

# MUSEUM MUSES

Telling Highland County's story for over 50 years!

## IN OUR COLLECTION

John Glaze

Sometimes it's the small items which are the most interesting. Recently the ribbons and badges found in the second floor rear hallway display case caught my eye.

Our collection has identification badges for those attending a conference, a political ribbon and a high school emblem on a leather strap (perhaps for luggage).

In the silver center area we read "Gratia Dei Servatus" (Grace of God) as well as the Roman numerals for 1881.

I couldn't locate any information about Carson Camp, but we know that following the Civil War, groups of veterans began to gather into "camps" and this eventually led to the rise of sons or daughters of veterans organizations.

The next ribbon was worn by J. M. McMullen of Hillsboro when he attended the Annual Convention of the National Association of Postmasters held in Washington DC, July 18-21 in 1916. Again, very little could be learned about the organization, other than that it was the parent of the current association for postmasters.



Association of Postmasters which met in Marion, Oh, July 16-17 of 1923.



The pin area states just that, while the medal held by the ribbon says, GOLDEN CONVOCATION and the letters A. A. S. R. This stands for the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry. Although not in our collection, I found this photo of the 70 page memorial book commemorating the 50th, or Golden Convocation, Feb 18-21, 1902.

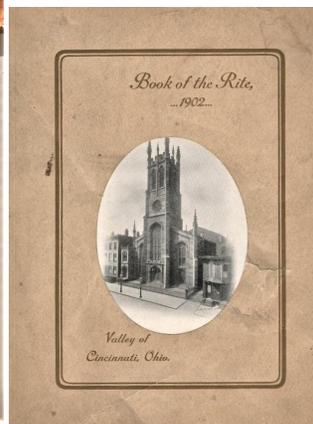
Our next ribbon has "VETERAN" on the pin and "Grand Lodge Ohio" and



First we look at this ribbon. It is from the Songs of Veterans and shows Carson Camp No. 48, Hillsboro, Ohio. At the very top, the metal pin section has the "S of V" logo. At the top of the red, white and blue area, we read FILII VETERANORUM (translation is Son of Veteran).



Our next ribbon is from the Valley of Cincinnati 1902 convocation.



Next we have what appears to be the Ohio Chapter of the National

(continued on page 3)

2019 TRUSTEES

- Tara Beery
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- Sue Honeycutt
- John Kellis
- Denny Kirk
- John Levo
- Jim Rooney
- Steve Roush
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DIRECTOR: VICKI KNAUFF  
 Newsletter Editor: John Glaze  
 Historian: Jean Wallis

NEWS from Vicki

Mark your calendar. The Highland House Museum will open May 3 at 1 pm for the 2019 season with a ribbon cutting ceremony. We will be open on Fridays and Saturdays from 1-4 pm. The library will be open on Friday afternoons for researching family and county history. The Museum is open to the public and there is no charge for touring the historic building. We appreciate donations as general maintenance is costly. A greeter will welcome you to the Museum and provide a brief history. Stop at the Museum Shop to find various publications on local history, books by local authors, postcards of area interest and several consigned items as well as gifts made by artisans.

While Highland House was closed for the winter, a major electrical project was happening. Wiring was replaced along with outlets and new outlets and light fixtures installed. This much needed work was paid for by two generous donors.

We started a Speaker Series in February with a program on the Gist Settlement and followed up in March with a Gist settlement descendant relating her story of family history. Bob Brown and a cast of characters portrayed radio broadcast of The Ohio Stories in April. More programs are being planned. Let me know if you have a particular topic that would create interest in the community.

I have been cataloging Jean Wallis' Guide Post arti-

cles that were published in the Press Gazette more than twenty years. These articles are loaded with local history and need to be preserved. I have "readers" reading each article and listing names and places. I then enter that information in Past Perfect, our museum software program. Each article can be searched by name or place.

Jennifer Jenkins is the Home Tour Coordinator and has assembled quite an impressive list of eight homes, St. Mary's Episcopal Church and Highland House for the 2019 Tour of Homes on June 23. Don't miss this opportunity to tour some of the most historic and beautiful homes in Highland County.

We have many events coming up during the summer, so watch the local papers and our website.

Thank you for your membership and your continued support of the Historical Society.

