

M U S E U M M U S E S

FROM

THE HIGHLAND HOUSE
151 E. MAIN STREET
HILLSBORO, OHIO 45133
FEBRUARY 27, 1988

This is the first letter since the Highland House was closed for the winter. Some things are happening you should know. Our first meeting for 1988 will be on March 31. You will receive another letter with details about that.

We have started the clean up and remodeling of another room that will be used to keep our library. Lester Wallis is leveling the floor and checking out the electric lines he uncovered. The ceiling will be lowered and the room painted before it is completed.

You will find enclosed a tabloid about the Appalachian Fling to be held on March 3, 4, 5, and 6, 1988 at Eastgate Mall in Clermont County at the Eastern edge of Cincinnati. It is jointly sponsored by business people, craftsman, historical societies and Chambers of Commerce from Adams, Brown, Clermont and Highland Counties. Our Society and the Hillsboro Chamber of Commerce are involved. More details are in the Tabloid. Come to Eastgate and see us.

It is with regret that we report the death of Mr. Fred Keeler on December 3, 1987. Mr. Keeler was our first president back in 1965 when we were struggling to stay alive. He gave us the necessary inspiration and enthusiasm in those early days of our history as a society.

Our Christmas Open House on December 16, 1987 was quite successful. There are so many who worked on the project. We thank each of you for your part in the success. Trees were decorated by folks from all parts of Highland County. It was a real fun time for all. Thank you all very much.

Much time and energy has been spent this winter by members of the Society on a preservation project. The William Scott home on West Main Street on Hillsboro School property has been threatened by the bulldozer on orders from the School Board to make way for better use of the ground. A number of meetings have been held to try to convince the Board to save this historic house that is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in Washington, D. C.. A public hearing will be held on March 14, 1988 at the new Kindergarden School located at the Y on East Main St. and Chillicothe Ave., formally known as the White House Care Center. It is a public meeting that starts at 7:30 P.M.

We still have some 1988 Highland County Historical Society calendars available for you to buy. They have pictures of buildings and scenes. They are available now for \$4.50 plus mailing costs of \$1.25.

M U S E U M M U S E S

F R O M

THE HIGHLAND HOUSE
151 E. MAIN STREET
HILLSBORO, OHIO 45133
April 18, 1988

Our first meeting of the 1988 season will be at The Highland House on Thursday April 28 at 8:00 P.M. Robert Patton has studied one room school buildings in Highland County. He will tell us about his interesting hobby. Bob is a teacher by profession, at present a member of the Hillsboro Board of Education, and with his wife, Joyce, operate the News Reader store in Hillsboro. We will learn of some strange names for schools.

We had originally planned on our first meeting on March 31st. We failed to look at the calendar. It was Maunday Thursday, Easter week.

Since our letter of Feb. 27, 1988 that announced efforts in behalf of the William Scott home, here is an update on events. At the public hearing on March 14th approximately 90 people attended the School Board meeting. Following the Board's regular business the meeting was open to public discussion about the building. Thomas Gall, president of the Board recognized Charles Harsha, president of Highland County Historical Society. His talk was about cooperation with the Board in recognizing their needs for additional class room space and the need to keep and restore one of Hillsboro's historic jewel's. Both had the objective of education our children and both can be achieved by working together. Several others had their share in comments or questions to answer.

A committee of nine was formed, two from the School Board and seven from those in attendance. Mr. Gall made the selection and put Dr. Robert Sharp as chairman. Three others were selection as at large members of this committee.

Three subcommittees were selected by Dr. Sharp: 1. Building, 2. Finance and 3. Method. The Finance Committee is presently attempted to find out how much support financially we can expect from all of the community. The Building Committee doesn't have cost figures yet but they are asking informally how much money to help the Board finance the Scott Building remodeling. If we missed you and you want to be included call Dr. Sharp to make it official.

