

MUSEUM MUSES

SOCIETY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Mike McCarty

I would like to thank all of you for the confidence you showed as you elected Arlene and me to the newly created Association leadership positions. I fully understand, however, that the vote really reflects the trust and respect that we all have for Bob Hodson and his leadership through our recent transition. Thanks, Bob, for the competent, patient and faithful leadership that you provided during this time.

As we move forward, it is time for our membership to rally behind our new board. They will be contacting many of you to serve on a

variety of committees and work groups that need to begin functioning right away. Please give this request careful consideration and jump in to help if at all possible. Our society has always thrived on the active and competent participation of members. To you who have participated in previous projects—we need your experience. Those who have never participated—your new participation will provide the fresh hands, dreams and experiences the Association needs to move in new directions. This is the time for all of us to redouble our involvement.

The new board has a long list of undertakings including election of officers, establishing a budget, assigning and activating committees, search for a curator, planning and care of the Scott House, care and operation of the Highland House, initiation of programs and conducting fund raisers to name a few. I am confident in the abilities of the new board members along with the faithful and enthusiastic support of membership to meet these challenges and more. The next 60 years of the Society will be even more exciting and prolific than our first 60 years.

HIGHLAND HOUSE HISTORY

Bob Hodson

The two-story brick house at 151 East Main Street in Hillsboro is the home of The Highland County Historical Society. It has a long history dating back to its first occupancy in 1845.

Its history began in 1840 when Henry and Ann Maria Boyd Turner of Warren County sold the east half of In-lot 10 in Hillsborough to Peter Leake Ayres. During the years 1842-1845 Peter Ayres erected the two-story brick house.

The bricks for the house were burned on the back of the lot. The walls of the original part of the building are supported by stone pillars embedded in the ground of the basement. The foundation is of quarried limestone.

The original building contained nine rooms and a large entrance hall. It was a Virginia I beam house typical of many of the houses found in Highland County during that time period.

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HCHS—BACK ON TRACK!



**CHRISTMAS
OPEN HOUSE!
DECEMBER 8
1-5 PM**

OPEN HOUSE!

Please join us and bring your friends and family to our Christmas Open House to celebrate re-opening of Highland House as well as a celebration of the Christmas Season! We will have the museum decorated and the Gift Shop will be open for your holiday gift buying! In addition to the items you can view on our web site, there will be several consignment items available. Refreshments will be served.

Make plans now to attend!



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The following are your newly (and properly!) elected Board of Trustees:

1 Year Term:

Kay Ayres

Dr. Lawrence Dukes

Caroyl Reid

John Kellis

2 Year Term:

Michael Shanahan

Vickie Knauff

Michelle Stratton

Pamela Nickell

3 Year Term:

Rose Ryan

Jean Wallis

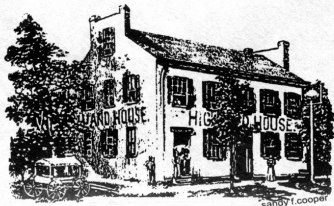
Lana Daniels

Avery Applegate

Society Officers

Mike McCarty- President

Arlene Huffman-Vice President



Gift Memberships to Highland County Historical Society are A Great Idea!

We need YOU to be a VOLUNTEER at HIGHLAND HOUSE

LET'S GET TO KNOW OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS!



2013 Board (Back row—L-R) Michelle Stratton, Vickie Knauff, Pamela Nickell, Lana Daniels, Kay Ayres, Avery Applegate, Jean Wallis, Rose Ryan. (Front row—L-R) Arlene Huffman (Society Vice-President), Mike McCarty (Society President), Michael Shanahan, Caroyl Reid, Dr. Lawrence Dukes, John Kellis.

THE STRENGTH OF HCHS Pam Nickell, Chair



Board members have indicated their areas of interest by agreeing to chair committees. These committee chairs are filling out their committees with members who indicate a desire to serve. Several of you have already indicated willingness but, of course, more are needed. Elsewhere in this newsletter, the standing committees are listed to aid you in determining if you want to volunteer.

The strength of the Highland County Historical Society is in its members as evidenced by the attendance at and participation in the two recent full membership meetings. The feeling of community and common purpose during those two meetings was unparalleled in my 34 year experience here in Highland County.

And the purpose of the Society? It is as simply stated in the bylaws, "to further historical preservation and education in Highland County, Ohio."

