

MUSEUM MUSES

Telling Highland County's story for over 50 years!

SHOT FROM AMBUSH!

Tara Beery

Headlines screamed the news.

"Shot From Ambush".
"Assassinated".

The News-Herald called it "one of the most dastardly and cold blooded murders ever committed anywhere". On October 7, 1901, C. C. Tharr, a tenant farmer in Jackson Township (about two miles south of Belfast), was shot down by an unknown assailant who waited in the dark for Tharr to return home from a trip to Hillsboro to buy phosphate. A gut-shot Tharr lay in agony for two days before dying from his wounds. Though two trials with three defendants were held, no one was ever found guilty of the murder.

The HCHS is beginning an investigation into this unsolved murder. We are seeking any information about the people involved (their personalities, family ties, what they did in subsequent years) and the physical location of events. The News-Herald said, "The good name of our county and our citizens demand that the murderer be fer-

reted out and punished to the full extent of the law." While punishing the killer in now impossible, maybe some answers can be found. Below is a list of people and places associated with the case. If you have any information, pictures, insight, (or know who did it!), please send an email to tarabeery@reagan.com

Names Associated with 1901 Tharr Murder Case

(William Christopher Columbus (C. C.) Tharr (His name is reported in many different ways including Pharr and even Thor.)
(Gabriel) Alice Tharr
(John) Edgar Tharr
Pearl Tharr
Dr. Thomas W. (T.W.) Roberds
Dr. J. A. Glasgow
T. J. Gustin & Son Undertakers
George V. Storer
Nora L. Storer
Van Storer
G. W. Hull
Charley Hull
C. Martin
F. J. Kelly
H. A. Frazer
William or J. R. Crane
Henry Hart
Aaron Hart
Marshall McMahan

Mayor Gardner

J. B. Worley

Irwin Dunlap

Squire John Frump

Office Parker

Lafe Gilmore

Coke Doster

Locations Associated with the Tharr

Murder Case 1901

Jackson Township

Belfast

Bee Run Hill

Wildwood Road

Caplinger Grade

Upper Camp Meeting

Ground in Belfast

The HCHS is also beginning work on a booklet on Civil War Store Tokens from Hillsboro. If you have any information or pictures, or etc. on any of the following, please contact us at tarabeery @reagan.com

Black & Kibler Hardware

J. S. Black

Capt. Frank Kibler

Chaney & Harris Dry

Goods

Benjamin Harris

Benjamin Chaney

O. J. (Obadiah Jennings)

Eckley Meat Market

Herron & Amen Dry

Goods and Notions

George March Dry

Goods

Merry

Mercantile

The Museum Shop Committee is busily working on the 2019 edition of THE MERRY MERCANTILE. The Mercantile will open Saturday, Nov. 2 with the annual Christmas Open House. The museum and shop will be open from 9am to 5pm.

This year there will be 18 artisans presenting their locally handmade wares.

Among the items offered are pottery, jewelry, art works, photographs, holiday décor and locally sourced honey, jams, jellies and candies.

The museum receives 30% of every sale. Shopping at The Merry Mercantile benefits the museum and all programs sponsored by and created by HCHS.

The Mercantile will be showing off a little different look this year. The layout will be different and the shop itself will be different and the shop itself will be decorated to complete the beautiful look of the rest of the museum.

The Mercantile will be open every Friday Saturday and Sunday from Nov. 2 to Dec 22. The shop will also be open noon to 5:00 on Christmas Eve for all the procrastinating shoppers!

Liz Odland

2019 TRUSTEES

Tara Beery
 Bob Brown
 Carolyn Hastings
 Sue Honeycutt
 John Kellis
 Denny Kirk
 John Levo
 Jim Rooney
 Steve Roush
 John Willis
 Nancy Wisecup

Society Officers

Sandy Shoemaker—President
 Sue Boatman—Vice President
 John Levo—Treasurer
 Nancy Wisecup—Secretary

DIRECTOR: VICKI KNAUFF
 Newsletter Editor: John Glaze
 Historian: Jean Wallis

HCHS is a 501(c)(3)
 non-profit organization

Join our Facebook page!

CHRISTMAS
 WISH LIST

Everyone has a Christmas Wish List, whether it be a shiny new toy, a doll or a new Ferrari. A couple of our board members also have a Christmas Wish List for HCHS.

