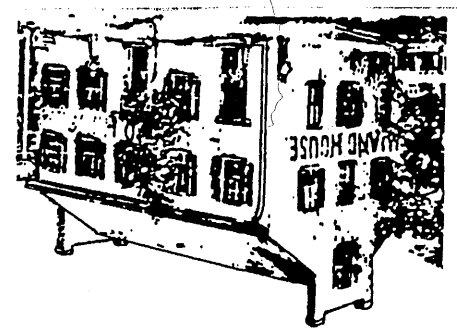


MR./MRS. ELMER WILKERSON  
8628 WRIGHT ROAD  
HILLSBORO, OH 45133

HIGHLAND HOUSE MUSEUM



HIGHLAND COUNTY  
Historical Society  
151 EAST MAIN STREET  
HILLSBORO, OHIO 45133

VALUE DATED

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No. 11  
Hillsboro, OH

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 1998

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
Please check the label on this newsletter to find your membership status. Lifetime members' labels are marked with an "L" - not yet renewed members are marked "\*" - all others are unmarked which indicates a PAID UP status. If you have an \* on your label, THIS COULD BE YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER

- MARCH 15 ..... Art Show & Irish Brunch
- MARCH 26 ..... Joint Meeting with Greenfield Historical Society
- APRIL 4 ..... Auction Extravaganza
- APRIL 24 ..... Volunteer Tea with Hat Display
- MAY 1 ..... Herb Fair
- MAY 16 ..... Sondra Leibreich Presents "Underneath It All" (Victorian era 1890-1900)
- JUNE 25 ..... Annual Membership Picnic-Program "The Underground Railroad"
- JULY ..... Festival of the Bells & Membership Bash - Date to be announced
- SEPTEMBER 6 ... Storytellers' Tea
- OCTOBER ..... Log House Cookout - Date to be announced
- NOVEMBER 28... GRAND OPENING OF HOLIDAY GIFT SHOP
- DECEMBER 4 ... Director's Open House
- DECEMBER 12... Children's Tea Parties

# Museum Muses

HIGHLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

151 East Main Street, Hillsboro, OH 45133  
937-393-3392

*From The Desk Of* ~ ~ Lenora Gordon, President of Board of Trustees

Happy New Year, and welcome to the reopening of Highland House Museum, Sunday, March 1, for the 1998 season. A warm, friendly atmosphere awaits our members and friends. Museum hours are Fridays 1 - 5 p.m. and Sundays 1 - 4 p.m. Give us a call at 937-393-3392 if you need to visit during the week. The HCHS is a vibrant, dynamic institution that offers a variety of events to enrich the lives of local and county members and friends.

The Gift Shop enjoyed record breaking sales during the Christmas Open House and holidays. Our success was due to the tremendous efforts of the committee, Gretchen Huffman, Chairman; Margaret VanFrank; Jeanne Wilkerson and all our volunteers. Volunteers are always welcome to share ideas and help with projects. Our gift shop still has items available for sale, so please visit the shop. Seasonal new items continue to arrive.

A special thank you to Kathryn Matthews, Ann Rhude, Sondra Leibreich and others who helped with the mini building of the Hillsboro High School. The building was beautifully executed. Kathryn Matthews and husband, Ford, scaled and detailed the school. The proceeds benefited our restoration fund.

And a tremendous thank you to Russ Newman, Trustee and County Commissioner who with his fellow commissioners secured a \$16,000. grant to fund upgrading our electrical system. This has been needed for many years and we are now assured a safe electrical system and sufficient power outlets to feel secure.

We are fortunate to have a progressive Board of Trustees who want to improve and preserve our facilities and make it appealing and educational for our community.

A six month review finds the following accomplishments of the Board of Trustees:

- o *Electrical rewiring with additional outlet plugs*
- o *Completed inventory of HCHS with photographs (Courtesy of Virginia Bare)*
- o *Working on storing of textiles and valuable papers in acid-free containers*
- o *Cleaned out storage areas*

We want to prioritize the following recommendations and take action as soon as feasible:

- o *Purchase additional lighting fixtures to enhance and preserve displays*
- o *Electricity for the Log Cabin*

All of this requires funds and so our Ways and Means Committee, chaired by Ralph Vanzant, is planning a Consignment Auction to raise money for the restoration fund. The event takes place Saturday, April 4, 1998 at the Fairgrounds. Please contribute an item or items to be auctioned. We will accept a complete donation of items as well as on consignment basis.