On Sunday May 1, 1988 a Tour of Homes in Hillsboro is planned. It will start at the Highland House at 1:00 P.M. Tickets will be purchased there for \$5.00 to benefit the Historical Society. The following places will be open for the tour: The Highland House, Gable House Antiques at 240 E. Main Street, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Yochum home at 623 S. West Street, Dr. & Mrs. L. T. Odland home at 225 Oak Street, Mrs. Kim Fairley home at 404 N. High Street, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Yochum at 610 N. High Street and Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Roush at 615 N. High Street. Several people have asked when we will have our next Tour of Homes. Here it is. Plan on it.

The Society had a booth at the Appalachian Fling held at Eastgate Mall in Batavia Ohio on March 3, 4, 5, & 6. For those who didn't see it our display was a collection of early tools of craftsmen, carpenter, cooper, farmer, kitchen, bootmaker and photographer. Lester Wallis dressed as the official school teacher in the school room set up. We say thank you to all who helped with the set up and as duty attendants answering questions or any other jobs that were completed. The Committee is already planning for next year.

We have been invited to participate in the Artisan Folk Fair at Leesburg next November.

Our May meeting is planned to be held on the Covered Bridge in Lynchburg.

Highland County Historical Society

THE HIGHLAND HOUSE

151 East Main Street
Hillsboro, Ohio 45133

513-393-3392

May 21, 1988

Our May meeting will be held in Lynchburg, Ohio in the Covered Bridge that spans East Fork joining Highland and Clinton Counties. This is the last covered bridge in Highland County. Some of the folks in Lynchburg are trying to preserve it. Mr. Richard McKahan will be our program telling about the history of the area. The meeting will be held rain or shine inside the bridge. Some chairs will be in place but we suggest if you have a handy folding chair it might come in handy. Bring it along with you. It will be held on May 26, 1988 at 7:30 PM. Note the earlier hour so we will still have some daylight returning home. Join us for an evening of something different.

At our last meeting Mr. Robert Patton told us about one room school buildings in the County including pictures of some, maps locating most and interesting stories of events during those days when they were the place to get your learning. Audience participation was great. Some were teachers in those schools. It was a good program. Thanks, Bob, for sharing your hobby with us.

We are grateful for a contribution to the Society from Miss Margaret Vance of Cincinnati, Ohio, formerly of Hillsboro. She made it in memory of her grandparents. We have purchased a Xerox duplicating machine (this bulletin is the first issue using it), a table, two file cabinets so far. There are other items on the list yet to be bought. Thank you, Margaret.

Our Tour of Homes held on May 1st was quite successful. We had 276 paid admissions for an income of \$1,380.00. Expenses were small so we netted \$1,229.13. We have heard many compliments about the tour and so far no complaints. So we are on the plus side on all points. Even the weather favored us.

The Scott Building Committee, explained in detail last issue in April, is working toward a presentation to the School Board at their regular meeting on June 13, 1988. The Finance Sub-committee has learned the School community is behind the project. The Building sub-committee is working on a suitable plan of remodelling. The Method sub-committee is working on a plan as to how best to successfully complete the plan the Building sub-committee is completing. Sounds complicated, doesn't it? Matter of fact it is complicated. We are trying to keep mistakes out of the picture.

Here are some announcements from the Board of Trustees meeting held Thursday May 19th:

Highland House Building Committee was appointed to see to upkeep for the building and grounds. Wesley Roush, Susie Sharp, Ann Rhude, and Walter Stanforth are the committee.

Five directors tour of duty comes up on July 1st so a Nominating Committee was named: Deanna Flinn, Dr. Bill Lukens, and Pat Pierce.

Painting of the outside trim on the Highland House will begin May 23rd weather permitting.

An emergency repair to the rest room was reported. It will be completed as soon as possible.

A letter of resignation from our Curator, Virginia Bare, was read. The effective date is June 30, 1988.

