

# MUSEUM MUSES

## OHIO SCENES AND CITIZENS

### *W. C. T. U. and Historic Buildings Characterize Hillsboro*

By Grace Goulder  
(2nd in a series)

***The First 121 Years are the Hardest for Hibben's Department Store at Hillsboro, O.***

"HIBBEN," reads the sign over the entrance of the little dry goods shop across from the old courthouse on Hillsboro's public square. There, where Route 62 and 50, as well as several others, carry hurrying traffic past it, the store has been doing business on this same location for 121 years. Samuel Hibben started it in a building made of logs he had cut on the spot. Though there have been two

succeeding buildings on the site, the store never has been out of the Hibben family, never been in the red—never changed very much.

Present owners are the founder's grandsons, Fred M. Hibben, electrical equipment dealer living at 1257 Thoreau Road, Lakewood, and his brother, Dr. Samuel Galoway Hibben, a lighting specialist of Montclair, N. J. Since Fred Hibben lives nearer it, he keeps his hand in the store by fort-nightly visits to Hillsboro sandwiched in between his own business demands. His wife helps, too, doing some of the

buying for it from Cleveland wholesalers. To anyone named Hibben, the store is much more than a business. Six generations back of the owners, a Thomas Hibben in New England listened to his friend George Washington describe the promise of the "Ohio Country," which he believed would be settled "as far west as the Mississippi River." It was Thomas' grandson, Samuel, who carried out the Hibben urge to go west, settling first in Pennsylvania, and later moving to Hillsboro to open his store. Fred Hibben has Thomas' cap-

tain's commission, won in George Washington's army.

The real manager of the store is Frank C. Zane, bachelor, who has been there since the present owners' father took him as a teenaged clerk more than half a century ago. His assistant is Miss Elizabeth Muntz, who has worked there 40 years. They are "Frank" and "Lizzie" to all of Hillsboro.

Customers sit, as did their grandmothers and great-grandmothers, on red plush stationary stools beside old walnut counters. Spools of thread are dispensed from many-drawerred, hand-made cabinets. The day's receipts go into a safe standing where it was placed 98 years ago when brought with much difficulty by wagon over the mud roads from Cincinnati.

The store does no advertising. Frank does not believe in such new-fangled notions. If the place isn't known after 121 years, it never will be, he reasons. And it is known. The august compiler of financial statistics, Dun and Bradstreet, lists it, calling it the oldest continuous commercial enterprise under one family west of the Alleghenies. Frank says the Hibbens stand back of their merchandise, guaranteeing everything for 100 years! He points to samplers, hoops, bustles and wedding finery to be found today in Hillsboro attics and known to have come from the store in the 1840s—and before. A certain red silk shawl purchased by Samuel 120 years ago in Philadelphia from a China clipper captain, worn by four generations of Hibben

### DETWILER MEMORIES

*The Detwiler Art Exhibit proved to be a spectacular hit. Kudos to Avery Applegate for the wonderful job of collecting, promoting, hanging the art and making Highland House shine.*

*As part of the exhibit, memories of growing up next to two of the Detwiler sisters were collected from Helen Ford.*

My memories of the Detwilers goes back to my youth. In 1933, my parents, Helen and Henry Head, bought the house next to the Detwilers' home on East Walnut Street. The Sayers and Detwilers were unique, very religious, talented and proud families. The older folk had passed away before we moved to our Walnut Street house. The Detwilers I remember were Irene and Fannie.

