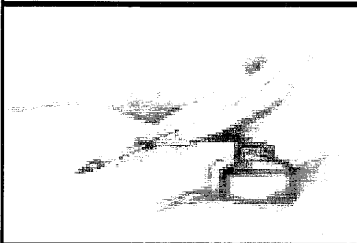


Highland County Historical Society

MUSEUM MUSES



Spring Issue
2007

Director: Margaret Van Frank—937-393-3263
mvanfrank@cincir.com

What's New:

Rummage Sale!

Museum members voted to have a rummage sale this summer as a fund raiser for the museum. Now's the time to start digging in your attic, cleaning those cluttered closets, and peering in the cellar for those unused items that might be appropriate for the rummage sale.

We're looking for items such as furniture, glassware, china, old postcards, antique tools, toys, gently used summer clothing, baby clothes, jeans, also costume jewelry, craft supplies etc. Other saleable items are welcomed as well.

PLEASE PRICE YOUR ARTICLES!!

More info to follow in the June newsletter.

Have a question? Call Maxine Kratzer at 937-393-0885 or Anne Rhude at 937-393-1255 for answers or to volunteer to help!

A Message from President Jean Wallis:

Spring Greetings from your President!

After a rather unusual winter, weather wise, we greet spring with much enthusiasm.

The house tour scheduled for the first week of May has been canceled due to a lack of houses available for showing. We will try to host this event next year.

We need to be looking for other ways to raise money to enhance the Society's coffers. A committee has been formed and has submitted an idea of having a yard sale during the Festival of the Bells. Committee members are Anne Rhude and Maxine Kratzer.

We need more ideas though in order to make this fund raising effort viable. Please contact any member with suggestions.

Society programs will begin on Thursday evening, April 26 at 7:00 p.m. The program that night will feature the history of Hillsborough and will commemorate her 200th birthday.

The Highland House Museum will be opening on Sunday, May 27 and will remain open on Sunday afternoons through Labor Day. It will be closed Father's Day, June 17th.

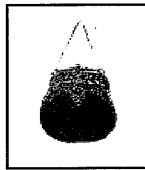
We need a volunteer to set up the Sunday schedules. Anyone willing to help?

Jean



**Catherine Wilkins
Dorothy Gall
Mary Heskett
Joan Brokaw
Marie Knott
Lou Lamb
Charles Sansone**

New Acquisitions



Vintage Items—beaded purses, scarf, old newspapers from Beverly Wilson Palmer



JoAnna Mahan!

Single Memberships	51
Family Memberships	42
Sustaining Memberships	19
Single Life Memberships	6
Family Life Memberships	<u>2</u>
	120 pd

Lifetime Memberships: Bill Bolte, Audrey Birtchman, Jenny Cameron, Ernie Blankenship, Wm. J. Houk, Bob Higgins, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Redkey

Director's Report:

By
Margaret VanFrank

Another season has come and gone. As we reflect on the most recent one we are pleased to relate that so very many were so helpful and cooperative. We wish to thank the following clubs who so generously gave of their time and talents regardless of their busy schedules: **Woman's Club, Mother's Club, Esoteric, Towne Club, New Petersburg Civic club, and The Quilter's Group. What an outstanding job they did!**

We also wish to thank the group of painters, **Gretchen Huffman, Sharon Huffman, Freida Redkey and Jan Houston**, for their decorative ability in doing the "Home Town" current building which is The Martin Buck House.

Many thanks to the gift shop buyers who did the shopping, purchasing, and decorating of the Christmas gift shop. They also staffed the shop for events. Those ladies are: **Arlene Huffman, Jeanne Wilkerson, and Margaret VanFrank.**

The Children's Tea Party was a great success thanks to **Brenda Bradds, Michelle Truitt, and Jennifer Jenkins.** These ladies graciously prepared and furnished the food for the entire tea.

Again, I wish to THANK everyone for a great year!!

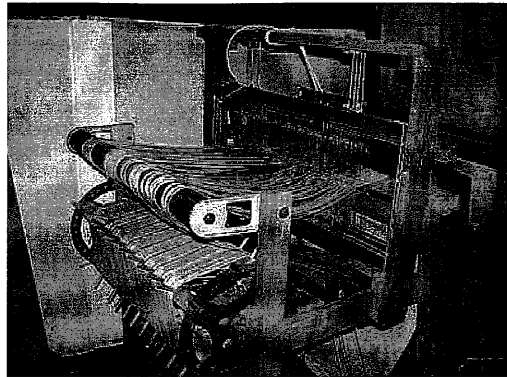
We Need YOUR Help!

How about volunteering to share some fun work hours with us? We still need to catalog books, etc, so that our outstanding library will continue to remain current. We plan to have a "Library Open House" during the Festival of the Bells. At that time the antique book shelves and periodical table from the original Hillsboro Library will be on display.

We also need help maintaining the herb bed, the peony patch and the hostas. Please plan to share a little time with us as we need to begin sprucing up the grounds. Call and we'll be glad to work with you for an hour, a day or a week. We'll be here.....will you?

Just the Facts.....

By Brenda Bradds



Newcomb Loom Company

According to the “journal of the Newcomb Looms Historical Society”, and other resources, the Newcomb Loom Company was established in Davenport, Iowa by Charles Newcomb, a contractor and wheel maker, in 1889. The looms themselves were manufactured in Tipton, Iowa (a small town about 40 miles northwest of Davenport). Mr. Newcomb used Davenport as a distribution point for his products. His original three models were the Little Daisy, the Number 3, and the Weaver’s Friend. In 1899, he began production of the Weaver’s Delight which quickly became the most popular loom of the company. Mr. Newcomb sold 100’s of these looms in the early 1880’s in Nebraska, Kansas and western Iowa.

In 1900, Charles Newcomb resigned from the company to “enjoy the fruits of his labor” (he had patent rights on all four looms and was quite well off at this time. William Stark appears to have purchased the company and acted as manager, while Charles Pasche became president of the corporation. In 1919 the company was purchased by Frank Knierem.

The company published a newsletter (The Weaver’s Monthly) which was full of weaving tips, stories from weavers, and included plenty of advertisements for weaving supplies and for Newcomb Loom equipment including cutting boards, wide rug looms, and something called a Power Frayer. Newcomb offered many services to their customers, including a ‘second owner registry’ (people who bought used looms were encouraged to register with Newcomb and receive free assembly and instruction booklets. The company would even send someone out to help with the assembly and to lend assistance in setting up a weaving business. These and other considerations led the company to peak profits in 1955.

Unfortunately, with the exception of a handcraft revival the demand for large looms faded, In the early 1980’s, high costs, low profits and health problems led the family to close the company.

The company disposed of its loom molds in 1983.

This model was recently purchased by Steve and Brenda Bradds. It is in excellent condition, needs only minor restoration and will soon be ready for weaving. That is.....once we learn how!!

Items of Interest:

Gift Shop sales were very good during the holidays.

The "Home Town" Houses sold very well.

We are contacting a supplier to obtain a cost to extend the sound systems to the second floor as previously approved.

Dedicated Funds:

Log House—\$455.31

Memorial Fund—\$2,903.36 (will be used to fund the new sound system)

Explorer's Fund—\$1,000 (will go toward new shades)

Gas bill last month—\$1,225.00

Gas bill this month—\$875.64

Please plan to volunteer for one of our special projects today! It just takes a little extra effort from each of us.....to make us all successful!

**Highland House Museum
151 East Main Street
Hillsboro, Ohio 45133**

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