Highland County Historical Society

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June 17, 1988

Our June meeting will be held Thursday evening June 30 at 7 P.M. We will be traveling to the beautiful hills of Brushcreek Township. Our hosts will be Historical Society members Ruth and Paul Bates of Cincinnati. Paul recently retired from Procter and Gamble. Several years ago Ruth and Paul purchased a farm in Brushcreek Township and have been restoring the various buildings. The two-story brick house erected in 1838 by Sampson Turley is situated on a hill overlooking the Valley of Middle Fork. A two-story log barn and a log corn crib thought to be built by Martin Shoemaker, father-in-law of Sampson who originally purchased the farm after his arrival from the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia in 1805-1806. A small family cemetery stands at the base of a tree covered hill. Numerous large sandstone rock formations found in abundance in Brushcreek Township are visible.

Take 124 to Marshall, turn right & continue on 124 1.5 miles, you will come to a crossroads. Go straight onto Harriett Rd. Follow Harriett Rd 2 miles. You will come to a fork in the road, turn left on Sinking Spring Rd. Follow this road for 4.1 miles. On the Sinking Spring Rd you will descend into the Middle Fork Valley on Gall Hill. Bear to your left at the foot of the hill, you will cross a large bridge and ascend out of the Valley on Patton Hill. After passing Olive Branch Church and Cemetery a short distance, you will come to a sharp curve with Hizer and Davidson Roads going off. Bear to your right. You will come to Cedar Chapel Church and Cemetery. Follow the road in front

of the church a short distance. Turn right onto Turley Lane ~~and~~ and follow this road to its end.

For those who want to car pool meet at the Highland House no later than 6:25 P.M., as we will be leaving at 6:30 P.M. Bring a lawn chair. Lets make this a large gathering showing our appreciation to Ruth and Paul for their hospitality.

Anyone wishing to purchase the book about Milton Caniff that was suggested by Robert Deger's letter to the Editor three or four weeks ago are referred to Joyce Patton at the News Reader. Joyce will order the book for you. Hardback editions are \$24.95 and paperback books are \$9.95.

The Festival of the Bells will be held July 2, 3 and 4, 1988. The Museum will be open the three days. If you desire to help and have not been assigned a job contact Ann Rhude or Deanna Flinn or Jean Wallis. Several outside displays and crafts will be added to the Museum display during the Festival; weaving, log house building, Indian Artifacts and covered bridge history. New different displays will add much interest in the Museum.

The outside trim of the Highland House has been painted. We hope you have noticed. Our museum looks much better now. Several window sills had to be replaced. This has been completed. The Rest Room had to be remodelled. Still under construction is the Archives rooms.

Highland County Historical Society

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July 23, 1987

Our July meeting will be held at the Highland House on July 28, 1987 at 8:00 P.M. Leland Pennington has the program on Milton Caniff. Milton was a world famous cartoonist who was born in Hillsboro, lived in Dayton as a boy and in California and New York much of his life. It will be very interesting to learn how a local boy made good in the big time. For those who don't know he was born in the house at 149 W. North Street where Mary Ellis lives.

Walt. and Willa Stanforth will be host and hostess for the evening. This is our first meeting at the Highland House since March.

We thank Paul & Ruth Bates for their open house on June 30th for our meeting and the explanations of the Turley House they are restoring. We hope everyone found it. It was located in an isolated area that apparently was quite prosperous at an earlier time.

Our business meeting was confined to electing five directors for a three year term of office. Betty Saum and Ernest Williamson asked to have their names withdrawn after serving for several years. Dorothy Odland and John Glaze were selected to take their place. So the Class of 1991 is Virginia Bare, Jack Hope, and Wesley Roush in addition to Mrs. Odland & Mr. Glaze.

The Festival of Leaves followed immediately. The Museum was open on Saturday Sunday and Monday, July 2, 3, & 4. We didn't have the people this year that have attended previous Festivals. Our register book loged about 500 people for the three days. Our income reached \$805.00. We haven't heard of reports of other consessions for comparison.

On July 13, 1987 the new Board of Trustees met to organize. The Treasurer gave a report on the fiscal years' income and expenses. It shows a net gain of \$6,100.00. A more detailed report will be presented at the meeting on July 28th.

