

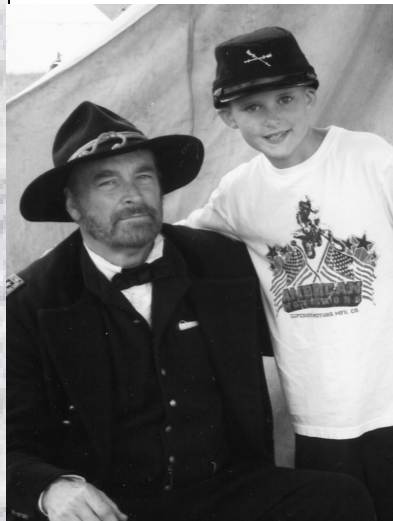
Museum Muses

Highland County Historical Society, 151 E Main St, Hillsboro, OH 45133 937-393-3392
<http://www.highlandco.org/HCHS.html>

Remember!

- Holiday Open House!
- Children's Christmas Tea Party
- Prepare to Volunteer
- And more!

September Meeting



Hi: My name is Zane Mustard and I am a 5th grade student at Rainsboro Elementary. My parents are Doug and Jenny Mustard. My dad and friend, Ethan Cockrill, and I attended your September meeting when Rob Snively gave a presentation about the global view of the Civil War.

I have been interested in Civil War history for several years. I think my interest was started by my uncle, Jason Vesey, who is a history teacher at Lynchburg. My family and I visited Gettysburg during the reenactment time in July a few years ago. The picture above of General Grant and me is from the reenactment.

I really enjoyed Mr. Snively's presentation about what could have happened if other countries would have aided the South during the war. It really could have become the first World War. Ethan and I really enjoyed looking at the guns and

other displays throughout the building. I would like to come back again in the future.

Thank You,
Zane

Time For Tea!

The Children's Christmas Tea Party will be held on Saturday, December 10 at 1:00 PM. This will be an elegant tea party featuring entertainment and favors for each child. Children are invited to bring a favorite doll or stuffed animal with them. **As seating is limited, reservations are required!** Use this form:

Inside this issue:

September Meeting	1
Time for Tea!	1
Society News	2
President's Report	2
US Government Essay	3
Wear Me Out!	4

Mail or drop form and payment through the mail slot at Highland house, 151 E Main St, Hillsboro.
 RESERVATION DEADLINE: Wednesday, December 7

Names: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Nbr of reservations: _____ x \$6.00 each = _____
 (Very young children should be accompanied by an adult.)

Society News

Your Board of Trustees continues to meet monthly, watching over the museum structure, society funds, etc. December is always an exciting time at Highland House. Beginning in November, members of organizations in the county come to the museum and adopt a room to decorate for the Christmas season. That is going on now to prepare for the open house dates of December 3 & 4, 10 & 11 and 17 & 18 when Highland House can be visited during the hours of 1 to 4 PM. This is always a nice time to bring friends or relatives to the museum to show it off.

As surely as the morning follows the night, Spring

will arrive and with it, the biennial tour of homes. The committee assigned with this duty has been at work for a few months already, contacting homeowners and beginning to plan for this huge event.

The committee assigned with the task of finding a new director for the museum continues their work of putting together a list of duties, contacting interested persons, interviewing and recommending.

So, your board is hard at work. How can you help? When the call comes out for volunteers to work at Highland House, please respond with a resounding, "YES!" Attend meetings, bring friends. Share the wonderful gift of Highland House by purchasing memberships to HCHS for Christmas Gifts! Have a wonderful holiday season!

President's Report

Bob Lambert

We had a very successful period this fall. Our fundraising for the restoration of the court house columns was a success with over \$10,000 given by local businesses and individuals as well as society members living elsewhere. Thank you notes were sent to the donors as of September 1st with more to be sent soon. The contractors have been paid and the clean up crew was also paid from our special 'court house' fund at Merchants Bank. Restoration efforts are continuing on the doors and entry ways with funding from other sources. The Ohio State Supreme Court held session here on October 19th and the historical society was featured in newspaper and print articles about the visit. I was honored to be invited to lunch with the members of the court and all remarked on the wonderful condition of our court house. As the oldest court house in continuous use in the state of Ohio, this historic house of the citizens is a source of pride for our county. Many thanks are due to the members who contributed to this effort.