John T. Willis tells us that the dishwasher at Scott House has gone to that great kitchen in the sky, so he would like someone or a group to contact him if interested in granting this wish. The wish is for something very basic. No bells, no whistles. It turns out something new is cheaper than repairing the old one.

Jim Rooney is wishing for a television for the meeting room. A 60 inch, smart TV which can be used for educational purposes, displays, presentation, talks, etc.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

The Annual Meeting took place on Thursday, 24 October and after the business of the society was completed, Director Vicki Knauff presented Kati Burwinkel with the 2019 Volunteer of the Year Award for her tireless efforts of continuing work on the Lincoln School Project. Kati is on the Ohio Humanities Speakers Bureau and she, along with one or two of the Lincoln student marchers, travels around the state presenting the film and the story of the fight for school integration in Hillsboro in the 1950s.

Many think the creation of the Lincoln School display in Highland House Museum's Humanities Room was the completion of the project. The story has garnered interest not only in Hillsboro and Highland County, but also around the state as well as nationally.

We recently learned that the film was being shown October 27 in Berkley, California.

CONGRATULATIONS TO KATI!

In other business at the Annual Meeting, all reports were presented and approved, as well as a decision authorizing the Society to request another grant from



the Ohio Legislature for continued work to keep our buildings sound. Of importance will be repair of the brickwork at either end of the roof on the museum.

Elected to serve for the term beginning January 2020 were, for the Society at large, President (reelected) Sandy Shoemaker. Newly elected to the position of Vice-President is Carolyn Michael.

Elected to return to the board were Nancy Wisecup, Bob Brown and Denny Kirk. Newly elected to serve were Sue Boatman and Leslie Ramsey. Congratulations to all!

WHO ARE WE?



If you guessed **BOB HODSON** for last issue's mystery child, you were correct! This issue, we have this couple of kids wishing you a *Merry Christmas!*

Who are they?
 (Answer next issue.)

HCHS is a member of:
 Hillsboro Uptown Business Association (HUBA)
 Highland County Chamber of Commerce
 Ohio History Connection
 American Association of State & Local History (AASLH)
 American Alliance of Museums (AMA)

CIVIL WAR DIARY

The Historical Society has acquired a transcribed copy of the Civil War diary of Jacob W. Lucas, a native of Highland County.

The diary is entitled Fourteen Months a Prisoner in the Andersonville Prison. The original diary is with his descendants in St. Joseph, MO.

Jacob was born in 1842 and was the son of Jacob and Elizabeth Turnipseed Lucas. Jacob and his friend, W. H. Martin enlisted in Company I, 89th Ohio Volunteer Infantry in August 1862. Jacob was taken prisoner by the Confederates at the Battle of Chickamauga in Danville, Virginia in Septem-

ber 1863 where he was taken to Andersonville Prison. He, along with 200 other prisoners dug their way out by using knives and tin cups. He returned to his regiment. The diary ends with his escape.

He returned home in August 1865, married and soon moved to Iowa and then to western Missouri where he died in 1916.

Jacob's diary is available in the Highland House Museum library for research. It cannot be checked out.

We are indebted to Brick Autry at the Battle of Pilot Knob Historic Site for contacting HCHS.

FILM FOGGERS EXHIBIT

The Film Foggers Foto Forum selected Highland House Museum as its special topic for an exhibit at the Highland County Fair. These framed photographs are on display in the MERRY MERCANTILE at Highland House. Carolyn Michael chose the historic bell in front of the Museum as her subject and Vicki Stout selected a winter scene of the Cabin, while Carleen Alexander selected a summer photo of the Cabin. The display of Aprons from the log Cabin Cookout several years ago was the photo taken by Karin Smith.

Kate Alexander chose a silver tea set from the dining room as her subject and Michele Clark's photo is of the wood stove in the Pioneer Kitchen. Karin Smith liked the ladies' high top shoes and Jade Faul-Bowen focused on Charles Harsha's Army uniform in the Military Room.

The Film Foggers coordinates the photography exhibit at the fair each year. The organization was started thirty-two years ago and welcomes new members. They meet the third Thursday of each month at the Highland County Administration Building.

The exhibit will be on display through the holiday season.



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News

Merry Mercantile Returns!