The following officers were elected for the coming year:

Mrs. Susie Sharp, President
Mrs. Kim Fairley, Vice President
Mrs. Deanna Flinn, Secretary
Charles M. Harsha, Treasurer

The Pres. appointed a Building Committee composed of Mrs. Ann Rhude, Walter Stanforth and Wesley Roush. This committee has charge of maintenance of the Museum building and the grounds around it. Although more than \$4,000.00 was spent last year on the building there are still concerns that need attention.

The Museum is now open every Sunday afternoon from 1:00 to 4:00 P.M. Though advertised prior to July 4th, it was open then for the public.

Other committees will be appointed at the meeting. See you at 8:00 o'clock on the 28th at the Museum.

MUSEUM MOSES

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Mr. George Rooks, Manager of East Fork State Park in Clermont County, will present the program for the August meeting of the Highland County Historical Society on Thursday, August 25, at 8:00 p.m. at The Highland House. Mr. Rooks will discuss the history of the state park system in Ohio. Our host and hostess for the evening will be Willa and Walt Stanforth. Please try to attend as this is certain to be a most interesting program.

At the last meeting the contributions of three very important members of the Society were recognized; Charles Harsha who served as President for six years, Virginia Bare who served as Curator for eleven years, and Jean Wallis who served as Secretary for fourteen years. Their many accomplishments are too numerous to mention, but we want them to know that their loyal service is much appreciated. Each of these individuals remains on the Board of Trustees and their expertise will not be lost to us. Thanks, also, to Betty Saum and Ernest Williamson for their faithful service as members of the Board of Trustees.

Leland Pennington entertained us at the last meeting with many personal anecdotes concerning his acquaintance with Milton Caniff. The program was very enjoyable.

Kudos to Deanna Flinn and Virginia Bare for painting, papering, and decorating the restroom.

Lester Wallis has just about completed the library remodeling and soon the Archives Committee can begin organizing the reference material. The contributions of Miss Margaret Vance to this project are greatly appreciated. More later!

Other recent donors include Mr. Carroll Aukerman, Mr. and Mrs. John Woolums, Mr. Arthur Shoemaker, Mrs. Igor Gorin, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Behm, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Behm, Mr. and Mrs. William Butler, Mrs. William Levers, Mrs. Adrian Chalfant, and Mr. Jack Hope.

At the last Board of Trustees meeting the following committee assignments were made:

Archives - Jean Wallis, Kim Fairley, Deanna Flinn
Finance - Charles Harsha, Sandy Harsha, Bill Lukens
Housing and Maintenance - Anne Rhude, Wesley Roush, Walt Stanforth
Program - John Glaze, Dorothy Odland, Pat Pierce
Publicity - Virginia Bare, Jack Hope, Willa Stanforth

The Board voted to accept the gracious donation of a panel of oak post office boxes complete with a grill covered customer window from Clara Simons of Goshen, Ohio. The dimensions of this unique remnant of the past are approximately five feet by four feet.

Other actions taken by the Board include the distribution of brochures about our museum through the state license bureaus, and an exchange of membership lists with the Southern Ohio Geneological Society for the purpose of acquainting members with both organizations.

In conclusion, I am pleased and excited to be the new President of the Highland County Historical Society. We have a Board of Trustees that is both knowledgeable and enthusiastic. I know that with their help and with the support and suggestions of the members, the Highland County Historical Society will continue to be an organization of which we can be proud.

Susie Sharp

Sept. 1988

MUSEUM MUSES

The Highland House has once again witnessed another bit of local history. Members Ellen Roush and Leland Pennington were married in the parlor on September 4, 1988. They first met in The Highland House on September 4 exactly five years prior to their wedding. Geneva and Bill Pitcher introduced them. Best wishes to Ellen and Leland for a long and happy life together.

New acquisitions of the Highland County Historical Society include a collection of photographs and memorabilia of Lynchburg, Ohio presented by Mr. John Frye of Lakeview, Ohio, a large cast iron stove from the B & O Railroad Depot in Lynchburg donated by Mr. David Doty, and the medical bag and instruments of Dr. C. Cropper who practiced in Lynchburg donated by Mr. Robert "Pete" Shaffer. We thank these people for their generosity.