Irene was the oldest child...blond, plump, and regal in her lace dresses. Her outfits were a part of the past! She would dress up in her high top shoes, lace dress, and a hat. She always carried a parasol to keep the sun from her skin. My sister, Marilyn, thought this was strange since it wasn't raining. Up the street she would walk to the Methodist Church Socials with her basket filled with peanut butter sandwiches. When she returned, the basket was filled with all the leftover food from the social. That was for Fannie. When winter came, Irene would take the bus to Tampa, Florida to spend her time in the beautiful sunny South. Fannie always said, "It is healthy for her!" Irene did this until she could no longer make the

*(continued on page 3)*

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The following are your Board of Trustees:

1 Year Term:  
Kay Ayres

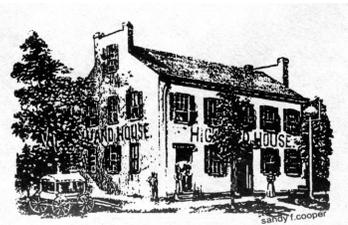
Dr. Lawrence Dukes  
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Michael Shanahan  
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3 Year Term:  
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Jean Wallis  
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Avery Applegate

Society Officers

Mike McCarty- President  
Arlene Huffman-Vice President  
DIRECTOR: VICKI KNAUFF



COMING EVENTS

SEPT 12—LOG CABIN COOK-OUT—6pm (see page 7)  
SEPT 17—Constitution Day  
Watch for details & quiz on our website  
SEPT 25—GHOST WALK—6pm  
Hillsboro Cemetery.  
OCT—Annual Meeting  
NOV 28-30—Christmas OPEN HOUSE!  
DEC 5—HUBA Christmas Celebration  
WATCH FOR:  
Mother Thompson Anniversary  
Terry Roush (Virginia Military District) & Chad McConnaughey (Early Highland County History)

Ohio Scenes and Citizens (continued from page 1)

women, is used regularly on state occasions by Mrs. Fred Hibben, who has promised it to her granddaughter!

Though making always a modest profit that permits unflinching discount of its bills, the store is maintained as a memorial to the owners' father, Joseph, a physician who gave up his practice to succeed Samuel T, when another son, Samuel, a Presbyterian minister, was killed in the Civil War. Samuel II's son was John Grier Hibben, successor to Woodrow Wilson as president of Princeton University. The Fred Hibbens have three sons, one named Joseph. They have other businesses. There are grandchildren—26 to date. All are proud of the store's tradition. That sign, "Hibben," may stand a good while longer over the door.

On the other side of the square is the harness shop of E. T. Sanderson, who has been there more than 60 years. His wife left her millinery shop to help him stitch and to stud saddles and bridles with fancy brass nubbins. The walls are hung with trappings for saddle horses and farm animals. Shelves are piled with horse collars. Highland County is still a "horsey" place, with horses not entirely pushed off the farms by tractors, many people riding for pleasure and regularly staged horse fairs.

What is to become of the business? There are no young men wanting to learn the trade as did Mr. Sanderson and his brother Robert, harnessmaker of neighboring Greenfield. They were taught by their father, who learned it from his father. Leather

prices, two and three times what they were, hurt the business, too. Great pieces of the precious cowhide were laid out on tables, ready for Mr. Sanderson's cutting. The shop was filled with the good fragrance of it. But it is a trade that is passing.

Near by is a Hillsboro landmark, the heroic sized wooden mortar and pestle in front of the drug store with "Smith" lettered on its front, though there are no Smiths there now. This is an American historic site, since it was the first stop for those praying hymn-singing women when they marched our in 1873 from the near-by "Crusade" Church, supplanted now with another building, the First Presbyterian on that old location. The proprietor, Dr. William R. Smith, signed the first temperance pledge "after much persuasion," but reserving his right as a physician to prescribe liquor and sell his own prescriptions! Ed B. Ayres, present proprietor, has been in the shop 42 years. He has retained Dr. Smith's same window globes filled with ruby and green water. In long rows on the shelves are Dr. Smith's blown and pressed glass bottles, some with ancient herbs and potions still in them.

In the midst of these old trading places, I called on J. Ed Shannon in the Merchants National Bank—I had to have a check cashed. I discovered that after a teaching career in Highland County schools, he had joined the bank 31 years ago, knew all the veteran merchants around him, many of their antecedents. And the

Hibbens, from Sam the First down to Fred, have been directors of his bank!