Another special thank you to Loren Farwell and Jack Garman who have been with us all the way with our restoration.

We encourage your support and look forward to your participation in what is guaranteed to be a GREAT SPRING AND SUMMER AT THE HIGHLAND HOUSE MUSEUM.



*A Few Notes  
from the Director's Desk*  
Margaret VanFrank

We certainly experienced an exceptional Holiday Season! Our appreciation is extended to our many volunteers who gave countless hours to the groups holding their functions at the Museum, and to all who frequented our Gift Shop. **MANY MANY THANKS!**

The Children's Tea Parties were well attended and enjoyed. For the second year the Girl Scouts were welcomed to Tea Parties their leaders organized and served. It was indeed quite a satisfaction to learn that their efforts prompted a visit (during the teas) from a District Representative who gave them regional recognition for this event.

Much restorative action is occurring throughout the Museum, all of which is being addressed in other reports in this newsletter, therefore, we will concentrate on our upcoming events.

On **MARCH 15** we will have an **IRISH BRUNCH** to celebrate the opening of an Art Exhibit featuring the works of **WANDA LEWIS, SHERRY BECKER AND NORMAN NAYLOR**, along with drawings by **GEORGE NEAGO**. Mark your calendars for this event because you won't want to miss **DEBBIE COOK'S** great Irish dishes ~ and ~ you will have an opportunity to view, or perhaps purchase, some of our local artists' paintings or Mr. Neago's sketches. **ADMISSION TO THE ART SHOW IS FREE**, and a donation of **\$7.50** is requested for the Brunch. The art exhibit will continue the following weekend.

On **MARCH 26** we will host a joint meeting with the **GREENFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY**. This should be an interesting meeting with the **"ROWE FAMILY"** being the topic for the program. Please join us in welcoming our Greenfield neighbors to the Highland House Museum.

**PLEASE REFER OFTEN TO THE CALENDAR OF EVENTS LISTED ELSEWHERE IN THIS MAILING - AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING EACH AND EVERYONE OF YOU.**

*A Report from Loren Farwell*

on \_\_\_\_\_

**THE HIGHLAND HOUSE MUSEUM RESTORATION**

The ongoing restoration of the Highland House Museum is on schedule and within budgeted costs. In the past six months we have restored the brick exterior of the museum and added a water retardant preservative for lasting protection of the old brick. Jim Grove kindly donated a truck load of good top soil to fill the low areas in the backyard and to fill in the gap between the driveway and the west wall. This was to halt the water seepage on the west side of the foundation that leaked into the basement.

In the basement rear crawl space, we replaced the rotted floor beams that caused the "spongy" feeling when walking in the rear Pioneer Hall. While in the crawl space, we discovered an open four foot diameter well full of water. What a surprise! This was the source of the rotted floor beams and we had it covered and sealed with roofing "membrane" material. With the hall floor stabilized, we also had a new rear door entryway rebuilt and the door replaced. The old entryway was too deteriorated to restore.

The best news of all is that we received a State Grant for \$16,000.00 that will enable us to finally continue the long sought after rewiring of Highland House Museum. County Commissioner and Historical Society Trustee Russ Newman, was the driving force in obtaining this grant, and we owe him a huge debt of gratitude. With this grant, the Museum electrical service will be brought up to National Electrical Code Standards by Barry Stratton and electricians from S & S Construction. Additionally, the basement steam pipes will be insulated by Wilkin Heating to provide us with a sizeable cost savings from the heat loss through the pipes. And finally, the basement wall masonry will be repaired and tuck pointed as the final phase of the masonry restoration that began last summer by Heitt Masonry Restoration of Waverly, Ohio.

It is a good year for the old Highland House Museum! Now on to the fund drive for the **MUSEUM ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEM** that has been sought after for so long.

