holmes was a youngster of 15:

“Tuesday August 30<sup>th</sup>

Well strange things do happen in this world. We have sold out and are going to leave here in the spring. I feel sorry to leave though. I have wanted to, for a long time. I have spent all my life here and the place is endeared to me by many pleasant memories.

I suppose though the change will be for the best. I have sometimes grown weary of my secluded life and wished for advantages which I could not have here. I will now at least have a change if I live till that time whether it be for the better or worse.”

The diary continues with regular entries with mention of family members and friends, some of whom can be easily identified.:

“Charlie [her mother’s brother Charles Lewis] was married Thanksgiving day (24<sup>th</sup>). He will bring his bride out here next week. I am afraid she will not be charmed with her “country relations” particularly as we will be killing hogs and will be working in the grease.

The future looks dim and distant. I can hardly realize that we are going to leave here where we have lived so long. I hope we will like our new home. I want to try to like it if it doesn’t suit one altogether but “There are times when the lightest of spirits must bow, And the sunniest face wear a cloud on its brow”.

Hillsboro Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> 1865.

At last we have got here after much trial and tribulation. Last Thursday it was very cold but we got in a covered sleigh and wrapped up good in comforts and we hardly knew we were out. When we got here the house was cold and smokey. We had been here but a few minutes when a lady (Mrs. Kyle [Mrs. Elizabeth Kyle]) brought mother a cup of tea and a plate of tarts. The house is very convenient.

The best part of all is that Charlie and Father have bought Mr. March’s store and in two weeks Lina [Charlie’s wife ?] will be up.

Carrie’s diary continues through May of 1866 with mention of many Hillsboro neighbors and classmates, but we are only provided a short glance at her early life.

Through Highland County records we learn that Carrie married John M. Parker, on December 19, 1872, and purchased several farms in the Samantha area. They had seven children: John H. Parker, born April, 1874; Harry L. Parker, born 1876; Mary Anna Parker, born March 31, 1877; Jerome Leslie Parker, born Feb. 1879; Anna Florence Parker, born Nov. 23, 1880; Clara M. Parker, born Aug. 1883; and Charles Newton Parker, born Oct. 29, 1885.

However, by 1900 Carrie was a school teacher living alone with five of the children. A photo has been located showing Mrs. Carrie Parker as a primary school teacher in the late 1890’s, on the steps of the Old Children’s Home, which had been converted for school use.

No death, cemetery or probate record has been located for her husband, John M. Parker.

A Hillsboro obituary shows that daughter Mary Anna Parker, died February 5, 1904 in the city of Parker (Turner County), South Dakota. The article shows that Caroline traveled there in the late days of her illness, and that the body was returned to Hillsboro for burial. (News Herald, Feb. 11 & Feb. 18, 1904).

None of the family were found in the 1910, or 1920 Census for Highland County.

Since the diary was found in Asheville, North Carolina, a search of the 1920 Census for North Carolina found “Parker, Caroline H., age 72, born in Ohio, living with her son Charles M. Parker, age 33; and his sister Clara M. Parker, age 37, in Asheville, Buncome County, NC. Nearby were her son Harry L. Parker, age 44, born in Ohio, and his wife Edith A. Parker.”

A recent e-mail from Peter G. Knowland confirmed that “One of her children Charles Parker, owned the house in Asheville in which I first came across the diary. He was a talented and noted architect during the 1920’s, executing several major commissions in the Asheville area.

Particularly notable is the Grove Arcade in downtown Asheville (now on the National Register of Historic Sites), which has recently undergone a complete renovation into a public “market”. As a matter of fact, Parker’s widow kept all of his original drawings in the attic of the house mentioned above.”

RWA

LOG HOUSE OPENING  
 SATURDAY-WILLA STANFORTH'S BOOK SIGNING  
 FRIDAY/SATURDAY-10:00 — 5:00 K. STANFORTH CHAIN SAW CARVING  
 SATURDAY — 10:00 — 5:00  
 FRIDAY- 1:00 — 5:00  
 THURSDAY-1:00 — 5:00  
 HIGHLAND HOUSE MUSEUM HOURS

**FESTIVAL OF BELLS JULY 4, 5, 6**

**CARRY - IN DINNER, June 27, 6:00 p.m.**

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**HIGHLAND HOUSE MUSEUM**

**Highland County  
 Historical Society**

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 HILLSBORO, OHIO 45133

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