

MUSEUM MUSES

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Every important thing we do starts with a commitment and your board is committed to making this year of 2013 a great one as we strive to document and preserve the history of Highland County. We welcome new trustee members, Jill Yochum and Jeremy Schaffer.

Thank-you to all of our trustees, members, committees, volunteers, visitors and organizations who worked to keep the museum “alive” with activity this past year. Thank-you to Catie Schafer, museum director, for her dedication

to the museum and events she worked so hard to make a success.

The acquisition of the Scott House is complete and Jill Yochum, chairman of the Scott House committee, is hard at work. Watch for reports from her committee. We honor the preservation work done in the past and are committed to continuing that preservation work in the future.

Our 2013 Membership Drive is underway and a renewal form is enclosed. I hope you’ll consider volunteering because with new events, comes the need for more volunteers. We hope to expand our

volunteer program and need your help as members. A Gift Membership might be a nice surprise for a friend or family member!

Building and grounds chairman, Jeremy Schaffer and his committee will be addressing needed repairs to the kitchen ceiling while the museum is closed this winter. The old ceiling has been patched numerous times and this is a necessary repair. This is part of our ongoing effort to maintain and preserve the treasured Highland House.

Please contact me with any suggestions or concerns. Thank-you for electing me president of

Midge Rose

the board of trustees. I hope to see you on March 15 when the museum reopens and join us for brunch of St. Patrick’s Day!

Midge Rose

Our deepest sympathy to Jean Wallis and family on the loss of their husband and father, Lester.

DID “WKRP IN CINCINNATI” GET THE IDEA FROM US?

On an episode of the old sitcom, “WKRP IN CINCINNATI”, Les Nessman announced an event where turkeys would be dropped from an airplane. In an article appearing in the December 10, 1914 issue of the local paper, we read of a TURKEY SCRAMBLE to be held on December 22. At least 25 turkeys were to be let loose from the top of one of the businesses in the center of town. In the next week’s issue, the num-

ber was changed to 33 turkeys and they were to be turned loose from atop Hilliard’s Quality Store. It was also announced that Drum Corps music would be provided by the “Famous Raines Bros.”

To the neck of each bird would be fastened a red tag, showing a merchant’s name sponsoring that bird. The sponsoring businesses included:

Stabler 5c & 10c Store, J. B. Spencer & Co. Dry Goods, E. H. McClure & Co. Iron Clad Clothing

House, Frank Emmerling Jeweler & Optician, Sam R. Free Clothing, Forum Theatre Mutual Movies, Hider Florist & Fruit Man, Hilliard’s Quality Store, Conard’s Grocery, Kincaid & Sons Undertakers & Furniture Dealers, Hillsboro Gazette Publishers & Job Printers, Hillsboro Auto Co, M. .F. Carroll & Sons Co. Carriage Manufacturers, Merchants National Bank, Model Bakery, Model City Mills Flour & Grain, Hillsboro Dry Cleaning & Pressing (continued on page 2)



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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The following are serving as your Board of Trustees for 2013:

- Midge Rose, President
- Mary Todd Hardemann, VP & Acting Secretary
- Pauline Cameron
- Dwight L. Crum
- Helen L. Ford
- John M. Glaze
- Bob Lambert
- Lesley Lightner
- Jeremy Shaffer
- Margaret Van Frank
- Jean Wallis
- Jill Yochum

Catie Schafer, Executive Dir.
 Karen Reno, Treasurer

From December 10, 1914:

“TURKEY SCRAMBLE”

Unique Event to Be Held Here Dec. 22, When 25 Gobblers Will Be Given Away.

A “Turkey Scramble” will be held in Hillsboro at 1 o’clock Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 22. At this time at least twenty-five gobblers will be let loose from the roof of one of the business houses in the center of town and they will be free to whoever catches them. This is a rare opportunity to get your Christmas turkey free.

This will be a unique, novel and entertaining event. It will be given by the merchants of Hillsboro. The movement was started Monday and met with a hearty reception. Each merchant that goes into it will give a turkey. On the leg of the turkey given by him will be tied a banner with his name on it. The person catching the turkey must report at once to the merchant who gave it. The “Scramble” will be open to every one and it is certain to be some scramble for who would not scramble to get a turkey free.

Here will be a show that no one can afford to miss. It will be worth coming miles to see and get in. And it is all free including the turkeys.

Full particulars and the names of the merchants participating will be published next week. Can’t you see the laughable and comic things that are sure to occur and would anyone miss it?