The Museum Shop committee is gearing up for the fall/holiday season of 2019. We have been brainstorming ideas for a new layout. Because of limited space, this is a challenge. We also have come up with a few surprises for the Merry Mercantile! Vendors for this year's Mercantile have been finalized. Stay tuned to see what's next!

Thanks to John & Carolyn Kellis for donating a color printer.

INTERNS

The Historical Society was fortunate to have two young men serve as interns during the summer. They assisted Carolyn and Jim in the library, moved furniture, worked in the back yard and helped at

Scott House. First was Logan Reynolds from Peebles. He was a graduate of Hillsboro High School and is *(continued on page 8)*

Condolences to the family of Elinor Cornelius who passed away during the summer. Elinor was a HCHS member for many years.

THANK YOU FOR MONETARY DONATIONS FROM:

Dwight & Betty Crum
Ben Fenner
Bob & Dorothy Hodson
Glenn Roush
Jim & Dixie Stiegler
Betty Wilkin

DONATIONS IN MEMORY OF HARRIET FENNER

Sue Boatman
Nina Bumgarner
Mary Hamilton
Wendell & Freda Harewood
David A. Mayer

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING MADE EASY

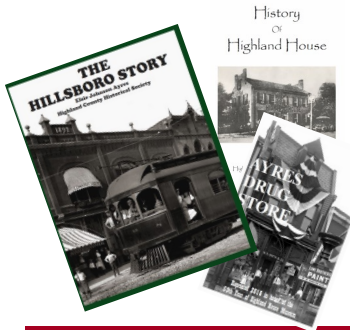
We all have those friends for family members who are so hard to buy for. Here are a few suggestions from THE MUSEUM SHOP at Highland House.

Do you have Civil War buffs? We have quite a selection of books about the Civil War. Note that many of our



books are not new, but only gently used. Most are in single copy only, so, first come, first served!

Other books available (in larger quantities) include The Hillsboro Story, the History of Highland House and History of Ayres Drug Store.



THE MUSEUM SHOP
AT HIGHLAND HOUSE
151 E. MAIN ST.
HILLSBORO, OH 45133

Books by local authors fills a lot of our shelf space also! Not just recent authors, but also, Joseph Foraker, Mack Sauer and Charles Collins, to name but a few.

Does that special someone like jewelry? We have many selections from the Rocky Mountain Leaf Company.



They take real leaves and either encapsulate them in plastic or dry them and dip them into a metal to create stunningly beautiful jewelry. These come in silver, copper and gold.

Have someone who is into cooking? We have many cookbooks from natural

foods up to the high end items! Don't forget our Highland House Cookbook which was enlarged and reprinted last year.

Enjoy the indigenous peoples who inhabited our area? We have large maps of Indian Towns and Villages available. Speaking of maps, have you seen the Hillsboro map from 1853? One can spend quite a long time looking at the differences in the last 150 years.

Antiques are also available in the Museum Shop. Some have been donated, some on consignment and some inherited.

Looking for decorative art for hanging? We have photographic prints as well as original art and older prints.

Ornaments for the tree are available with noted Highland County structures.



Looking for postcards? We have a PLETHORA of post-

cards, most with old photographs of our area. In the card department, we also have a huge assortment of greeting cards and note cards. Like scented candles? We have them! Check out these photos!



REMEMBER! HCHS members save 10% in the shop!



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Denny Kirk, Attorney at Law



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct 21-30 Highland House
CLOSED for Holiday Decorating

Oct. 24 – Annual Meeting;
7pm; Administration Building

Nov. 2 – Christmas Open
House; 9am-4pm. Highland

House

Nov. 8 – Veteran’s Appreciation
Night; 4pm; Hi-Tech Center

Dec. 24– Last day to shop in
the MERRY MERCANTILE; Highland House closes for
winter.

WOMEN’S HALL OF FAME

The Historical Society extends their congratulations to HCHS Members, Sue Boatman, Mary Stanforth and Jane Tissot on their induction this past summer in the Highland County Women’s Hall of Fame. Listed below are current members of the Historical Society who have been inducted in the past. All these women have made major contributions in their professions and offered their time and talents to the betterment of the Highland County community.