**IRISH BRUNCH**  
featuring  
**AN ART SHOW**  
**MARCH 15, 1998**  
**\$7.50 per person**

**Reservations must be in by March 11.**

Mail to Highland County Historical Society  
151 East Main Street  
Hillsboro, Ohio 45133

or drop it in the mail slot  
at the museum

**RESERVATION FORM**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

NO. ATTENDING \_\_\_\_\_

\$7.50 each = \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL ENCLOSED

**THANKS** Θ3Α0JY I H A N K S ㄣㄣㄣㄣㄣ THANKS THANKS ωσπφΥΩ THANKS

We wish to thank the following for decorating a room in the Museum for the Christmas Season. Junior Women's - Junior Mothers - Women's - Altrusa - Rocky Fork Decorative Artists - Friday - and Towne Clubs. A special thanks to Highland Flowers & Cundiff Landscaping for their exterior decorating efforts, and to "Rent To Own" for furnishing a cassette player so that we were able to have Christmas music in the museum during the holidays.

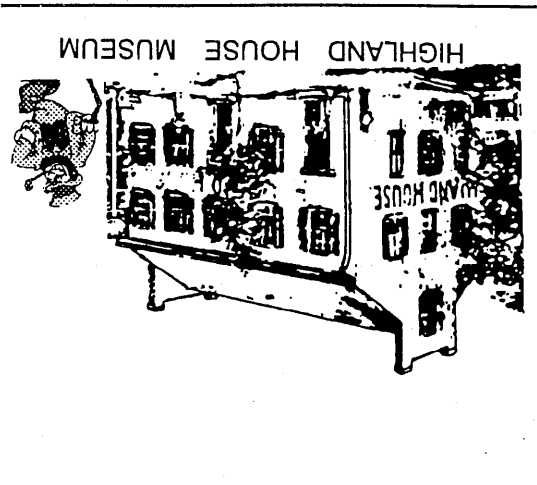
With much gratitude, we wish to acknowledge the generous donation from the Victoria House. The proceeds from their Open House were donated to our Restoration Fund. Frank Loomis, renowned antique appraiser and author, drew an excellent reception for his book signing at the Museum. We are sure that those who procured one of his books are pleased with their purchase. We received a collection of Leesburg Newspapers, suitable for the Library, from Chris Weizman. We do thank him for remembering the Museum. Joyce McGee realized our need and donated an electric typewriter. We appreciate her generosity.

**BIG Consignment Auction**

SATURDAY, APRIL 4 starting at 10:00 a.m. The Society will be sponsoring A CONSIGNMENT AUCTION in the Wharton Building at the Highland County Fairgrounds. The proceeds are to benefit our on-going restoration of the Highland House Museum. CONSIGNMENTS MAY BE MADE TO ANY HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD MEMBER OR BY CALLING THE MUSEUM AT 937-393-3392 ( please leave your message on the answering machine).

**COMBINED MEETING ~ ~ HIGHLAND COUNTY & GREENFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETIES**

Guest Speaker for the combined meeting of the Highland County and Greenfield Historical Societies will be Maurice Rowe. Hist talk, entitled "Adventures of an 1841 Dime", is a fascinating view of Highland County and Rowe family history through the "eyes" of a dime that escapes being spent through the decades. A member of a well-known area family, he resides in the homestead built by Isaiah Rowe in 1833. The home has been occupied by his descendants, Samuel; Lewis, a Civil War Veteran, Elmer, and now Maurice, who is also an area historian as well as a board member and treasurer of the Greenfield Historical Society. MEETING TIME IS 7:30 p.m. AT THE HIGHLAND HOUSE MUSEUM.



