

Highland County PIONEER DAY



Will be a day to come and learn about the History and Heritage of Highland County. The Board at HCHS hopes that the day will be fun, educational and inclusive of ALL of Highland County. Saturday August 24 is the day. It will be happening on the Grounds of the Scott House Mansion starting at 9:00 and running till 4:00 that afternoon.

The event grew from a decision to commemorate the 175th Anniversary of both the Scott House Mansion and The Highland House Museum. Plans quickly moved toward making it a day of History and an event that would highlight ALL the communities in Highland County.

Half of the Board members have worked on the planning committee and everyone has been heartened by the positive response we received from the



communities in the County that were contacted. The committee has commitments from Hillsboro, Greenfield, Lynchburg,

Leesburg, Highland, Marshall, Morrystown, Berrysville, Belfast, and Brush Creek Twp./Sinking Spring.



Also setting up displays that day will be our Highland County Historical Society, SOGS Genealogical Society, and DAR. If a person has a question about the history of Highland County, this is the place to be.

Another highlight of the Day will also be a collection of Appalachian Skills demonstrations showing what it took for our ancestors to survive life on the early frontier. The front yard of the Scott House will be occupied by a series of displays including: Rope Making, Weaving, Black Smithing, Flint-lock and frontier hunting necessities, Archery, Spinning, a civil war reenacting group, cooking, music of a Hammered

Dulcimer, Sewing, Primitive Fire Making, Quilting, and more. Many of those demonstrations will be by members of the Grassy Run Historical Society.

Area Scout troops will be participating by camping out the night before and volunteering at the event on Saturday. The scouts are

also setting up a Primitive Camp Site on the lawn behind the other booths. The School has allowed us to use the property of the old High School for the scout camp. The scouts will also perform a Flag Raising Ceremony at 9:00 the morning.

The Board of Education is also allowing the Highland County Antique Machinery Club to set up displays of tractor and steam-driven machinery such as corn-



shelling, grain hammer mills, antique tractors and many other displays. One highlight of that event will be the tractor and plow used by Hillsboro resident Duane Mootz to win the 1957 World Plowing

contest held in Peebles, Ohio.

The committee also decided to open the Scott House for tours and it will be open



from the widow's walk on the roof where citizens used to take turns looking out for enemy bombers during World War

II, to the basement where so many have imagined an "Underground Railroad" tunnel.

If that were not enough: there will also be a pancake breakfast/Brunch served from 9:00 – 1:00.

Baked goods will be for sale as a fundraiser for the Historical Society.

There will also be a baking contest for area cooking aficionados to show off their wares and practice for the upcoming county fair, and Kona Ice will be there in the afternoon as will drinks, snacks and sandwiches.

Bring your kids, tell your friends, come for the fun, and be at PIONEER DAY.

Saturday August 24, at the Scott House Mansion at 338 West Main Street in Hillsboro. You will be glad you came!

For more information or questions call Vicki Knauff at the Historical Society at 393-3392.

EAST END WALKING TOUR

Although the evening's heat was extreme, two groups of hearty souls braved the elements to make the Highland County Historical Society's July 19 evening walk of the East Main Street Historic District a success. According to Society Librarian, Carolyn Hastings, this was the first tour of the District's homes since 2002.

Following a welcome by Society President, Denny Kirk, Society Vice President, Steve Roush, led a group along East Main Street and Trustee Tara Beery led a group along East Walnut Street. Along the way each group leader told of the construction dates of the homes, told where historic homes once stood, called attention to interesting house details and told stories about their former residents. Both groups crossed paths at the "Rooney's Taxi and Water Station" rest area manned by Trustee Jim Rooney and his wife Carol. Jim's aunt Doris Rooney ran a Hillsboro taxi service for decades.

Those participating in the tour were reminded of the upcoming August 22 Ghost Walk at the Hillsboro Cemetery and the August 24 Highland County Pioneer Day on the grounds of the Scott House in Hillsboro.

Following the conclusion of the tour, light refreshments were served to those participating.

It's believed many people intending to attend did not because of the extreme conditions. Therefore the Committee will consider conducting another tour later in the year when temperatures are not so extreme and perhaps there won't be so many other activities occurring in the area. The Committee will also explore conducting future walks in other parts of the city. More information will be made available through the local newspapers, radio and Society website as plans are developed.

Committee members are Tara Beery, Bob Brown, Carolyn Hastings, Vickie Knauff, Kathy Levo, Doug McLaughlin, Mickey Parrot, Jim Rooney, Steve Roush and Brenda Thompson.

OK...I GET IT NOW

When I was a little guy, I occasionally traveled in the car with my grandfather. Back then, he seemed like a very old man. Now that I think about it and do the math, I discover he was much younger than I am now. His life, however, had not been one of ease. But back to the car, or machine, as it was frequently called. He had the uncanny, and quite useful, talent of being able to drive down the road, open his door, lean out and spit tobacco juice and never waiver on the road. That's talent! But, we were only traveling in the high 30 to low 40 miles per hour range. And that brings me to Memorial Day...or Decoration Day, as we called it back in the 50s.

Traveling on the county roads to visit and decorate the graves of "my people", I find myself driving as slowly as my grandfather. I get it... the countryside in Highland County is overall, very attractive. Moreover, as I drive those roads with which I was so familiar as a child, I remember those family members and their friends who lived along the roads. I struggle to re-

member some of those names. The places were always referred to as "the Satterfield place" or "Charlie Fels' corner. I think about the trips to my grandparents' place and the little trailer where an old man lived. It would have fit into the living room of our house. The old guy always had chickens running loose in his yard and one time one of the birds ran into our car's path. This was way before seat belts were standard issue in machines, but as my mother slammed on the brakes, her right arm flung to the right as my personal seat restraint! We were safe and chicken was safe.

I remember going to the Countryman Cemetery when it was accessed by wending your way through a small thicket into the opening of the poorly cared for burial grounds. (After it was cleaned up and made into what it is today, I wondered what my people would say at the difference.)

John Glaze

SUMMER AT HH LIBRARY

We have been blessed with two interns this summer: Freddie Johnson, a senior at Hillsboro High School, and Logan Reynolds, a senior at Shawnee State University. Both love history as was evident from the very first day.

Both helped with adding spine labels to our books. When we nearly finished labeling, Logan worked with

Jim Rooney to complete a scanning project while Freddie and I continued rounding up books and labeling them. Boy, did time fly! A project I thought would not be completed until the end of the year was nearing completion at the end of July thanks to these two young men.

Freddie will continue working with us throughout the school year and Logan

will soon be moving onto campus at Shawnee. We wish them the very best throughout the approaching school year.

It was a great way to spend time with both history and young folks. AND a great way to speed up completion of a couple of BIG projects.

We can't thank them enough!