Kay Ayres
Peggy Addington
Betty Bishop
Sue Boatman

Helen Caplinger
Gayle Coss
Paulette Donley
Karen Faust
Dorothy Hodson
Gretchen Huffman
Cathy Jones
Vicki Knauff
Kathleen Levo
Catherine Meade
Charlotte Pack
Carlene Phillips
Virginia Purdy
Leslie Ramsey
Rosemary Ryan
Mary Stanforth
Susan Davis Thompson
Jane Tissot
Jean Wallis
Nancy Wisecup
Elsie Young



Susan E Vaher
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Edward Jones
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MKT-5894I-A

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

Did you know that if you are over 70 1/2, you can make a **TAX FREE** contribution directly from your IRA to support non-profits like Highland County Historical Society? You may contribute up to \$100,000 per year through a distribution from your IRA. However, any contribution amount that is right for your financial situation is appreciated.

Depending on your personal tax situation, a donation directly from your IRA to the Society could have more tax advantage for you than a direct personal donation. For this reason, we strongly encourage individuals interested in supporting the mission of the Society through this option to consult with their attorney, tax/financial advisor or accountant to determine the impact of such a gift.

Here’s how it works—Contact your IRA custodian (such as the bank of brokerage firm) that holds and manages your IRA funds and instruct them to make an unrestricted donation from your IRA directly to the Society. Your account custodian will require forms to be completed. To ensure your distribution through your IRA quali-

fies as a tax deduction, it is important that the custodian makes the check payable to Highland County Historical Society and send it directly to the Society. A direct IRA donation may be made any time throughout the year, but if you decide to help the Society through a direct IRA donation at yearend, please plan to do so no later than December 10 as custodians need additional lead time for yearend donation requests to be processed. Please call Highland House and let us know of your decision to donate. We are happy to provide you with the information and mailing instructions your custodian may require.

Thank you for your consideration and support of Highland County Historical Society.

(Note that we again stress that this article is not intended to be legal advice and should not be inferred as such. Always contact those qualified to offer advice in this matter before any decision is made.)

John Levo

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CHRISTMAS EVE IN THE GOOD OLD DAYS CHRISTMAS AT "THE POINT"

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

It was Christmas Eve in the early 1940s. The weather was cold with a bit of snow and a chill in the air. The Head household was abuzz. Last minute gifts wrapped, food preparation and the Ford car gassed up ready for our annual trip to our aunts' home at "The Point."

Daddy got home from his work at the bank early. Their balance for the day had to be to the penny. Just a posting machine, a pencil and a good mind accomplished this task.

The aunts had everything ready for our trip and visit. My sister sat in the front seat with Daddy. I was in the back between the aunts. We were all dressed in wool coats, scarves, mittens and boots. The aunts and Daddy had on their hats, the style for winter in the 40s. There was little heat in the old

Ford, so we had a big warm wool blanket over our knees.

We were off to "The Point" and Beech Haven, the name given to my aunt and uncle's home. The speed limit was 30 miles per hour and it seemed forever to get down Route 50 to Boston, then Rainsboro, and then there was a big barn with a "Mail Pouch" sign on its side. We knew we were getting close. As we crossed over Rocky Fork Creek and turned onto Cave Road, we really started to get excited.

When we came down the hill we could see Beech Haven in the distance. The cabin was in the field by the house. It had been built for our family to stay.

The dogs, Bonnie and Spike, would start barking to greet us and we could hardly

wait to get out of the car to go inside. There were wonderful smells of super good food and a roaring fire in the fireplace. We saw lots of presents under the Christmas tree which was decorated with large lights and glass-like ball ornaments in all colors. There were different special ornaments made by my cousins over the years. Everyone was always so happy and glad to see us.

When it was time to eat, our aunt called us to the big round table to take our places. After a prayer, my uncle would serve the plates that were passed around to each person. My aunt had a special dessert that she only made for Christmas. It was a plum pudding with a sugar sauce and it was so good!!

After this dinner, we were all stuffed and the children were all begging to open presents. It always seemed like forever for the women to get things cleaned up.

We all cheered when, at last, it was time to open presents. We ALL got presents. It was so much fun!

Time went by quickly and it was soon time for us to get ready for our trip back to Hillsboro. My sister and I were dressed in our pajamas. By the time we got home, we were asleep and ready for bed. As Daddy tucked me in to bed, I thought I heard a sleigh bell. It's Santa! With that happy thought, I turned over and went to sleep.

Tomorrow would be Christmas!

Helen Ford

Vicki Knauff presented this report at the annual meeting.

Current membership total stands at 302 memberships, representing approximately 400 individuals. Our attendance both at Highland House and off-site events is 1834.