VALUE DATED

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HIGHLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
151 EAST MAIN STREET  
HILLSBORO, OHIO 45133

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT**  
JEANNE WILKERSON  
Membership Chairperson

*Welcome*



**NEW MEMBERS**

SHIRLEY L. IRISH  
FRANK GROVER  
RITA GROVER  
STEVE TAYLOR

**NEW LIFETIME**

LELAND PENNINGTON  
ELLEN PENNINGTON

**MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS**

TOTAL MEMBERS	330
NEW	51
LIFETIME	77
SUSTAINING	19
CORPORATE	4

# Museum Muses

HIGHLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

151 East Main Street, Hillsboro, OH 45133  
937-393-3392



## Director's Report

Accolades to the many volunteers, local clubs, scout leaders, and trustees who gave of their time and talents to make our holidays at the museum absolutely outstanding. We thank the groups who enjoyed the beautifully decorated museum through community usage. If you were not able to help or attend this past season, we urge you to plan to do so next season. Better yet - assign items and participate in our consignment auction that is forthcoming.

We are pleased to announce that LEADERSHIP HIGHLAND has designated the Highland County Historical Society to henceforth be the source of the Highland County Coverlet. We do appreciate and thank their board members for this privilege. Upon being informed of this, the

"Hometown Committee" has asked we use the proceeds from this past house sale to purchase a supply of the coverlets, this committee has also asked that the balance of the proceeds be used to paint the museum storm window frames to match the window trim.

With Spring approaching, we look forward to the completion of the exterior painting, improving the appearance of the back yard, and all your support in the upcoming events and membership meetings.



## Needlework Inquiry

Ms. Sue Studebaker from Dayton, Ohio is writing a book on early-Ohio needlework samplers (i.e. schoolgirl embroideries). At present, she has documented 215 Ohio samplers and is searching for more to be included in this book to be used as a reference tool by interested collectors and museums all over the country. All files are confidential and owners may remain anonymous if they choose. If you know of any "samplers" she would appreciate any help or information you can give. You may call or write her at

SUE STUDEBAKER  
281 West Whipp Road  
Dayton, Ohio 45459  
Phone: 1-937-434-3347



A BIG

## THANK YOU

- WILLA STANFORTH ~ for allowing us to use her painting for our Christmas Cards.
- DICK BOWMAN ~ for taking the photo of the painting to use on the Christmas Cards.
- DANIEL LLORDS ~ for the magnificent performances at the Children's Tea Parties.
- SHIRLEY IRISH ~ for the donation of an artificial Christmas Tree.
- KIRBY STANFORTH ~ for the chain saw carving exhibition.
- SHERRY BECKER ~ for her generous donation to our April auction of a painting of McCoppin's Mill.
- BILL PITSTICK ~ for installing an additional phone in the Museum.
- IKE HODSON & SONDRALIEBREICH ~ for their participation, on our behalf, in the Holiday Parade.

~\*~\*~\*~ **MEMORIALS** ~\*~\*~\*~

In Memory of  
SHIRLEY STEELE

by  
Rita & Steve Neago and Margaret VanFrank  
and In Memory of  
TED PERIN  
by  
Virginia Reed

**SUPPORT YOUR HISTORICAL SOCIETY!**  
Volunteers  
are always needed.

# HIGHLAND COUNTY COVERLETS

NOW AVAILABLE  
AT THE

HIGHLAND HOUSE MUSEUM

They come in Blue, Red or  
Green.

Call, or stop in the Museum  
for particulars.

## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

★ MARCH 25 ★

Membership Meeting

At this meeting, we will pay tribute  
to our HALL OF FAME inductees.

Also, we will recognize our  
Corporate Members.

Entertainment will be provided.

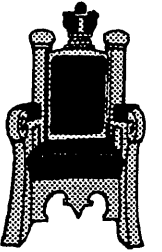
★ APRIL 22 ★

Membership Meeting

This will be a "CARRY-IN" dinner  
along with the meeting.

Please bring one of your delicious  
dishes and your own table service.