Your new board, as selected by you, has pledged to strictly adhere to that purpose and to the bylaws which were adopted by you. That said, the many issues and opportunities of the HCHS can only be addressed with your continued involvement and tracking of activities.

There is one way each and every one of us can help and that is to bring in new members. If each member of the HCHS would not only renew but bring in one (or more) additional member(s) we could not help but advance our purpose.

As newly elected board members, it is important to us to acknowledge those who have served before us; those who have insisted that appropriate procedure be followed thereby enabling the very Society envisioned by the founders to be preserved.

A Christmas Open House is being planned for December 8, 1-5 p.m. Join us in making it a grand celebration of the very special Season.

Pamela Nickell

Chair Board of Trustees

Rev. ZeBarney Thorne Phillips

In 1899 The Rev. ZeBarney Thorne Phillips came to serve as Deacon-in-Charge of St. Mary's Episcopal Church. He is first mentioned in Vestry records as present at a meeting of October 28, 1899, but it is likely that he had come to Hillsboro shortly after his graduation from General Theological Seminary in early summer. Phillips was born in Springfield, Ohio on May 1, 1875, being only 24 years old when he began his ordained ministry at St. Mary's, and as he continued his service to our Lord he was, at the time of his tragic and untimely death in 1942, the most respected Priest in the Episcopal Church. The career of ZeBarney Phillips is summarized on a tablet in the Washington National Cathedral, near where his remains are interred in the crypt of the (continued on page 4)



A GOOD MOM

Your kid starts college and what does a good mom do? Why, bake cookies for the kid, of course. My ma always told the story on herself that, most dutifully, she decided to bake up a batch of cookies to send to her son at Ohio University. Apparently the cookies were so bad that she threw them out in the back yard and even the birds wouldn't eat them.

She did, however, demonstrate the value of being involved and volunteering for local organizations. Her main gig was the Dogwood Twig of the hospital, serving in every office of the group and, with Dora Glaze, making all kinds of craft items to be sold at the annual hospital bazaar.

The lesson was learned that good citizens are involved helping others and charitable organizations.

Are you going to be involved and in the game, or will you only be a bench warmer? Will you wait until someone calls you, or will you make the call to Highland House and offer your gifts and talents?

By the way, my ma found a winner of a cookie recipe—"Cora's Jumbo Raisin Cookies", found in an advertisement for Maxwell House Coffee—supposedly the recipe provided by Cora (portrayed by Margaret Hamilton, aka The Wicked Witch of the West) who ran the general store which only sold Maxwell House!

Editor

HIGHLAND HOUSE HISTORY (continued)

Peter Ayres lived only four years after completion of his new home. He died in December, 1849. His sons, Robert H. and James S., were the executors of his estate. He was also survived by his wife, Clarissa, and several other children.

On February 14, 1852 the executors sold the east half of lot 10 to James and Mary Rosa. Less than a year later the Rosas conveyed the property to John and Sallie Johnson. It is thought that it was he who built the upstairs and downstairs porches.

May 2, 1866, John and Sallie Johnson sold the property to William Scott and Robert Lilley in trust for the purpose of using the premises as a boarding house for the young ladies enrolled at The Highland Institute. That apparently didn't work out as planned and the property was sold on April 11, 1870 to Jeremiah and Sallie Black.

On March 10, 1880 the Black's conveyed the property to Fred and Emma Steinman. Two years later, on May 3, 1882, the east half of lot 10 was sold to Joseph Gaskill. During the years Gaskill owned the property many changes occurred. He added more rooms to the building, enclosing the two porches and making it a first class hotel. That may have been the time when The Highland House was named.

Advertisements following the renovations read, "Newly remodeled and first class in every respect."

On Feb. 13, 1889 Samuel Parsons Scott and his sister, Jane, purchased the property as an investment. At the time Cary T. Pope, former sheriff of

Highland County took over the management of the Highland House.

In 1905 the property was purchased by Eugene Zimmerman and for many years was operated by his daughter, Kate Doorley, as a resident hotel. Later her daughter June Doorley operated the hotel. Under her management the Highland House became an East Main Street tradition. It became famous for its food and on Sundays, attracted the townspeople, county residents and those traveling through Hillsboro. Clubs and organizations used the facility for luncheons and dinner meetings.