Cataloging in Past Perfect continues. Since last year's annual meeting, 681 items have been entered making the total 4002. The focus this past year has been on the library. Books total 2168 items. A tremendous thanks to Carolyn Hastings, Jim Rooney and our two student interns for adding spine labels to all books and getting them shelved in proper order. In addition, all of Jean Wallis' Guide Posts articles have been catalogued and key words listed in Past Perfect, so we can find articles based on subjects, names or places.

Volunteer hours for this year total 1606.

Events during the past year:

February—Chillicothe Men's Choir and Gist Settlement presentation.

March—Life at the Gist Settlement Presentation and St. Patrick's Day Brunch

April—Ohio Stories; Children's Tea; Shop Workers' Training; Volunteer Workers' Training

May—Open for season; Coast-To-Coast Yard Sale, Bob Hodson honored on Veteran Banner

June—Biennial Home Tour
July—East Main Historic Dis-

(continued on page 8)



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LOOKING FOR A PARTY VENUE?

Is your family, club or social group looking for a place to hold your Christmas gathering? You can rent the beautiful facility for on-



plenty of the 175 year will be beautiful and a won-in which to

rent the beautiful facility for on-ly \$75. There's parking and old building fully decorated for the meet. Call John T. Willis to check on open dates and other details. 937-205-8751.

MERRY MERCANTILE

To give you more incentive to shop at the MERRY MERCANTILE, here is a list of our "departments" and the crafters:

HOME DECOR

- Kaitlin Kisling
- Liz Odland
- Jean Fawley
- Andi Reno
- Elaine Balsley

HOLIDAY DECOR

- Susan Hart

JEWELRY

- Avery Applegate
- Mary Hamilton
- Brenda Armstrong

POTTERY

- Mike Bick
- Terry Vance

FOOD

- Stephanie Young
- Jaybird Farms
- Kathy Levo
- Alberta Duncan

APPAREL

- Christy Baer
- Alberta Duncan
- Eric Vanden Oever

ARTS

- Marco Renk

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS NEW

- Brent Angles
- Stephen & Brenda Bradds
- Sandra Crum
- Becky Dorton
- Betty Fox
- John & Carol Hanna
- Greg Hastings
- Jennifer Jenkins
- John & Shirley King
- Joyce Kittrell
- Melissa Lanoue
- Sara McLaughlin
- Rosalind Newman
- Dale K. Phillips
- Caroyl Reid
- Beverly Rhoads
- Earl & Vicky Smith
- Jack & Karin Smith
- Jim & Dixie Stiegler
- Annette Thurston
- Elsie Young

- Mike Ames
- Patty Burns
- Howard & Judy Falk
- Bill & Diane Fawley
- Bob & Vicki George
- Leslie Ramsey
- Rachel Stapleton

Please help this list grow next quarter. Why not give a friend or family member the gift of History with a membership in Highland County Historical Society



WOW!
Check it out!
Santa has been shopping at the MERRY MERCANTILE!

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MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Check the date found on your mailing label. This is your membership renewal date. If it falls within the period of this newsletter, your renewal statement is enclosed. Please make any corrections or additions on the form and return it with your payment. Please consider increasing your membership to the next level.

Our Mission Statement

“To encourage community involvement in the preservation, education and promotion of Highland County history and genealogy for the benefit of all people for present and future generations.”

DIRECTOR'S REPORT *(continued)*

trict Walking Tour

August—Moses Trimble Monument Dedication; Heartland presentation; Hall of Fame Ceremony; Ghost Walk; Pioneer Day

September—Log Cabin Cookout & Auction; Laurels Presentation

October—Annual Meeting; Christmas decorations up and Christmas Shop Roll In

November—Christmas Open House; Merry Mercantile Opens; Veteran's Appreciation Night

December—Merry Mercantile open; Close for winter

News *(continued)*

currently a senior at Shawnee State University majoring in history. Our second intern was Freddie Johnson, a senior at Hillsboro High School and passionate about history.

Many thanks to these two young men who volunteered many hours serving our society two days a week. Freddie

continues to volunteer after school.

There are many new items within the year-round Museum Shop. Be sure to take a look when you visit the MERRY MERCANTILE! Remember—members save 10% on purchases!

Give a gift of history.

Local history.

Highland County History!

Membership in HCHS