*This article, called to the Editor's attention by Susie Waggoner, was provided and permission for its reprinting given courtesy of The Plain Dealer of Cleveland, Ohio. It first appeared 08 June 1947. This is the second of three articles. Next quarter: A visit to the caves of Rocky Fork.*

A NICKELL'S WORTH

To say that the Highland County Historical Society is exciting is like saying the summer is warm. Yes, we have had some very cool mornings this July as we have had some sobering concerns with the museum but overall.....excitement and warmth prevail.

Director Vicki Knauff and I brainstormed a list of accomplishments since November 2013 and, in a span of just a few moments, came up with a list of over 100. If it were even possible to expand that out to portray the brain power and (wo)man power that accomplished these feats, several pages would be needed. You will see much of it described elsewhere in this newsletter.

The HCHS not only needs your membership, it thrives on your **involved** membership. If you haven't already, help us find your niche.

Thank YOU for all you are doing!

Keep on.....

*Pamela Nickell*

**MUSEUM ACQUISITIONS**

The following items have been donated to the Highland House Museum and Library during the past quarter. A sincere thanks to the donors who are preserving our county's rich history for future generations.

**Photograph of Hillsboro Female Academy** – Katie Wilkin Estate

**World War II Army jacket** – Vic Luneborg

**World War II newspapers** – David Pinney for VFW

**1959, 1960, 1961, 1962 Sinking Spring yearbooks** – Jean Wallis

**1914 Ohio Railway fold-out map; "Moving the Mail" in Highland County, Ohio booklet, written and compiled by Ken Ludwick; Reprint of July 26, 1982 Hillsboro Press Gazette Newspaper; World War I hammock and leggings** (used by Bob Hodson's father) – Bob & Dorothy Hodson

**Reprint of July 26, 1982 Hillsboro Press Gazette Newspaper** – John and Cheryl Porter

**Four men's collars in original box from Hilliard's Men's Store** – Jim & Barb Tira

**Photograph, genealogical information and news articles on Hatcher, Achor and Dice families of Highland County** from Roberta Dice

**Silver teaspoon, photograph and hand worked dresser scarf belonging to Myrta Hatcher** – Roberta Dice.

**FROM THE ESTATE OF JACK & MARTHA CHANEY**

**Pen holder, two silver plated teapots, clear glass cake stand, wheel cut glass vase, copper luster pitcher; Early cranberry ruffled Fenton glass dish; cut glass stemmed dish; cut glass dish; glass cake stand; cookie jar; glass display dome with walnut base; pressed glass vinegar cruet; Belleek jar with**

**DETWILER MEMORIES** *(continued from page 1)*

trip.

Margaret was the middle sister. She was quite musical and a beautiful and talented lady. She married, but had no children. She and her husband lived in Missouri. Fannie always spoke highly of Margaret.

Fannie was the youngest of the sisters. She was tall, slender, and looked like her father. She was the backbone of the family, taking care of everyone who needed care. As a young girl, she worked as a librarian at the Public Library. It was located in the upstairs of the city building on the southwest corner of West Walnut Street and South High Street. Fannie painted some, but not like her mother and sister, Irene. She spent her life taking care of others rather than herself. She was always somewhat of a mess and only ventured out as far as the neighbors' houses. She would come to our house to use the phone. There was a special door built into our house for the Detwilers to come and go through to have access to the phone. Fannie would telephone orders in to Penquite's for groceries to be delivered. When Irene would go off to Florida, our Aunt Louise Head would make sure that Fannie had meals. My sister and I were the ones to deliver the food. We were always

**lid; set of six pressed glass salts; tea pot and sugar bowl with lumber mill transfer; Brass clock; large round tin clock; Electrified brass kerosene lamp with bird painted on glass globe; pair of iron candle holders; pair of ruby colored candle holders with prisms; Pair of salad servers** (purchased from Eliza Jane Thompson estate sale in 1954); **Black and white 8x10 photograph of West Main in Hillsboro**

told to be polite and kind to Fannie. She would greet us at the door saying, "Oh, here come our little Samaritans!" She would invite us into the "old" smelling house and start talking about her mother....and all of those paintings! It seemed like they were everywhere!!! Fannie was so glad to have somebody to talk with and we became her sounding board!!! She was so proud of her mother and wanted us to remember her. The years went by...my sister and I were grown and married. Fannie and Irene were recluses in the old house on Walnut Street. Aunt Louise still took them meals. Then one day, the neighbor, Mr. Shrope found Fannie where she had fallen to her death. Without Fannie to look after her, Irene went to live out her days in a rest home.