The Society received a gift of \$5000 from the estate of Martha Rockhold Wright. This most generous donation is much appreciated.

This year the Society sponsored 4-H awards for young men and women interested in geneological research. Award winners were Melissa Blake and Tammie Sue Cole. Tammie represented Highland County at The Ohio State Fair. Both girls wrote enthusiastic notes to the members thanking us for our support.

Our organization will be well represented at The Leesburg Artisan Folk Fair on November 4 and 5. The committee working on this annual project includes Jean Wallis, Wesley Roush, and Walt Stanforth. The Highland County Historical Society Calendars for 1989 should be back from the printer in time to be sold at this event.

A special Christmas activity is being planned to take place at The Highland House on December 11, 1988. More details will be provided later, but please mark your calendar.

The Board of Trustees has voted to raise the price of the book Hills of Highland by Elsie Ayres from \$40.00 to \$75.00. We still have a few volumes left to sell.

The Program Committee members, John Glaze, Dorothy Odland, and Pat Pierce, are working hard to provide entertaining, informative, and educational programs for our meetings. Mr. Jim Cameron of Rocky Fork State Park will attend our September meeting and tell us about the history of the park and about the exciting special events planned for our enjoyment during the coming year. Our hosts for the evening will be Anne and Tom Rhude. See you at The Highland House on September 29 at eight o'clock!!!

Many memberships in the Highland County Historical Society expired on June 30, 1988. If you have not already renewed your membership, please return this form with your payment as soon as possible.

MAIL TO: Secretary
Highland County Historical Society
430 W. South Street
Hillsboro, Ohio 45133

Please renew my membership:

name and address

Memberships: single \$5.00 _____ family \$8.00 _____ life \$100 _____

I am interested in helping the Society as a volunteer _____ trustee _____ host _____

I would like to attend a program on this subject: _____

Highland County Historical Society

Oct 1988

THE HIGHLAND HOUSE

151 East Main Street
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513-393-3392

MUSEUM MUSES

The next meeting of The Highland County Historical Society will be Thursday, October 29, 1988 at 8:00 p.m. Dr. Weaver Williamson of Belfast, Ohio will present the program. Dr. Williamson, who collects unusual antiques, will be sharing with us some of the unique items in his collection. The evening promises to be most enjoyable.

Several donations received by the Society this month include a book presented by Mrs. Nellie Finley which contains the discharge certificates of the Highland County veterans of the Spanish American War, a gavel made of wood which was part of the White House roof donated by Mrs. Gladys Erkert, a picture taken during Hillsboro's Sesquicentennial celebration donated by Mrs. Willa Stanforth, several issues of Civil War Times donated by Mr. Joe Emmons, the medical bag and instruments of Dr. Thomas W. Roberds of Belfast donated by Mrs. Ermaline Schuller, and a collection consisting of five pieces of furniture carved by Elizabeth Rockhold and the rare book Folklore of Highland County by Violet Morgan received from the estate of Martha Rockhold Wright. These generous gifts are much appreciated.

The Society will have a display of vintage clothing at the Leesburg Artisan Folk Fair to be held on November 5 and 6 at Fairfield High School in Leesburg. Plan to attend to see our exhibit and the many other interesting displays.

The Hillsboro High School Class of 1938 recently visited The Highland House and many favorable comments were received from the class members.

The Highland County Historical Society's limited edition calendar for 1989 will contain early street scenes from around the county. It should be available in early November. The calendars will make excellent Christmas gifts.

A clean up day has been scheduled for October 22 at 10:00 a.m. The attic, basement, storage room, yard, and barns will be cleaned as time permits.

Termites have been discovered in The Highland House and the Board of Trustees has voted to have them treated. The Board is also engaged in the study of several new policies regarding the acquisition and loan of items and the use of the building by groups or individuals other than the Society. More on this later.

The December 11 Christmas Open House will be for the young and the young at heart. The Highland House will be decorated, antique toys will be displayed, and Santa will be there in person. The afternoon will be lots of fun, so come and celebrate this joyous season!!