GIFT SHOP REPORT

Thank-you to everyone who visited and shopped at the museum gift shop this year. Thanks to all of you, it was a successful fund raiser.

Catie and I have decided to keep the gift shop open year round with seasonal items for spring, summer and fall. We hope you’ll remember us for gift and decorating needs.

Midge Rose
 Catie Schafer

“WKRP IN CINCINNTI” (continued)

Works, News-Herald Publishers & Job Printers, Ervin & Dragoo Automobile Garage, Dan Morgan, Van B. Miller, Selph’s Cash Grocery, McKeehan-Hiestand Grocery Co. Wholesale Groceries, Feibel Bros. Clothing, Dry Goods & Shoes, Kelly & Kelly Wholesale Cigars & Tobacco, Underselling Store Clothing, Dry Goods & Shoes, Union

Grocery Co, Farmers & Traders National Bank, Miller The Druggest, S. E. Hibben & Son Dry Goods, E. W. Muntz Jeweler, Spargur & Co Dry Goods & Shoes, Hillsboro Dispatch Publishers & Job Printers.

Without any further comment, this was seen in the Editor’s column: “The Turkey Scramble” having been

called off there is not even a chance for the editor to have turkey on Christmas.”

It would be interesting to know the reason the scramble was cancelled....perhaps, with more research, we will!

Thanks to Kathy Bright and her daughter, Kelly Stephens, for sharing this story!

HERITAGE MUSIC SERIES

The Heritage Music Series committee would like to announce the Concert Series for 2013. Please mark your calendars!

- April 20
- June 15
- August 17
- October 19

We will be following the same format as in 2012: Social time from 7:30 PM until 8:00 PM and music

from 8:00 PM until 9:00PM.

Please support the series and join us for a wonderful night of music and conversation in the parlor of Highland House.

Pauline Cameron
 Helen Ford
 Midge Rose

ST. PATTY’S BRUNCH

Sunday,
 March 17th
 11:00 am—
 1:00 pm

Call for reservations!



ONLY 50 available!

**LIMITED EDITION
 HCHS SUNCATCHER**

Only \$10 at Highland House Gift Shop!

You can call the Museum to reserve.



January Board Meeting Report

The January Board Meeting was convened on 24 January. Representatives from Merrill Lynch met with the board to review our portfolio holdings and performance. Bottom line is that we must step up our fund raising efforts if we are to avoid continuing to take earnings from the portfolio and let that money work and increase.

The Treasurer's Report showed that, even with earnings taken from our investments, the Society showed a deficit of slightly over \$8,000 for the year. When we encourage you to renew your memberships and invite friends and rela-

tives to join the Society, it is for good reason!

Museum attendance for November was reported at 139 and for December, 342, which included tea party and room rental numbers. Director Catie also reported several donations have been received in the Memorial Fund in memory of Lester Wallis. Plans currently are to reopen Highland House for Spring on 15 Mar and the St. Patty Brunch will be held on Sunday, 17 Mar, from 11am-1pm, requesting a donation of \$8.

An extensive report from the Accessions Committee showed numerous additions to our collection.

The Children's Holiday Tea Party was extreme successful, being a sold out event, entertaining our guests and earning a profit for our treasury.

The Heritage Music Series presented monthly during 2012 showing a profit of approximately \$2200. It has been decided to present four events in the Series during 2013. These are the dates being planned: 20 Apr, 15 Jun, 17 Aug and 19 Oct. The format will remain with a 30 minute social time, commencing at 7:30 and an hour of music from 8:00 until 9:00. As you may know, the funds raised from the Series are earmarked to restore

and maintain music instruments owned by the Society. We learned that the Melodeon, currently being restored by Tommy Beeker, has had all major parts replaced and completion of work is expected by spring or early summer.

The 2012 Christmas Gift Shop proved wildly successful with net profit of nearly \$1,000!

Although dates are tentative (watch for updates!), events being planned for HCHS include an Open House on 23 Mar, from 10am -2pm.

An upcoming program, (possibly in June), which should be very popular, will be on the baseball player, Buck Ewing. This will feature the author of the recent book about Mr. Ewing, Roy Kerr. This will also feature a book signing.

With the accession of Scott House to the holdings of HCHS, several events are being planned utilizing that venue. There is an Ice Cream Social being planned for 16 Jun, from 2-5pm. On 27 July, we hope to have a very posh and glitzy reception and dinner.

All events at Highland House and at Scott House need YOUR help! We depend on our wonderful volunteers to be the power behind the events. Each event mentioned in this report has a committee, but they can't do it all! We need YOU. Did you see an event which really caught your eye? Call now and volunteer to help!