THE HIGHLAND COUNTY  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
PRESENTS ITS

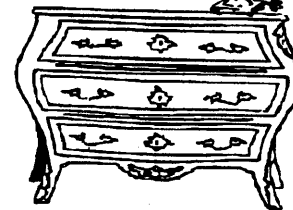
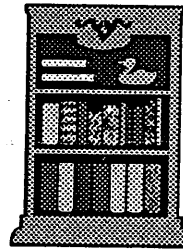
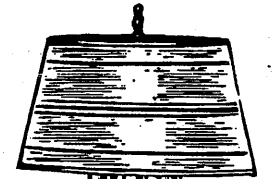


# Second Annual Consignment Auction



HIGHLAND COUNTY  
FAIRGROUNDS

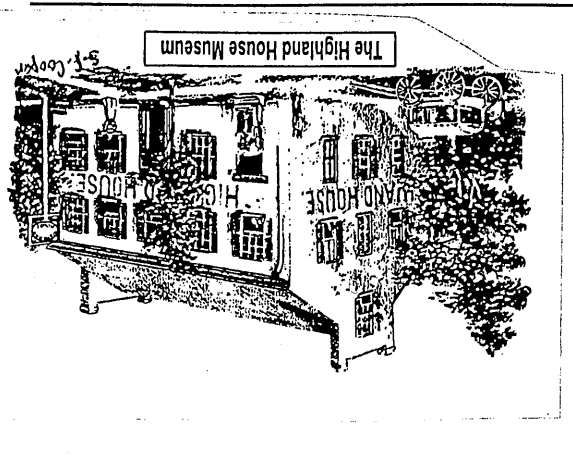
**SUNDAY  
APRIL 25  
1:30 p.m.**



We need the help and support of Society mem-  
bers in making this one of our BIGGEST MONEY  
MAKING PROJECTS OF THE YEAR!

Mark the date on your calendar.  
~ DON'T LET US DOWN ~

Support the Highland County Historical Society in  
its efforts to collect and preserve the history of  
our county for future generations!



Highland County  
Historical Society  
151 EAST MAIN STREET  
HILLSBORO, OHIO 45133

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Hillsboro, OH

**A MEMBERSHIP REPORT by ~ ~ ~ ~ ~**

**JEANNE WILKERSON**  
Membership Chairperson

Your membership in the Society is up for renewal as of June 30, 1998. Enclosed is a membership form and a self addressed envelope for your convenience in returning this to us.

to count on you to help us achieve our goals of "PRESERVING THE PAST FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS TO LEARN AND APPRECIATE".

Renewals made before July 1 can be at the old rates of \$5.00 for Single and \$8.00 for Family memberships.

*Welcome To:*

**NEW MEMBERS**

- |                        |                  |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Donna Armstrong        | M/M Sandy Harsha |
| M/M Lee Bishop         | M/M Al Wettstein |
| Betty Collins          | Mary Jo Copeland |
| Toy Etienne            | Ron Turpin       |
| M/M Jim Evans          | Harold Henry     |
| Wayne & Sandy Francies |                  |

**NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS**

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Jeffrey Hoskins        | Hollis Stevenson Habig |
| Jeannie Snapp          | David McKenna          |
| Lesia Langston-McKenna |                        |

Current Membership Totals are: LIFETIME - 63  
PAID UP: - 198 UNPAID: 47

*You will notice a slight increase in dues.*

- INDIVIDIAL . . . \$8.00
- FAMILY . . . . . \$10.00
- LIFETIME . . . \$100.00

We are offering the opportunity to let you add your spouse to the LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP for only an additional \$50.00. We have also added a new category "SUSTAINING MEMBER" ..... \$25.00 on an annual basis.

We certainly appreciate your continuing support via your membership. We hope you will take the opportunity now to let us know that we can continue

# Museum Muses

**HIGHLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

151 East Main Street, Hillsboro, OH 45133  
937-393-3392

*From The Desk Of ~ ~ Lenora Gordon, President of Board of Trustees*

Amazing things can happen when a group of committed people put their heads and hearts together. In May of 1965, a group initiated what became a swell of participation that began to build year after year. Now in 1998, Highland County Historical Society continues to reap the harvest of their vision. Though no small accomplishment, the formula for the success is a simple one. Each year a meaningful goal inspired each group. Each group shared a unique bond, a proud kind of oneness in something special accomplished together. The secret to the success of the Highland County Historical Society lies in a fundamental belief in the mission of the society, a willingness to change and experiment, a desire to be successful, and most importantly, a committed group of hard working volunteers who open their hearts and share their values with others. Please add your name to our list of volunteers. We need volunteers and members to share their special expertise. Please let us hear from you.

