

M U S E U M M U S E S

from

The Highland House

151 E. Main Street  
Hillsboro, Ohio 45133  
March 15, 1985

Hopefully all the snow for this winter season has been shoveled. We are working on the theory that spring is here. All signs point that way. Our first meeting of 1985 will be March 28, 1985 at 8:00 P.M. at the Highland House. You will be informed about events that have happened since we last met. Some of them will be noted in this letter. Ask any questions about the Society and we will find an answer.

Judge Richard L. Davis of the Highland County Probate Court will tell us about the workings of his court. Since his court handles estates, the records are valuable geneology sources. We will have a very interesting evening. Lester & Jean Wallis will be host and hostess for the evening. Come and bring a friend.

The tour of homes on Dec. 16, 1984 was a great success. We had 330 paid admissions plus a \$10.00 donation for a total income of \$1560.00. In addition we signed up some new members, sold some pamphlets etc. We made no special effort to get an accurate record of the 330 people but Dr. Bodenhamer, Sandy and Debbie Harsha and the Highland House had books out for people to sign in. Dr. Bodenhamer had 299 to register, the Harsha's had 277, and there was 184 at the Highland House. Percentages were about the same at all three places: Hillsboro 50%, balance of Highland County mainly from Leesburg and Greenfield 15%, Clinton County 15%, Cincinnati area 10%, the balance from many places including one from Texas and four from Kentucky.

One lady was from Cincinnati who organizes bus tours. She came to see how we conducted ourselves. If we did things properly and we had another tour next season we could expect some tour busses from there. How did we rate? Very good. In fact excellent. well executed! One suggestion she made - start planning now for the next one to give her time to organize her bus tours.

Has everyone seen the new sign in front of the Highland House? It was first installed on Dec. 15, 1984 in time for the tour of homes. It has had its ups and downs however. During the blizzard one side fell off. It had to be rescued in zero weather. It was placed back in warmer weather and the 50 mile an hour winds of this week broke it off completely. It is now back up temporarily but it has severe face lacerations. Virginia Bare, our Curator, had it placed there. She didn't like the other one as several others suggested too.

Here are some of the events of your society that have occurred during the winter:

We have received a large bookcase that belonged to Mr. Benson Foraker, a former Senator from Ohio. This was a gift from Douglas Terry. It has been placed in the front room on the West side.

In it is a number of books of various titles presented to us by Mr. & Mrs. H. Dana Williams of Wilmington, Ohio. Mrs. Williams was the former Kathryn Sanders from the Samantha area.

We have a wooden replica of the Highland House made by a prisoner at the Chillicothe Correctional Institute from Highland County. He made it from an old picture of the Northwest corner of the building. It is quite accurate in detail except the front door. It was hidden in the picture by the tree in the front yard.

We have had a brochure made up and printed by Mr. Martellotti's students at Hillsboro High School. We will give you a copy at the meeting and invite your comments. This one was used at the Appalachia Fling at Eastgate Mall the first of March.

See you at the meeting on the 28th.

M U S E U M M U S E S

from

T H E H I G H L A N D H O U S E

151 E. MAIN STREET  
HILLSBORO, OHIO 45133  
APRIL 15, 1985

April 25, 1985 is the time for our next meeting. It starts at 8:00 P. M. at the Highland House. In case you hadn't heard Betty Saum has been riding around the country taking pictures of covered bridges. She will be our program to tell us all about it along with the pictures of both bridges and some flowers. Trivia question: What is the difference between a cantilever and a suspension bridge? Many covered bridges use a simple truss bridge. Do I confuse you? Ask Betty.

Wesley and Sarah Roush will be our host and hostess for this evening.

At our March meeting Judge Richard Davis told us all about what goes on the work day in the Probate Court. It was fantastic the many records they keep on all kinds of transactions. There are even some sales transactions of slaves that occurred before the Civil War - even some that freed their slaves. He is also the Juvenil Judge. He told of some interesting events in that section of his work.

Virginia Bare, our curator, had collected several interesting items for the museum over the winter. One was a large wooden model of the Highland House made by an inmate of the Chillicothe Correctional Institute. He had a post card picture of the building and made up entirely from that picture.