The documentary, "Prohibition," was shown earlier this month and we were credited as a contributor to the film during the closing credits. Lester and Jean Wallis and I were also credited for our work with the production company. I have already received phone calls and emails from people looking to learn more about Hillsboro's role in the movement. I received a complimentary copy of the movie that will be available for viewing at a later date or loaned out for home viewing. Copies can also be ordered at www.pbs.org

Our director search committee is working to interview candidates for the position. As events progress over the next few months the qualifications and responsibilities may change for the position as we look at new properties and acquisitions. I will keep you informed of our progress.

The Tour Magazine that was recently published by the Highland County Convention and Visitor's Bureau has a nice article about the historical society as well as a story about the genealogical society. Copies are available in the back hallway of the museum and at local merchants and the Chamber of Commerce

offices. Make plans for next summer to see Highland County first.

Decorations will be going up soon at the museum. Several groups have contacted us for set-up dates and assistance with entry to the museum. Holiday hours are to be determined and will be announced as soon as plans are complete. A general membership meeting will be held during the holiday season this year so everyone can enjoy the warm hospitality of Highland House.

New board members were selected by ballot and will start their service January 1st 2012. Congratulations to Helen Ford and Leslie Lightner, our newest board members. A slate of candidates for officers will be available at our November meeting for voting during our December general membership meeting. Our expanded outreach and plans for the museum will require the support and work of many people to be a success. Please contact us to volunteer your talents. We plan to have a good old fashioned housecleaning over the winter so the museum will be fresh for next season. Thanks to everyone who helped make our 2011 season one of the most successful ones in recent memory. Our exposure to the community has increased and our coverage in the newspaper has increased greatly. This January will mark the start of a renewed membership drive and capital campaign, so watch for details coming soon.

Thanks for helping preserve Highland County history by your generous donations of money and time. Future generations will be thankful that our efforts enabled them to discover their heritage. Memorial gifts to the society are welcomed and help maintain operations of the museum and special projects.

Warmest Regards,

Bob Lambert, President

Essay for US Government

Samuel Henry

Topic: The Ohio Supreme Court was created in Article IV, Section 2 of the Ohio Constitution. Explain the powers and authority of the Court and its relationship to other branches of state government. Explain how cases come before the court, the type of cases that it accepts, and the impact of its decisions.

Twelve districts, eighty-eight counties, 6507 populated places, among them 681 villages and 251 cities, and over 11.5 million people. This is the state of Ohio, in short. Each has its own governing body, to an extent, and within that, a judicial system. But above that is one unified power. Superior to all yet member of none is the Ohio Supreme Court.

What exactly is the “Ohio Supreme Court,” though? For one, it is a part of the judicial branch of the State government. Everyone knows the saying: “The legislative branch makes the laws, the executive branch enforces the laws, and the judicial branch interprets the laws.” Simple, but true. The Supreme Court does just as one would expect. It interprets law, and does so in the form of hearing trials, particularly from courts of appeals. Decisions originating from the Court can have a significant impact; many laws have been altered by Supreme Court verdicts.

The Ohio Supreme Court came from humble beginnings. Established in 1802, the original court consisted of three judges known as “justices.” Among other duties, they were required to hold court in each county at least once a year. This process was known as “riding the circuit,” and involved the three members traveling on horseback from county to county. Over the years, the court system has evolved through technology, new laws, etc. For example, the judges no longer commerce on horseback (though that’s not to say they couldn’t, if they wished). Now, they are more centralized, with their base of operations at the Ohio Judicial Center, located at sixty-five South Front Street. Despite a number of changes, though, the purpose and

call of duty have remained the same throughout the years.

Today, the court is made up of seven justices. Each is elected for a six-year term, and one of them is the chief justice. The chief justice is the head of the Court. In his or her absence, the longest-serving member fills in. Also, a case cannot be held unless the majority of the members (so, four) are present. However, assuming the majority is present, a session can take place and a verdict can be achieved. If any member is absent, it is the responsibility of the chief justice (acting or official) to assign another judge to sit in, providing he or she is a member of a court of appeals. Regardless of who is doing the judging, the decisions of the justices—masters of their domain—are final.