The Detwiler sisters got old, but in their minds, they were caught in time—still living their days of grandeur with Momma and Papa Detwiler!

During World War II, Hillsboro had a big scrap metal drive! The goal was to fill a railroad car with smashed tin cans for the cause. My sister,

Marilyn, asked Fannie if she and her sister Irene would donate some cans to the cause. They were happy to, but the cans had to have the end cut out and be smashed. Marilyn made a deal with the sisters that she would prepare the cans for recycling. They had LOTS of soup cans since they lived mostly on soup!!! The day arrived and Marilyn went to the curb with a big box and an old style twist can opener. She worked and worked until her thumbs were so sore. She went to the door to tell the ladies that she had finished her job. She smiled sweetly as she showed them the big box of smashed cans. They told her to wait a minute and went back inside. Marilyn was waiting with anticipation for whatever big prize she had earned. Out came Fannie with one orange—and an old orange at that! Marilyn thanked them graciously, but boy, when she got home, was she upset!

In the end, Hillsboro DID fill the train car to overflowing for the war cause!!!

*Helen Ford*

**ESTATE PLANNING**

Most folks don't like thinking about death and dying, but as one person once said, "None of us gets out of this life alive!". To assure that your final wishes are honored, always have a legal document in place so that there is no question. Please consider remembering HCHS in those plans!

## OUR INTERNS!

### Intern Curators: What We Have Been Up To

When we first began our work this summer on the various collections housed within the Highland House, the task seemed quite daunting. With each room stuffed to the brim with boxes, folders, and filing cabinets, it was unclear if we would ever make a dent. But now, two months later, the difference is shocking. We began by shifting around artifacts and consolidating them into two rooms, enclosing most within acid-free boxes that are friendly for long-term storage. All of these artifacts are now in the process of being cataloged for easy retrieval, so that they will be open for anyone who is interested in viewing them. Also currently housed within these artifact rooms is a very large model of the Highland House itself, which was gallantly retrieved from the attic and cleaned.

The work hasn't stopped there. We obtained a large number of shelves and filing cabinets from the Chaney house that are now in place upstairs. With those shelves in place we have been able to begin organizing the vast collections of documents held within the house. These collections range from newspapers and magazines to old county records to individual family collections. We are hard at work developing a full catalog for all of these papers, as well as organizing them into easy-to-use collections. The long-term goal for us is to develop a cloud-based digital archive catalog that can be accessed anywhere, anytime, and by anyone.

An example of some of the treasures that the Highland House holds can be seen from the vast military history paraphernalia that we have found. In the artifact rooms there are a large number of World War I and World War II uniforms, many of which belonged to local members of the community. There is also a trove of papers that give great background to these objects, especially when it comes to local newspapers. In the filing cabinets upstairs we cataloged over a dozen different local newspapers, covering dates ranging from 1898 all the way to the 1980s. One very interesting example is a complete bound volume of every edition of *The Stars and Stripes* paper, printed in France for members of the American Expeditionary Force, from 1917 till 1919.

We don't want you to think however that we have been holed up in the backroom this whole time. Far from it, we have been quite active in working with Vicki and the other members of the Society in running the museum. We are active in identifying materials for future exhibits, and do our best to bring new materials that pertain to the house to the director's attention. One of our favorite tasks this summer was setting up for the Detweiler Art Show that the Society hosted. Not only did we get to meet some interesting members of the Hillsboro community, but we had the chance to redecorate the Highland House in preparation for the event.