There has been some movement on the backyard problem. The large heavy display case has been sold that was stored in the garage. It has been moved out. Mrs. Kirk has been given official notice to vacate the East half of the garage by April 30, 1985. Ernie Williamson has provided some planks for placing on the ground under those items to be stored.

The light fixtures in the front hall and the back hall have been repaired. Mr. David

Stratton and his helper did the necessary repairs without charge. Since it was done this way we wanted to see he received the recognition. However in repairing the front hall light he found the insulation was so old it had cracked and fallen off causing a bare wire to snap, crackle and pop when Virginia pulled the light on. Question: How many others are like that?

We received an announcement from The Southeastern Ohio Cultural Arts Center at Athens, Ohio of an exhibit from April 25 through May 12 of APPALACHIA OHIO \* TWENTY YEARS LATER. We pass it along to you for an excursion. It will tell you what has gone on these last 20 years in Appalachia Ohio. We have more information if you are interested.

The Society was invited this last weekend to sponsor a 4-H club. Knowing the fine reputation of these clubs and knowing it would be working with school agers, and the financial committment being only \$30.00 we tentatively agreed to go along with it. We will bring you up todate on it at the meeting.

Mrs. Sally Rogers will bring her Girl Scout troop to visit the Museum on April 23rd.

In case you missed the one sentence announcement in the Press Gazette Anchor Savings Assn. has dropped their plan to raze the Goodwill Building. Their drive in window is now located at the rear of the corner building. Their plan calls for a meeting room in the lower floor. Mr. George McGuire has asked the Society to provide pictures of the history of Hillsboro. He is calling it "THE HILLSBOROUGH ROOM". It is an interesting project. You will hear more about it.

See you on the 25th at the Highland House.

M U S E U M M U S E S

F R O M .

T H E H I G H L A N D H O U S E

151 E. MAIN STREET  
HILLSBORO, OHIO 45133

It is time for another meeting of our Historical Society. It will happen on April 24th at the Highland House at 8:00 P. M. That is our regular Thursday time. We have heard some expressions to have a show and tell program. Since it has been a while since we have had one this will be the time.

If you have some item with an interesting history - if you have an interesting item that has become yours bring it to our meeting and tell us about it. The item might be a brooch, a pin, a hat, grandfather's watch, grandmother's shawl. Bring it along and tell us about it.

Leland Pennington has volunteered to be our host for the evening.

Secretary Jean Wallis is home recuperating from surgery. V. Pres. Suzie Sharp has an addition to her family - a bouncing baby boy. Board member Bill Lukens is recovering and resting from his surgery.

Since our last meeting one of our most enthusiastic members was taken from us. Joan Young attended all meetings she could make. She was active in the HANDS group with her weaving, dying, even growing the wool for her clothe. She is survived by her husband, Paul. He designated that memorial gifts should be made to the Historical Society. Three weeks after we are still receiving gifts in her memory. She will be missed by many people.

We have been looking into painting the outside trim on the Highland House. It has not been painted for several years. If you see things happening you will know about it.

We received a call from Mary Levo who is chairman of the committee to decorate store windows for the Festival of the Bells. Mary has several windows available and is asking any member if they have a collection they would like to display. If you can help call Mary for further details. Her telephone is 393-2419.

Last year we sponsored a 4-H club that taught geneology. Our main responsibility was to provide the medals for achievement. We have again sponsored this club for the present year.

We are taking an inventory of items in our Museum. The objective is to evaluate and locate as best as possible for fire insurance objectives. We have the contents insured but the values are in the hazy areas.

The House Doctor from the PRIDE meeting visited the Highland House. We have received only a verbal report to this time. It was recommended we have more air circulation in the basement and the attic to dry out the building better. We learned the proper formula for pointing up outside brick. Certain repairs were suggested up in the attic.

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from

T H E H I G H L A N D  
H O U S E

151 East Main Street  
Hillsboro, Ohio 45133

May 21, 1985

Our next meeting will be May 30, 1985, the fifth Thursday, at 8:00 P. M. at the Highland House. Stephen Kelley, Pres. of Adams County Historical Society will present a program on Indian Artifacts. Steve is an amateur archaeologist. He will share a bit of his hobby with us. It should be a most interesting evening. Inez Harsha will be the hostess for the evening.

At our last meeting Betty Saum had a very interesting program in pictures of covered bridges and flowers in our area. It was educational as well as seeing gorgeous flowers. Thank you, Betty, for a fine evening.