Editor

SESQUI-CENTENNIAL QUIZ

When Hillsboro celebrated the 150th Anniversary of the founding, a great party was held. Certainly a celebration to top those prior and those to follow (in the editor's estimation, of course!). Here is a quiz to test your knowledge of Hillsboro and its people during that time. You may not find the quiz easy, but you're sure to find it interesting! Answer the questions as best you can before looking at the answer key, found elsewhere in this issue. PLEASE! No peeking!

1. When was the Hillsboro Sesqui-Centennial celebrated?

- A. June, 1957
- B. August, 1957
- C. July, 1957
- D. July, 1958

2. Who served as queen of the Sesqui-Centennial?

- A. Kathy Ruble
- B. Charlotte Fenner
- C. Betty English
- D. Helen Ross

3. Who was mayor of Hillsboro during the Sesqui-Centennial?

- A. Karl Doebele
- B. Forrest Beery
- C. Charles Harsha
- D. Ed. B. Ayres

4. What was the title of the pageant telling the story of Hillsboro?

- A. The Hillsborough Story
- B. The Golden Years
- C. This Land, Our Home
- D. Seven Hills, Seven Promises

5. Who reigned as queen of the Sesqui-Centennial Children's Parade?

- A. Nancy Parry
- B. Diane Williamson
- C. Rosalind Rhoads

D. Cecile Cook

6. Who was serving as Prosecuting Attorney during the Sesqui-Centennial?

- A. Orland W. Roades
- B. Curtis Wilson
- C. Richard L. Davis
- D. Robert McMullen, Sr.

Now that you've finished the quiz, grade your answers.

0 to 1 correct: Are you sure you live in Hillsboro, Ohio and not Hillsboro, Oregon?

2 to 3 correct: Very good! You've been living here a while and have been paying attention!

4 to 5 correct: WOW! You are obviously an aficionado of all things Hillsboro.

6 correct: OUTSTANDING! Either you REALLY know your local history or you may have snuck a peek at the answers!

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Permit No. 11

Highland House is closed for the winter months. We will reopen on Friday, March 15.
Friday: 1-5pm
Saturday & Sunday: 1-4pm

While Highland House is closed for the winter, there are changes being made, including the addition of a special exhibit display case which will feature collections from private owners as well as museum acquired pieces.

IF THE SCOTT HOUSE WALLS COULD TALK

Catie Schafer

In preparation and enthusiastic anticipation of the acquisition of the “Scott House,” I assigned our summer college intern, Ross Chambers, the task of researching the history of the home and the Scott family. The results were quite interesting...

“If these walls could talk,” they would tell the story of a very strong, educated, affluent family who started to build the William Scott family mansion in “Hillsborough” in 1835. The building was not considered completed until 1844 and housed two early generations of Scott family men who had law degrees and practiced the art of lawyering and then later banking in our town. Of particular note was Samuel Parsons Scott, born in 1846, son of William, who took over ownership of the estate in 1875 and amassed a large personal library, which was

housed in the Scott home up until his death in 1929. His passion for books accelerated to the extent that he authored three books on various historical topics during his lifetime.

The time of his death introduces a great deal of what I would consider to be “historic irony.” He loved his book collection and donated his entire collection and the majority of his over three million dollar fortune to a medical research facility in Pennsylvania. Two points of irony: he left only \$75,000 cash to his wife and a collection of books.

Why did he only leave his grieving widow such a paltry sum and send most of his estate and collection to another state? During the majority of S. P. Scott’s life, he suffered with horrible bouts of hay fever. He attributed a “remedy” formulated by chemists at the Jefferson

Medical Facility in PA. as being responsible for alleviating a lifetime of suffering. Therefore, he felt them worthy of his monetary appreciation and directed the institution to erect a library on its grounds with his personal collection to be housed there. The “Scott Memorial Library” still exists today and is part of Thomas Jefferson University.

Alas, back to the issue of his widow Elizabeth. In his bequest he wrote in regards to the small sum of money he left to her, “for a marital lifetime of enduring her constant insults, outrages, cruelty, disgrace, and humiliation.” I imagine that the Scott House walls, while being filled with scholarly legal and financial chatter, might also contain snippets of marital discord!

Although the personal Scott family book collection was removed from the Scott

House, the home later housed the Highland County Library, which was relocated from the City Building to the home in 1947.

Now the Historical Society looks forward to an equally erudite but less controversial future for the Scott House and invites all of the members to participate in writing the home’s next chapter.

Catie