As the 1997-98 year of my presidency comes to a close, I thank you all for making it an enjoyable and milestone year for the Highland County Historical Society. I look forward to greeting you at our annual membership meeting and potluck, Thursday, June 25, 1998, Highland House Museum, 6:00 p.m.

**A REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR . . . . . Margaret VanFrank**

We have recently been privileged to host two unusual events. The first event was an unusual and informative program featuring SONDRA LEIBREICH. Those attending witnessed the layering of undergarments to achieve the desirable silhouette for a female figure during the gay nineties. The fact that Sondra had researched and personally constructed most of the intricate garments she adorned, made the presentation more interesting and appealing. We thank you Sondra for sharing your time and talents with us.

soon to be replaced with an array of C.S. Bell artifacts. We thank the ANNA BERYL MILLER estate for donating two portraits of the Casper Collins family. Our immediate plan is to rearrange the Casper Collins Room to accommodate these acquisitions and also the coveted painting of the Platte River Bridge.

The second item was that the Highland House Museum's Weaver's Room was included in the Ohio Arts Council's Artist-in-Residency Program for the Hillsboro City School District. CYNTHIA TAYLOR, a Marietta artist, demonstrated on our loom, the art of rag rug weaving using fabric strips supplied by Washington School students. AVERY APPLGATE, one of our very active members, was instrumental in bringing Ms. Taylor to Hillsboro.

Since the museum's electrical update is now partially in place, we look forward to hanging the globe which designated Dr. John Luck's Optometry Office in Lynchburg. This will be shown in our Military / Medical Room.

For the upcoming Festival Of The Bells, the following will be part of our agenda. LESTER WALLIS will "Ring Our Bell", a private collection of bells will be on display. Charlotte Pack will entertain with an appropriate storytelling hour, and NORMAN DeHASS will furnish an unusual flag display.

More festival information will be forthcoming.

For the past weeks, we have been responsible for the Casper Collins display at the local library. It is

**!! COME SEE US NOW ..... AND DURING THE FESTIVAL !!**

## *Gift Shopping List of Ideas*

HIGHLAND HOUSE  
T-SHIRTS  
(Adult & Youth)

SKETCHES & NOTEPAPER  
by Wanda Lewis

SKETCHES  
by George Neago

CHILDREN'S PAPERBACK  
BOOKS  
Reading & Entertainment

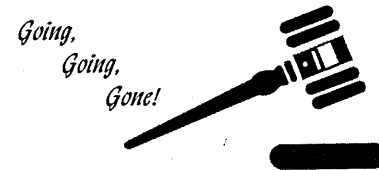
CANDLES  
by Glowworm

WREATHS  
by Betty Wilkin

BOOKS  
"Then and Now Cookbooks"  
Blackburn's "Today & Yesterday"  
"Farmlife & Christian Citizenship"

**ALL AVAILABLE AT  
OUR GIFT SHOP**

## SUCCESSFUL APRIL AUCTION



The First Highland County Historical Society Auction was held April 4, 1998. IT WAS A GREAT SUCCESS!! So successful that it was the first of what will now be an annual affair.

How successful was it, you say?? After all costs were figured, it was learned that the Society had cleared more than \$7,000.00 !! Now, that's terrific.

Thank you and all who worked so hard to make our venture so wonderful. As previously mentioned, we will soon be planning another auction for 1999. START THINKING OF ITEMS YOU MAY HAVE FOR NEXT YEAR'S AUCTION. Either as a donation or for consignment.

**ONCE AGAIN, WE  
THANK ALL WHO  
PARTICIPATED.**

## The Highland County Historical Society's ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND PICNIC

THURSDAY, JUNE 25  
6:00 P.M.

HIGHLAND HOUSE MUSEUM  
Hillsboro, Ohio



Guest Speaker for the evening's program titled  
"UNDERGROUND RAILROAD"  
will be

LARRY GARA, Professor of History Emeritus, Wilmington College. Among his publications is "The Liberty Line", (University of Kentucky Press), a book about the legends of the underground railroad. He has recently written the introduction for a National Park Service book titled "Underground Railroad."

Members are asked to bring a covered dish and table service. Beverages and dessert will be provided.