We want to thank everyone from the Society for giving us the chance to work with you this summer, as we have had a fantastic time working this summer. We promise to keep working hard to make the Highland House as amazing of a place as we can!

*Andrew Hall & Dana Cress*

### Lending a Helping Hand Summer Interns at Highland House

The Highland County Historical Society's collection of artifacts and documents stored at the Highland House Museum is being looked at in a new perspective thanks to two Miami University graduate students. This summer, the interns, Dana Cress and Andrew Hall, are hard at work organizing the artifacts and documents stored in an older archive system to updated and professional standards. They hope to document what is in the collection to create easier access, thus effectively advertise the collection and grow interest in it. Knowing what the Historical Society has can lead historians to the museum and create the possibility of the collections being cited in research.

Cress and Hall are both graduates of Bowling Green State University in history. Now they are attending Miami University with Cress focusing on early Ohio history and Hall focusing on old North Western and Canadian history. When asked why they chose to intern at Highland House, Cress stated that "an internship is recommended between the first and second years in the program." They wanted a more hands-on experience at a local level, to be better-rounded in their field. Hall started out as a

philosophy major, switching to history after taking a world history class with a professor who really made him think about the subject. His new interest in history lead to an internship at a northwest Ohio historical society over a summer. Enjoying the experience made him elect to work there three years. It was during this time Hall began to realize a graduate degree could lead to a full-time profession. Cress had a love of history from a young age, having lived in an old family farmhouse. She started out as an education major with a focus on social studies. When she discovered her true passion for the subject, for the knowledge of what came before, it was suggested she switch to research.

Cress and Hall both have similar ideas as to what is their dream job in the field of history. Cress, because she is being taught to be a professional historian, wants to be at the public history level. This would allow the meeting of new people and the chance to make more connections with them. Hall wants to be the programs manager at a living history museum. This position is the best of both worlds – research aspects mixed with creative ways to reach the public.

When asked if they had a favorite find from the collection,  
*(continued on page 8)*

## BUG LIGHTS *Editor's Ramblings*

Those somewhat annoying yellow light bulbs, used in areas where bugs are not welcomed... Most of us have at least one in our past. Mine occupied a socket on the screened-in back porch of my grandparents' home. That light, which lent a slightly jaundiced appearance to all who appeared there, sets the stage for a flood of memories about that back porch.

The space was very large—probably larger than any room in the house. In the cool weather, there were wooden frames placed on top of the screens. Inside these frames was a blue plastic or fiberglass type of material strengthened by a loosely woven fiber. This provided some protection so the porch could be used in all but the coldest of times. Located on this porch (sometimes called the summer kitchen) was a kerosene cook stove, a small Crosley refrigerator, a table with a couple of chairs—a handy place for cleaning vegetables brought in from the garden, or just visiting.

The DeLaval Cream Separator was found here also. Very similar to the cream separator found in the Pioneer Hallway, it was a jim-dandy device for processing the milk produced by the two cows on the farm. A little milk and cream were kept for their use and the rest was added to the milk and cream cans which were stored in the cellar awaiting pick-up by the milk company driver. I would be permitted to turn the fly-wheel on the separator providing the power to process

that milk. When it came to cleaning, however, I had to stand clear. The “guts” of the device inside were made up of a matched set of funnel-type items which had to be maintained in a certain order and they were not numbered. When removed from the machine, they were carefully placed on a study hanger-type device which could then be swished in the soapy water to clean them. This hanger then provided a perfect drying rack.

At the end of the porch, near the outside door was where the garbage disposal was located....not the modern electric type found beneath the sink; there wasn't even a sink in the house, as there was no running water. No, this disposal was the slop bucket where scraps of leftover dinner were put and then once a day, taken to the hog pen where the “real” disposal took place!

At the other end of the porch was found an old cabinet, actually the top section of an old kitchen cupboard, similar to that found in our “Pioneer Kitchen”. This was used for storage of many items as well as the top used to hold the water bucket.

The pump found closest to the house produced water heavily loaded with iron, so for drinking, water had to be carried from a pump found across the road, behind the “old” house, some 200 feet from the “new” house. Quite a distance to carry water.