It Was An Important Year

2019 marks anniversaries of several major

historic events. While some are worldwide happenings, every event impacted our lives in some way. We must make the connection to events taking place around us or history becomes meaningless. How do you fit into the picture?

June 6 marks the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day, an invasion of the European continent that changed the course of history. As I stood on the sands of Omaha Beach at the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, I will always remember imagining the sounds of the machine gun fire aimed at the brave, young soldiers, many staring death in the face, as they came ashore. More than nine thousand Americans are buried at the Normandy American Cemetery overlooking Omaha Beach. Never forget the sacrifice made on June 6, 1944 for the freedoms we take for granted.

Where were you on July 20, 1969? Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins landed Apollo 11 on the moon that momentous day. I remember so well sitting in my parents' family room with several relatives as we watched Neil Armstrong step on the powdery, white sur  
*(continued on page 5)*

DINING ROOM DONATION

The chair pictured below is one of a set of six recently donated to Highland House. These chairs are a great match to the dining room table donated last year. Thank you, Donor!



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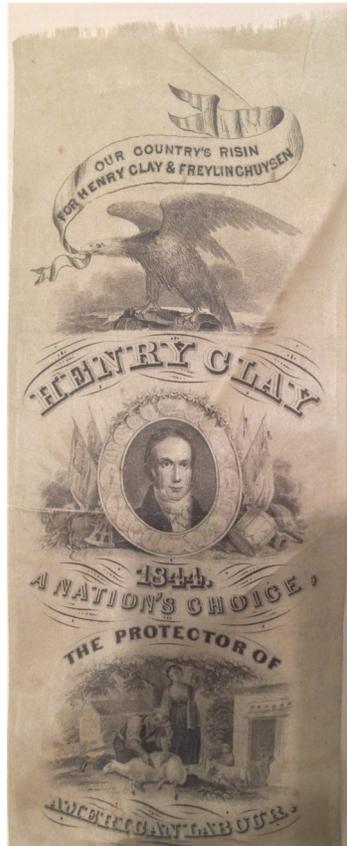
## In Our Collection *(continued)*

“Virtute Silentio Amore” on the medal, in addition to symbols of Freemasonry. The Latin translates: The power of the silence of love of the Grand Lodge Ohio.

The Grand Lodge of Ohio was formed on January 4–8, 1808 by a convention of five of the six Masonic lodges then meeting in Ohio. The convention was held in the statehouse at Chillicothe and, on January 7, Rufus Putnam was elected Grand Master. The Grand Lodge has been in continual existence since 1808 and in 2018, had over 450 chartered lodges in Ohio with a membership of over 75,000.



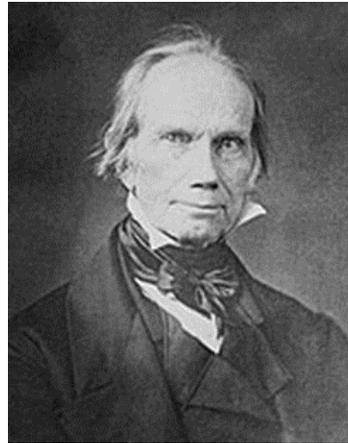
This metal tag says simply, “HHS 1915”. It has a leather strap similar to those on luggage tags.



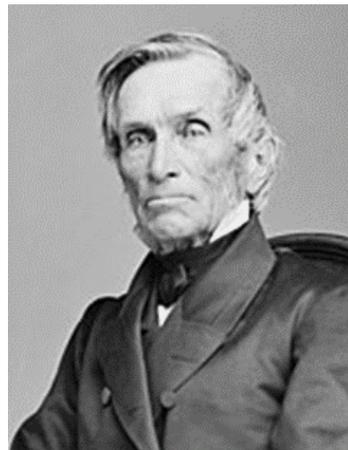
This last item is a political campaign ribbon from the 1844 Presidential Election between James K. Polk, the

Democratic candidate from Tennessee and Henry Clay, the Whig candidate from Kentucky.

Our interest is in Clay, who had served as Speaker of the House 1811-14, 1815-20 and 1823-25.



His running mate, Theodore Frelinghuysen, had served as senator from New Jersey from 1829-1835.