Aside from assigning proxies in the event that they cannot fulfill their duties, the justices of the Supreme Court do in fact perform tasks. Most cases do not fall under its jurisdiction, but those that do tend to be of paramount importance. The most common of these are those that could not be resolved in courts of appeals from one of the aforementioned twelve districts. Interpretation of the law is key for the Court. In fact, that is the biggest reason cases are brought before it. Issues of Constitutionality regarding laws are never an easy topic to decipher. Perhaps it is for this reason that the Supreme Court is frequently referred to as the “court of last resort.” If a case has gone through several different courts and still cannot be solved, generally it will head to South Front Street.

Cases involving the death penalty are a high priority for the Supreme Court. Any and all cases where the death penalty has been imposed are heard by the Court. Again, many of these come from district courts of appeal.

Another area of jurisdiction for the Supreme Court is the reviewing of actions of a few administrative agencies. Among these agencies are the

Public Utilities Commission and the Board of Tax Appeals. Should they be performing acts that aren’t quite within the Constitution, it is the duty of the Supreme Court to reprimand and rule on whatever the infraction may be.

Hearing cases is not the only area where the Supreme Court has authority, though. One power granted via the Constitution is the ability to essentially regulate the practice of law in Ohio. The Court sets the Bar for all those wishing to become attorneys. It establishes the codes for all who are involved in the practice of law regarding proper discipline and the “legal” right to practice, just to name a few. Any who are looking to become (or already are) lawyers fall under the authority of the Ohio Supreme Court.

This authority goes beyond attorneys, though. The Ohio Supreme Court has *supreme* power over all the courts in Ohio. Local courts, district courts, county courts: they all fall under its jurisdiction and influence. This license usually comes in the form of universal court procedures and guidelines that the Supreme Court publishes. Whenever alterations are made, they are officially recorded and added as amendments to the State Constitution—the Ohio Revised Code.

Judges, namely of common pleas courts, are subject to the will of the Supreme Court also. Should a judge be found inadequate to perform his or her task, the Court has the authority to dismiss said judge. Naturally, there must be sufficient cause for such a disqualification, but it is suitable to note that the Supreme Court does contain that degree of influence.

As mentioned, verdicts made by the court can have significant consequences. The most noteworthy decisions involve the rewriting of the Ohio Constitution. Such an occurrence is very rare, but it has happened several times over the course of history. The first alteration came in 1852, after it was
(continued on page 4)

Highland County Historical Society
151 E Main St
Hillsboro, OH 45133
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this Christmas!*

US Government Essay

(continued from page 3)

deemed that the original Constitution gave too much power to the legislative branch. The second revision was brought about in 1912. There, Progressives were pushing hard for reform, and eventually succeeded, causing the addition of thirty-three amendments. This overhaul included laws from minimum wage regulation to extending the state's bill of rights. Essentially, a whole new Constitution was written.

The Ohio Supreme Court is exactly what it sounds like it should be. Powerful, authoritative, and just, it rules over the seventeenth state with unbiased, objective eyes. Over two hundred years of existence have brought about various changes, but not once has the goal changed. The Supreme Court stands immortal in its duties; forever will it work to bring forth justice in our society.

Samuel Henry

Welcome New Board Members!

Helen Ford

Leslie Lightner

WEAR OUT OR RUST OUT?

Virgie Lee McLaughlin used to say that she intended to **WEAR OUT**, not **RUST OUT**. Are you living your life in order to wear out or are you sitting along the sideline, well on your way to rusting out? Now, we all know the answer we would like to believe describes our life, but what would others say? When you get a call to help out at Highland House, do you respond, "Sure! Wear me out!"? When the opportunity is presented to use your gifts and talents, do you prefer to sit at home and get rusty? If we had just 10 to 20% increase in volunteerism in HCHS, can you imagine how our organization and museum could soar? Think about the young men who contributed to this issue of MUSEUM MUSES. What kind of example are we setting for them and the other young folks in our community? As we move toward engaging a new Museum Director, be ready! Think about ways in which you could help HCHS and Highland House. Then, let's really shock our new Director. Don't wait for a call for help. As soon as the new person is in place, give him or her a call, explain what gifts and talents you have (modestly, of course!) and offer to be **WORN OUT!**