On March 28, 1964, Helen Boyd purchased the Highland House from June Doorley. The Highland County Historical Society, chartered in 1965, was looking for a location and felt the Highland House would be perfect.

A problem was that the Pure Oil Co. also wanted to purchase the site for their new service station. With encouragement, insistence and a sizable donation from Virginia Bell Thompson, coupled with a bank mortgage, The Highland House was purchased by the society in 1966.

Today the Highland House, with its long history, is now the home to the Historical Society. Its 14 rooms and 4 hallways are filled with Highland County history preserved for future generations.

Most of this information was taken from Highland Guideposts, March 18, 1996 written by Jean Wallis.

HCHS NEWS

At the first meeting of the new Board of Trustees, officers of the Board were elected. Pamela Nickell was elected Chair, with Shelly Stratton elected as Vice-Chair. Treasurer will be Rosemary Ryan and Secretary will be Paulette Donley (this is a non-board position). Chairpersons were assigned to the Standing Committees:

Youth Programs:

Shelly Stratton

Historical Education Progr:

Vicki Knauff

Membership:

Larry Dukes

Caroyl Reid

Events:

Shelly Stratton

Lana Daniels

Collections/Exhibits:

Mike Shanahan

Jean Wallis

Executive:

all elected Board officers

Budget and Finance:

Rosemary Ryan

Building and Grounds:

Kay Ayres

Avery Applegate.

Other Committees and/or

Responsibilities:

Christmas Open House:

Jean Wallis,

Shelly Stratton,

Vicki Knauff,

Arlene Huffman

Policies:

John Kellis

Library:

Jean Wallis

Newsletter/Webmaster:

John Glaze

Society Historian:

Bob Hodson.

Does one of these committees interest you? You (continued on page 4)

Highland County Historical Society
155 E Main St
Hillsboro, OH 45133
Phone: 937-393-3392

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CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

December 8
1-5pm
Highland House

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REV. ZEBARNEY THORNE PHILLIPS.....(continued)

Cathedral. The memorial tablet reads: "To the Glory of God and in blessed memory of ZeBarney Thorne Phillips, D.D., L.L.D., S.T.D., 1875 - 1942; Dean of the Cathedral of St. Peter and St.



Paul; Chaplain of the United States Senate; For Five Sessions President of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies of the General Convention; An Inspired Voice in the Church of God and a Leader in the walks of men.... 'Lo, I am with you always even unto the end of the world.'"

Mr. Phillips was a skilled musician with a sparkling personality and was very well received in the Hillsboro community. The January 1900 issue of the Diocesan magazine, "The Church Chronicle", had this to say of his impact in Hillsboro: "Most excellent

work is being done in St. Mary's Church by the Rev. Z. T. Phillips, who took charge some few months ago. The choir has been enlarged and greatly improved in the quality of music rendered.

Mr. Phillips being a skilled organist, has an organ recital every Wednesday at the close of the evening service. This has resulted in attracting many persons to the church. Never in years has the outlook in old St. Mary's appeared more encouraging."

In a small book by Rev. Phillips' daughter, Sallie Phillips McClenahan, titled, "So Live," she writes about the beginnings of her father's ministry "Daddy's first little parish was in Hillsboro, Ohio. One dear old lady who had been a member of St. Mary's Church, Hillsboro, told me, 'Even when

we didn't understand a word he was talking about we were spellbound by the way he said it.' Always dramatic, he drove every point home with vivid gestures. He would completely forget himself and throw his entire being into what he was saying. Then, halfway through his sermon he would discard any manuscript or notes that he may have had, lean way over the pulpit, and just talk."

"I recall a story about a small boy who did not like to go to church until he was lured by his mother to go to St. Mary's. He sat spellbound and insisted on returning Sunday after Sunday. Finally his mother, possibly feeling whatever one feels when a child gets too good, asked him why he insisted on going. The young devotee replied, 'Some day Mr. Phillips is going to fall out of the pulpit and I intend to be there to see it.'"

HCHS NEWS (continued)

can contact the chairperson of that committee and volunteer to help.

The Membership Year will run from Jan 1 to Dec 31.

The bi-annual House Tour will be offered again in 2014.

It was brought up that the Ohio Attorney General's office can provide a training/information session on boards such as ours, covering the responsibilities, etc.

The next meeting of the Trustees will be held on November 21 at 7:00 pm. All members are welcome to attend the Board of Trustees Meetings.