Memories of that old porch, from where one could  
*(continued on page 8)*

# MUSEUM SHOP NEWS

What's been happening at the **Museum Shop**? We are transitioning to an inventory featuring books, prints, and media about Highland County history and fine craft items by local craftspeople. Why? We have found those to be the best selling items in our store. Most of the hand-crafted items are being sold on a consignment basis.

We are also featuring antique and collectible items, some of which came from the Chaney Estate and some of which have been donated specifically for the purpose of raising funds for the museum. If you have items which fit into either of these categories, please consider helping us out! We add more of these items practically weekly! Stop by frequently to see what's new!

We have begun accepting credit cards and our shop inventory is all computerized and maintained online. This way, our sales can be monitored, and even when the shop manager is out of town, he can check on sales and figured the bank deposit. We can produce reports of transactions and determine which items are

producing the best results. Sales tax reports are produced for the society treasurer so that when it is time to submit the report and payment to the state, the process is completed in minutes.

So how is it working? Our MUSEUM SHOP sales for May (open 1/2 month), June and July (with additional open hours due to the Festival of the Bells and the Detwiler Art Exhibit), brought sales of \$1424.30.

Keep in mind that, while this figure represents our gross sales, most of what was sold was either part of the Chaney Estate, or was added to inventory so long ago that it is difficult to track actual profit (sales less cost).

We are offering HCHS Members a discount on purchases, giving extra value to a membership in the society. (Yes, our computer system even reports the amount of discount we have given.) If you haven't visited Highland House Museum Shop, please stop by soon and shop our shop!

We want the Museum Shop to be a profit center for the society. We cannot depend only on our dues income, nor donations given at the door by museum visitors. We must have various avenues of income, at least until a multi-billionaire leaves us a bequest of his or her entire fortune!

*John Glaze*



## MUSEUM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

### Welcome New and Returning Members!

Mike Anderson  
 Jackie Barry  
 Pauline Cameron  
 Mary Jo Copeland  
 Don & Peggy Edwards  
 Steve & Jamie Holland  
 Sue Nave  
 Molly & Pat Maundrall  
 Josiah & Margaret Page  
 Jennifer West  
 Mathew Williams

Your membership dues are used to maintain the Highland House Museum. Thank you for your valuable contribution to preserving our history.

### Thank You Volunteers!

The Highland House Museum is open Saturdays and Sundays from 1 to 4 pm. Many thanks to the people who greeted visitors at the Highland House during the past quarter:

**Sue Boatman**  
**Connie Cummings**  
**Lana Daniels**  
**Hillsboro Women's Club**  
**Lori Gunderman**  
**Jane Hill**  
**Roger and Arlene Huffman**  
**Jim Moore**  
**Elizabeth Newman**  
**Pamela Nickell**  
**Caroyl Reid**  
**Jane Spargur**  
**Faye Thompson**

**Rose Ryan**  
**Jean Wallis**

*(please excuse us if we missed a name!)*

Gift Shop volunteers include:

**Avery Applegate**  
**John Glaze**  
**Arlene Huffman**  
**Pamela Nickell**  
**Caroyl Reid**

We need your help greeting visitors and operating the gift shop. Please call 393-3392 to schedule your time to a worthy non-profit organization.

### Flowers are Blooming

Kudos to Brad's Garden Center for donating flowers and to Lowe's Garden Center for a discount on flowers for the planters and flower beds. **Lana Daniels** and **Avery Applegate** planted flowers in the containers and hostas at the log cabin. Thanks, too, to **Arlene Huffman** for trimming bushes in the sweltering heat, to **Roger and Arlene Huffman** for yard work, and to **Devin Knauff** for sowing grass in the area near the bell.