The election, which ran from November 1 until December 4, 1844, was, of course, won by Polk with 49.5% of the popular vote to Clay's 48.1%. In the Electoral College, Polk won 15 states and Clay won 11.

Away from the politics and back to the ribbon! This rib

bon is about 7 inches long. At the top, an eagle holds a banner in its beak with the words, “Our Country's Risin for Henry Clay and Freylinchuyesen.” The center image of Clay is immediately surrounded by disks of small pictures, then flags, drums and other images. Then the election year, 1844 “A Nation's Choice”. The bottom image is of a bucolic scene of shearing a sheep by a man and a woman carrying something, trees and houses in the background. The word surrounding this are “The Protector of American Labour.”

There were many versions of this same basic ribbon with the difference usually being in the bottom image and motto, aimed at the group being targeted.

Henry Clay had effectively been the leader of the Whig Party since its inception in 1834. Clay was a slaveholder, yet the southern wing of the party was committed enough to the national platform that they were able to put partisan loyalties above slavery expansionist proposals that might hurt the North-South alliance. A large point of contention was the annexation of Texas. Southern Whigs feared that annexation of Texas would produce a huge market for slaves, inflating the price and devaluing the land in their states. Northern Whigs feared Texas statehood would initiate the opening of a vast empire for slavery.

Well, despite wonderful campaign ribbons, Clay lost the election and our story ends.



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## CHILDREN'S TEA PARTY!

Twenty-nine guests attended the Children's Tea at Highland House museum on Sunday, April 14. Sponsored by the Highland County Historical Society, the Children's Tea is an annual springtime event.

This year the children were honored by a visit from the Snow Queen. She entertained the children by playing a game called Hide the Wand. She also read them a story about Elsa and her sister, and hosted a craft making project. Photos were taken with the Snow Queen, and each child will receive

their own photo memory of the event.

Refreshments of vegetable sticks, orange slices, strawberry, cucumber sandwiches, a variety of fresh baked sweets and peach tea were served.

Hostesses for the event were D'Anne Bradds Sweet, Sharon Swearingen, Cathe Chaney, Liz Odland, and Brenda Bradds.

Next year's theme will center around dolls and may include a visit from Raggedy Ann.

*Brenda Bradds*



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## Highland County Historical Society

# HALL OF FAME

Sunday, August 18 at 2:00 p.m. we will recognize the 2019 inductees into the Highland County Hall of Fame. Like last year the recognition will occur at the Presbyterian Church in Hillsboro across from Highland House. Following the ceremony we will proceed over to Highland House for a reception.

If you would like to nominate someone to the Hall of Fame, applications are available on our website ([www.hchistoricalociety.weebly.com](http://www.hchistoricalociety.weebly.com)) or at local libraries in Hillsboro, Greenfield, Lynchburg, and Leesburg. Applications must be received no later than 4 p.m., June 1, 2019. Completed applications must be submitted in a sealed envelope and mailed

or delivered to Highland House. The mailing address is 151 E. Main Street, Hillsboro, Ohio 45133.

To be considered for the Hall of Fame a nominee must have been born or lived in Highland County and made contributions in any of the following areas: Arts & Entertainment (performer, musician, actor, writer or related field); Enterprise (science, medicine, business, philanthropy); Sports (athletes, coaches, officials or administrators); Leadership (government, education, military, etc.).

Any questions should be directed to Nancy Wisecup, [njwisecup@gmail.com](mailto:njwisecup@gmail.com) or 937-402-1527.

*Nancy Wisecup*



THE MUSEUM SHOP  
AT HIGHLAND HOUSE  
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## LIBRARY NOTES

The scanner is wonderful! Once again we thank the generous donors. Jim Rooney continues to scan unknown photos and articles of interest that will be documented in our Past Perfect Program.

John Glaze and Vicki, our director, have entered all book holdings into Past Perfect. Vicki and I are currently working on the spine labels so each book can easily be found. A check in Past Perfect will give us the place to look and the label will identify the book so we can quickly lay our hands on the desired item.

Eventually all pictures and documents will be entered into Past Perfect and backed up to the Cloud so we are not in danger of losing the documents to fire or other catastrophe.