On Saturday May 18th Jack Hope had a tour group take a walking tour of our town. It included Bell's Opera House, Highland Co. Court House, The Highland House and a visit with Dr. Bodenhamer on Lilly Hill. We hope they enjoyed their stay in Hillsboro.

For the last two weeks a committee, your President, Lester Wallis and Beverly Hottle, have been going over old photographs that belong to the Society picking and choosing developing and planning on which ones will best fit into the new meeting room on the lower floor of Anchor Savings - Magnet Bank. As of this moment twelve of them are in place with thirteen more to be hung when they are ready. Mr. George McQuire of Anchor suggested this. The room is to be known as "THE HILLSBOROUGH ROOM". To older members of the community it will bring back memories. To our youngsters there will have to be some history learned about ourselves. That is good.

Have you seen copies of The Highland County Magazine? If you want to learn about our early history there are many stories about it - all most interesting.

Our Secretary, Jean Wallis, wants us to report that in June our annual dues are due. For people who are local - this will be your notice. A statement will be sent to those who live at distant points. Dues this year are \$8.00 for husband and wife, \$5.00 single. Your dues card will be mailed when payment has been received. This is a different procedure than in the past. So pay particular attention - dues are due.

Leland Pennington has proposed for your approval three groups to be included in our Hall of Fame. Here are their names so you may be thinking about it and be ready for a vote:

(1) Howard the Magician and his assistant, Elvonne. That was their stage name. They are actually Mr. & Mrs. Howard Smith who were on the stage from 1929 to 1975 at schools on stage at crossroads anywhere. They were well known in several states near by. They worked with other famous people on stage. They always called Hillsboro their home. Mrs. Smith is still living on the Danville Pike just outside Hillsboro.

(2) C. R. & son, Fred, Patterson of Greenfield who manufactured one of the early automobiles, known as the Patterson-Greenfield. C. R. came to Greenfield after the Civil War when he was freed as a slave. He was a blacksmith and made buggies and wagons of many different designs. His son, Fred, followed in his footsteps. He was the first black student to graduate from Greenfield Highschool. He graduated from Ohio State University. As the buggy business died out Fred built horseless carriages. They prospered from 1916 to 1919 when finances called a halt and the business was sold.

(3) Dr. Sigel Roush 1862-1954 was a novelist, Dentist, Lecturer and World Traveler. Although he spent 45 years of his life in Troy, N.Y. as a Dentist he returned to Highland County following his retirement. He and his wife travelled extensively and lectured in many places about his travels.

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T H E H I G H L A N D H O U S E

151 E. MAIN ST.  
HILLSBORO, OHIO 45133

June 21, 1985

Our next meeting of the Society will be June 27, 1985 at 8:00 P. M. Make a special note it will be held in the Hillsborough Room of Anchor Savings Assn at the corner of S. High and Walnut Streets. It was announced at our last meeting about the pictures Beverly Hottle and Lester Wallis have provided for their decoration. We thought you would like to see it first hand. This should provide you with plenty of conversation material, hence the program. It is also time for the annual election of five members of the Board whose time has come up for reelection or replacement.

Five members of the Board are elected each year for a term of three years. The class of 1985 is Betty Saum, Ernest Williamson, Virginia Bare, John N. Chaney and Paul Burch. As we have proceeded in past elections nominations will be received from the floor and voting will be done by ballot. The Board will meet following the regular meeting to organize for the coming year.

Here are some other happenings around the Society:

Note the bell in front of The Highland House has been refurbished for the Festival of Bells coming up over the 4th of July. Sandy Harsha was in charge.

The grass has been cut and trimmed this summer by Jared Harsha, Sandy's son. It has been looking good, don't you think?

We have received several items from the Estate of Dorothy Scarborough Joseph of Danville, Knox Co, Ohio. The largest item is the three corner cupboard now in our dining room. Two large oil paintings of members of her family and some silverware were included. We rented a trailer and drove to Danville to pick it up. Almost forgotten was the antique mantle clock. We thank Martha Rosher for alerting us to these things. This has been on hold since 1980 when she passed away because of a life interest she left her husband. They have just now become available to us.

When you go to our meeting next Thursday be sure to go in the door on Walnut Street and walk down the few steps to the Hillsborough Room. All other doors to the building will be locked.