### D-Day Commemoration

We were blessed with a beautiful day, a patriotic crowd and a small group of World War II veterans for the 70th anniversary of D-Day, on June 7. Seventy years ago, on June 6, 1944, Americans stormed the beaches of Normandy to free occupied Europe from the clutches of Adolph Hitler and the Nazi war machine. The ceremony paid tribute to those brave heroes who are buried at the Normandy American

Cemetery overlooking Omaha Beach and to those who came home and became the leaders of a grateful nation. Retired U. S. Army Major Mac McCray was the featured speaker while the Hillsboro High School Band and the Two Man Band provided music. The event was coordinated by the historical society and the veterans' organizations of Highland County.

### Searching for Ideas

We would like your ideas about guest speakers and exhibits. If you know of someone who's very knowledgeable in a particular topic, has a unique talent or collection or just likes to make people laugh and have a good time, please call the Highland House at 393-3392. We have a large room to display artifacts, plenty of wall space for framed photographs or maps and a display case with a glass lid that protects the valuables from being handled. We like to run the exhibits for a month so people can work a visit to see the showcased memorabilia into their busy schedules. Call or send in your ideas before November 1 as we will be developing a full schedule of speakers, exhibits, and events for a yearly calendar that will be included in the 4th Quarter newsletter. We are also looking for sponsors for speakers and would appreciate your help in defraying the cost of offering a stipend to those who are willing to share their time and talents.

*Vicki Knauff*

## LOG CABIN COOKOUT

Come join us and bring your family and friends to the Log Cabin Cookout on Friday evening, Sept. 12, 2014, at 6:00 pm. A delicious bean & ham dinner will be served in our historic log cabin. The program will start at 7:00 pm featuring Society President, Mike McCarty speaking on the restoration of the back wall of the Highland House Museum. Our program will conclude with Gary Kersey speaking on Lincoln as President and the Civil War. An additional highlight of the evening will be an auction of several items from the Chaney Estate with Lowell Chambers presiding. Reservations can be made on the enclosed form or by calling the museum at 937-393-3392 by Monday, Sept. 8, 2014. Donations will be accepted for the dinner. Pro-

ceeds will be used for the restoration of the back wall at the Highland House.

*PLEASE! Join us  
 at the CABIN!*

*Cabin picture now  
 available on our new  
 line of note and  
 greeting cards in the  
 Museum Shop!*



CD Player needed! Highland House's CD Player has become unreliable. If you have a player you can donate, or would like to purchase one, please call the museum! Thanks!

## LET ME INTRODUCE MYSELF

In addition to Dana and Andrew, there is another new face at Highland House. My name is Gabrielle Pitzer and I have volunteered to write current event articles for the newsletter, as well as submissions to the local newspapers. I am a 2009 graduate of Hillsboro High School, 2011 graduate of Southern State Community College, and received my Bachelor of Science in Communication Studies from Ohio University – Scripps College of Communication in 2013.

I have a lifelong love of history, particularly the history of Hillsboro. For me, there is nothing as important as knowing where you come from, being able to appreciate the past, and preserve and pass along that knowledge to future generations. Besides my love of reading and adding to my library collection, I enjoy sitting around with my family and hearing them tell stories of the past.

## GHOST WALK

Thursday evening, 25 Sep, at the Hillsboro Cemetery, we will again present our GHOST WALK. We will gather at the stone chapel at 6:00 pm for a short history about the cemetery. Justin Harsha, trustee of Highland County Historical Society, will be showcasing the Harsha family.

Mel Haines, a retired teacher will be representing his great-grandparents, Charles and Mary Rainey West, a family who operated a store in Rainsboro.

Ron Gilliland, past president of HCHS will present Lt. Caspar Collins and his father, Col. William Oliver Collins.

Dwight Crum and his wife, Betty, members of HCHS, will be representing two different community members. Dwight will represent Christopher Arthur, who was a native of Lynchburg, VA and the builder of our beautiful Highland County Court House. Betty will be presenting Jane Allen Trimble, the mother of former Ohio Governor, Allen Trimble.

Please “talk this evening up” and invite friends and relatives. This is a great event for introducing your friends to HCHS. Be sure to wear comfortable walking shoes!