What a room full of interesting things! Not only do we have pictures of buildings or people long gone,

### NEWS FROM VICKI

(continued from page 2)  
face of the moon. Would he sink into the dusty abyss? Would he get back to the spacecraft safely? Would they return to earth without perishing? It was a mission filled with fear, the unknown and wonderful excitement that man could accomplish such a feat. Think of all the amazing inventions and innovations that resulted from space travel.

2019 commemorates another one of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of the Vietnam War. Because the war lasted

but there are publications documenting Highland County History. The **Highland County Magazine** is full of interesting articles. Our collection is not complete, but the information is invaluable.

Milton Caniff, world renowned cartoonist, grew up in Hillsboro and is part of our Hall of Fame. Once in a while one of his sketches given to a local friend shows up in a file here and there. It is certainly fun to think about the day a teenager from Hillsboro is sitting next to a friend sketching, foretelling his future, should anyone have dreamed his dream.

It won't be long until the museum is open on Friday and Saturday afternoons. The library will be open every Friday from 1-4. Here's hoping you can stop by and enjoy a little reading once in a while!

*Carolyn Hastings*

so long, there are several years that should be remembered. Vietnam was a war unlike any we had fought before. I'm sure you've seen the documentaries and talked to a veteran who tells the "real story". March 29 has been designated as Vietnam Veteran's Day and must be recognized along with other important patriotic holidays. While you or I may not agree politically with the war, we must honor those veterans who answered the call of their country and fought with courage.

## Historic Walking Tour

On Friday evening, July 19, the Highland County Historical Society will conduct an evening walking tour of Hillsboro's East Main Street Historic District.

The tour will start with registration at Highland House before being broken into small groups to make the sidewalk tour of buildings on East Main and East Walnut Streets. Along the route tour guides will make brief comments about the history of the various houses. At the conclusion of the tour, a reception with light

refreshments will be held. The tour is open to all Society members and non-members. A \$5 per person fee will be charged. The actual starting time for the tour, a rain date and other details will be announced at a later date.

Some volunteers are needed to assist with the activity. Those having an interest in helping with registration, assisting the individual tour groups or the reception are asked to contact Director Knauff.

*John Levo*



*"There are takers in this world, and there are givers. If you live in a community, you have to be a part of it."*

*Seen in April 2019 Guideposts*



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Much closer to home, 1844 was an important year in Highland County. The Highland House and the Scott House were both completed in that year. These historic structures are 175 years old this year. A major celebra-

tion of these buildings is planned for August 24 at the Scott House when the Historical Society sponsors "Pioneer Day."

*Vicki Knauff*

## PIONEER DAY PLANS TAKING SHAPE

Mark your calendars for Saturday August 24<sup>th</sup>. What began as a plan to celebrate the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Highland House Museum and Scott House Mansion buildings (both completed in 1844), has grown into a celebration of our Highland County History.

The event will be held on the grounds of Scott House Mansion and the old Hillsboro High School property at 338 West Main Street in Hillsboro. The plan is to highlight various elements of our past with fun,

food, history, and education.

While Highland County Historical Society is pulling together this event, plans are to include communities from around the county. The hope is that each area of Highland County will have a display highlighting some aspect of that community. The Society will have a booth, and Lynchburg Historical Society will highlight their organization and the old Freiberg and Workum Whiskey Distillery that operated there for years prior to prohibition.

Other communities being contacted include Greenfield, Highland, Mowrystown, Rocky Fork Community Alliance, The Arc of Appalachia group, and Fort Salem Indian Mound

While the Society hope to include communities throughout the county for this initial one-day event, if it is well received, planners envision the possibility of it becoming an annual event that would move around the county highlighting anniversaries, sites or buildings from year to year.

Planners are including a pancake breakfast/brunch so attendees can get a good meal along with a bake sale that will highlight delicious locally baked goods to purchase.

The Grassy Run Historical group will be setting up historical demonstrations on the Scott House lawn showing pioneer skills such as rope making, musket rifles, weaving, blacksmithing and tin

punch, cooking and hunting, all set in an Appalachia period camp site setting on the beautiful front lawn of Scott Mansion.

Area Scouts are planning to set up primitive camp sites as well as volunteering to help at the event. The Highland County Antique Machinery Club has shown a lot of interest and will be setting up to demonstrate antique machinery and tractors on the grounds of the old high school. Steam engines, and corn shellers and milling equipment, etc. will be on display at the event.