At our last meeting someone volunteered to be hostess. I'm getting old. My memory fails me. Would that volunteer again step forward? We would appreciate it very much.

July 4, 5, 6, and 7 is the time for the Festival of the Bells. Many activities are planned at many locations in the area. The Highland House will be open from 1 P.M. to 5 P.M. each of those days. At last count Geneva Pitcher had a full compliment of workers for the 4th. We are in need of more help on the other days. Someone suggested the other day that many hesitate because you don't know what to do, can't answer questions and generally feel insufficient to do a good job. Please don't make that stop you. Ask questions from someone who thinks he or she knows everything. They probably don't know any more than you do about it. Frankly, just doing things that come naturally in conversation with people plus a little knowledge of the items close by that are all explained on cards is all you need. We will have the chart ready at our meeting next Thursday.

P M MAGAZINE, Channell 9 Cincinnati will be in Hillsboro on Monday June 24 to do their thing on the Festival of Bells. The Highland House will have a part in this. At press time we don't know when it will be shown on TV. It probably be sometime before the Festival.

Dues are due for the 1985-86 year beginning July 1st. Some of you have responded for which we thank you. We hope to hear from the rest of you.

See you next Thursday at the Hillsborough Room.

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T H E H I G H L A N D H O U S E

151 E. MAIN ST.  
HILLSBORO, OHIO 45133  
JULY 17, 1985

Our next meeting will be at the Highland House on July 25, 1985 at 8:00 P.M. State Senator Cooper Snyder will be with us to give a legislative report of the comings on in Columbus. Many of you know him. Those who don't know him come and get acquainted. It will be a fine program for all.

The Tree Climbers will be with us too. This is our 4-H club we are sponsering. They are specializing in geneology and learning how to trace their ancestry. Recently Pres. Harsha met with them at the Hillsboro Cemetery to show them how and where to locate information at that source. They are an eager group trying to learn their heritage.

We thank the Anchor Savings Assn. for the use of their Hillsborough Room for our last meeting. The pictures on the wall did make a good program providing plenty of conversation.

We had an election of five directors for a three year term of office. Those elected are Betty Saum, Ernest Williamson, Virginia Bare, Jack Hope and Wesley Roush. Welcome aboard, all of you.

The Trustees met and elected the following officers:

President, Charles M. Harsha  
V. President, Susie Sharp  
Secretary, Jean Wallis  
Treasurer, Sandy Harsha

Virginia Bare will continue as Curator.

Many have paid their dues for the year. Some are still due. We thank those who have paid. A reminder will be sent to those who have not paid. This year \$8.00 pays a family membership and \$5.00 pays an individual membership.

Walt and Willa Stanforth will be host and hostess at our July meeting.

The Festival of Bells held on July 4, 5, & 6 is now past history. There have been any number of post mortem on what we should have done and didn't. It was a very successful one on the whole. The ladies of the Hillsboro Woman's Club took over hostess duties under the guidance of Geneva Pitcher on July 4th. They all looked great in their long old fashion dresses. Thank you so much, for adding just that touch of elegance.

All children under 12 years of age were admitted free. We registered 615 above that age for the three day Festival. We sold a few pamphlets (about \$25.00 worth) in addition.

To those of you who helped us during the Festival we say thank you, thank you, thank you. We appreciate that many of us were called to participate at other parts of the Festival. It was indeed a frustrating time for those of us with multiple commitments. But we had a great events and all of us survived. Shall we do it again next year?

Now we need to look ahead. Remember the first weekend in November is Tag Day time. October last year we had a tour of homes. Do we do it again this year?

Here are a couple of hints of future repairs for our building. Have you noticed the trim on the outside of the Highland House? It needs a new paint job. So far we have had no major problems with the electrical set up in the building. We have had a couple of hints that trouble is not far down the road.

When Herbert Hoover was President, he gave all his salary back to the government. The idea caught on, and now they have all of us doing it.

You have to admire a man for even wanting to be president when he could make so much more money playing baseball.

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from

T H E H I G H L A N D  
H O U S E

151 E. MAIN STREET  
HILLSBORO, OHIO 45133

The next meeting of the Society will be held on Thursday Sept. 26, 1985 at the Highland House at 8:00 P. M. The program will be inducting five into our Hall of Fame that were voted favorably this spring. They are: Dr. James Hull an all American Basketball star from Greenfield. After his famous basketball career at Ohio State University he became a well known orthodontist. He has promised to be with us for this occasion.