## CIVIL WAR PRESENTATION

As I walked into the Highland House Museum on July 15 to enjoy a Civil War presentation presented by Terry Roush, I could tell that this wasn't something to be missed. The room was half-filled but within a matter of 15 minutes, it was standing room only. I couldn't wait to see what I could learn, having taken Civil War classes in high school and college. When I sat down, I was greeted by a very nice woman who was eager to share her personal connection to the Civil War. She showed me original tintype photographs of her great-grandfather and his brother in their Civil War uniforms. As she told me their stories as far as she knew, she mentioned that she had spoken to Terry Roush two years ago about finding more information on her relatives. Soon Mr. Roush gained the attention of the room and began his presentation.

The presentation was a history lesson starting at the beginning of the war to Lee surrendering to Grant at Appomattox Court House. Throughout the talk, Roush showed his Civil War artifacts, ranging from authentic mini balls and a rifle to reproductions of documents such as Confederate parole certificates required at the end of the war. When he talked about the uniforms of soldiers, the lady sitting next to me would look at her tintypes, letting me see real examples. Whenever possible, Roush tried to bring the Civil War back to a personal level. At the local level, he revealed that Highland

County's last living Civil War veteran was a man with the surname of Garrett, who was born in 1847, died at the age of 98 in 1945, and is buried in the Berrysville Prospect Cemetery. A personal story came from his wife Gloria's side of the family. Her family has a diamond locket that has been passed down through the generations from the Schurmann family who lived during the Civil War. Gloria stood up to show the locket, which she had worn on her own wedding day.

As the presentation came to an end, Mr. Roush announced his willingness to stay and answer any questions people had despite the All-Star game being on television. People filed around the room to take a glance at the display case holding all of the artifacts. While people milled about the room talking about the presentation and their own stories, my neighbor throughout the presentation showed her tintypes to Mr. Roush and reminded him about speaking to him previously. At this point he proclaimed that he had a folder of information for her. Before I left, I glanced at the folder and was amazed at the information he had found, including regiment information and discharge dates. I left her marveling at her family history, pieces finally falling into place, and wondered what other family stories would be uncovered.

*Gabrielle Pitzer*



## HIGHLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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*Our wonderful interns! Andrew Hall,  
Dana Cress and Gabrielle Pitzer.*

### **LENDING A HELPING HAND** *(continued)*

both found it hard to narrow it down to just one. Document wise, Hall cited a complete copy of *Stars and Stripes*, a newspaper printed in France from 1918-1919 for US soldiers, while Cress found the paperwork for indentured servants interesting. Cress also liked the contents of a box filled with WWI artifacts. She said it was "filled with things like combs, ration books, cigarette cases; not glamorous things, but things people actually used." Hall particularly liked an "1880/1890s doctor's kit that still contains medicine, including mercury pills."

On one final note, Cress and Hall were asked, from their perspective, why pre-

servicing our history is so important in a technology-driven, throw-away era. Cress mused on the fact that we should probably keep journals for future historians to know about our daily lives. Hall offered insight on the how the internet can only be used for so much to digitalize history. According to him, artifacts tell much more than a picture ever could; a picture of a hat can show you what it looked like, but the actual hat can show what it was made of, how it was made. As Hall said, "we only have so much left and it needs to be saved as a learning tool for future historians."

*Gabrielle Pitzer*



### **BUG LIGHTS** *(continued)*

look out at beautiful dogwood blossoms in the spring and the bright red berries later in the season, where the cool evenings of early spring and late autumn would bring a chill to the body, where one could sit and listen to all of the night insects and bugs singing their night-songs, where the rains would create a symphony of sounds on the tin roof and on the leaves right outside the screens. This magical place, where the frying of eggs for our simple supper created that familiar odor mixed with the smell of bread being toasted over an open flame, brought thoughts of security and love and simpler times. Even the sound of a screen door banging, which I may still hear occasionally, will transport me back to that house and grandparents who never spoke the words, "I love you" but there was no need. That love was shown in hundreds of ways.

*John Glaze*