Scott House Mansion will be open for tours. Any such tour is highlighted by the opportunity to take in the view from the famous "widows walk" roof with outstanding views of the city. The roof was used by volunteers during the war, with citizens signing up to watch out for enemy planes. Recent  
*(continued on page 8)*



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# HIGHLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOME TOUR

## SUNDAY JUNE 23



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See the Insert for more information and visit our website for full information on each property on the tour!

## What's In YOUR Attic?

This year it was decided to store some of the Museum's Christmas decorations in the Highland House attic and, with the assistance of Jim Rooney, several of the trees were man-handled up those narrow stairs to the attic. While moving items around to make room for the trees, an unusual object was observed by board member John Levo. At first it appeared to Jim and John that it might be an early child's casket. Not knowing what might be found upon opening the lid, fears were put to rest when it revealed radio tubes, coils, wire and other electronic components.

When the discovery was brought to Director Knauff's attention she said she did not know of any old radio in the attic. A quick search of records has no evidence of an antique Air-Way radio as donated to the Museum or even in the Museum's inventory. Therefore lies the possibility of it being in the attic prior to the 1965 purchase of the building. The radio was then brought from its attic resting place to the first floor where it probably had been used daily decades before. It was

cosmetically cleaned and now is displayed in the Music Room.

An internet search revealed it was built by the Air-Way Electric Appliance Corporation in Toledo, Ohio.

The Highland Amateur Radio Association was asked if they could find more information about the radio. The network of ham radio operators quickly spread the word and received responses from not only radio enthusiasts in southern Ohio, but from as far as an antique radio collector in Switzerland. Although all responses were helpful, the most detailed one came from the West Virginia Museum of Radio and Technology in Huntington, WV.

According to a photograph of our newly discovered treasure, the Huntington museum determined the radio is an Air Way Model 61 built in 1925 in Toledo. Their additional information shows that Air Way was chartered in 1920 in Delaware and in 1921 acquired two manufacturing facilities in Toledo where they built vacuum sweepers and other household appliances for a number of years. As with many early manufac-

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turers, the early radio craze caused them to start building radios from 1924 to 1926. The suggested 1925 selling price for the Model 61 radio was \$98.50. In today's dollars that would be \$1,430.43! An Internet search shows a recent sale of this radio for almost \$300.

The radio museum even supplied a schematic of the radio and volunteered to make their antique radio parts inventory available so this battery powered radio could be restored to working condition if desired.

Later, while searching for a roof leak, board member John Willis and newsletter editor John Glaze discovered a Bristol Super S horn

speaker in the attic that is believed to have been used with the radio. It now has been reunited with the radio and is displayed in the Music Room.

You just never know what might dwell in your attic.

*John Levo*

We are in need of volunteers to place flags on veteran's graves at the Hillsboro Cemetery on May 11th starting at 10:00am. (May 18th if bad weather on the 11th.)

A small group can complete this in an afternoon.

Anyone interested can send me a message for more information.

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### MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Check the date found on your mailing label. This is your membership renewal date. If it falls within the period of this newsletter, your renewal statement is enclosed. Please make any corrections or additions on the form and return it with your payment. Please consider increasing your membership to the next level.

## OPENING FOR THE SEASON 03 MAY

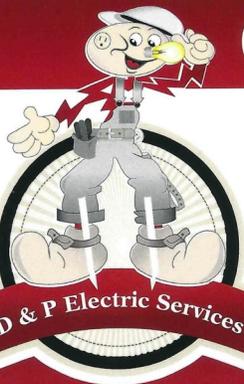
### Pioneer Day *(continued)*

*(continued from page 6)*

renovations to the mansion make the tours possible. Plans are to also clean up and open the basement to attendees as well. This is the site of the "rumored tunnel" associated the Underground Railroad. While evidence has yet to be found, the Scotts were avid abolitionists, and they undoubtedly assisted in the effort to help slaves escape to northern areas where they could live as free men and women. The basement is huge and worth the time to visit as well.

Plan to come join us by putting the event on your calendar. We will get more updated information about the Pioneer Day Celebration as the event grows closer.

*John Kellis*



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