Dr. Sigel Roush is to be honored. He was also a dentist, a world traveler and an author. Wesley Roush, one of our Board members is a nephew.

Many local people know George Miller, long time director of the Hillsboro High School Band. He was also quite interested in the animal shelter established east of Hillsboro on State Route 124.

Howard Smith, the magician, will be installed in our Hall of Fame. He and Martha, his stage assistant known as Yavette or Yavonne traveled in a wide area in the midwest doing their show. Martha is his wife. She will no doubt be with us.

The fifth is a father son combination of automobile mechanics from Greenfield who made the Patterson-Greenfield Automobile before Fords were made. If they had been able to get the money to produce it our area would have all the auto plants instead of Detroit. The Patterson's.

Something is cooking. I don't know what it is. I'm told Lester and Jean Wallis will host the meeting officially but this will be just a front for others. It has all the appearance of a first class whodunit.

In the next issue of Highland County Magazine there will be an article under the title MUSEUM MUSES about the Scott building and the Scott's that lived there. We are trying to find a picture of Samuel Parsons Scott. Can anyone help?

Our last meeting was held at Travelers Rest in Greenfield. About 40 members motored to what turned out to be a real treat - a wonderful evening. After getting organized we were briefed by Mr. John Ed Donnells about Travelers Rest built in 1912 by Noble Crawford. It was on another location and moved to its present place by monies left from the F. R. Harris Estate.

Mr. Donnells then took us to the Greenfield Cemetery to see the Soldier's monument placed by the Freshour family and the McClain family lot. The stone chapel was in the commentary hoping something could be done to remodel it.

We then went to McClain High School completed in 1915 by Edward Lee McClain for the people of Greenfield. Mr. Donnells turned us over to Mr. Dan Kruze, art teacher at the High School, who gave us all the commentary and answered questions about the art work in the building.

Our final stop was the Century House across the street from Travelers Rest. Refreshments were served courtesy of the Greenfield Historical Society.

Thank you, John Ed Donnells and Dan Kruze for a wonderful evening.

Your Board of Directors met on Wednesday Sept. 18, 1985. We reviewed the events of last year including the annual financial report. Anyone wishing a copy let it be know and we will send you a copy. Some items of repair on the building were also considered. It was considered advisable to pass this year on a tour of homes. Other items appear to have a higher priority.

The Highland House is still open every Sunday afternoon from 1:00 to 4:00 P.M. We were getting good attendance up to Labor Day. It has declined since then.

The John Harris Dental Museum in Bainbridge has been reopened after remodeling.

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from

t h e h i g h l a n d h o u s e

151 E. Main Street  
Hillsboro, Ohio 45133

Our last meeting of this year will be held on October 31, 1985 at the Highland House at 8:00 P. M. The program will be presented by Leland Pennington. To commemorate the 59th anniversary of Houdini's death Oct. 31st has been designated National Magic Day. We will learn about the history of Halloween with a few magic tricks inserted just for fun. It will be a screaming affair. Be there to enjoy.

Events at the Highland House have been on a low key recently. Without projects to plan and work toward nothing happens. Sunday attendance has fallen down to a few each day. Are we ready for hibernation?

To follow through on the Board of Directors meeting of Sept. 18, 1985 we have had an electrician check out our building for possible future problems. The wiring on two drop lights in the east front room were corrected. Everything else is passed and in good condition.

The Tree Climbers Club will be with us this meeting. They missed last meeting due to an award meeting at school that conflicted. Bonnie Crago, their adult leader assures us we will be together this time. This is a genealogical club we have sponsored this year for a total cost of trophies awarded for excellence in achievement.

Our last meeting where we entered five new members to our Hall of Fame was a great success. Geneva Miller received a plaque in behalf of her husband, George. Dr. James Hull came to receive his. He and his wife drove down from Columbus. Martha Smith received one for her husband Howard. Wesley Roush stood in for Dr. Sigel Roush, his uncle. John Ed Dannells from Greenfield received the plaque in behalf of the Patterson's. The enthusiasm and sociability by the 65 people who attended was wonderful. We must keep up this good feeling for the future good of our Society.