

Platt's Quill



ASHTABULA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Established 1838 / second oldest in the state of Ohio



Spring 2020 Newsletter - Page 1

Officers for 2020

Susan Hill, President (shsusanhi@gmail.com)

Amanda Briggs de Lavini, Vice President

Courtney Johnson, Secretary

Norma Waters, Treasurer

Museum Committees

Judy Pallutch, Historian Jennie Munger Museum;
Diane Thaler, Marge Milliken, Dave Lepard,
Susan Hill, Amanda Briggs de Lavini, Dan Hill,
Docents.

Barrie Bottorf, Historian Blakeslee Log Cabin; Al
Slater, Courtney and John Johnson, Dan and
Susan Hill, Adrian John, Planners.

Giddings law Office: Historians and Planners:
Norma Waters, David Martin

Important Dates!

Jennie Munger Gregory Museum:

Opening: Thursday May 30, 2020

Banquet and Blanc-Fund raiser: Friday June 26

Blakeslee:

Log Cabin Days: September 12-13, 2020

Giddings Law Office Opening: May 30, 2019

Check our website often for Program Dates, Times
and Places:

Website: <http://www.ashtcohs.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ashtcohs/>

President's Message

Happy 2020! This year each of our 3 Museums will welcome you and special Programs to add to the fun of exploring our County. Did you know there are over 22 different Museums here in Ashtabula County? Three of them are under the management of the Ashtabula County Historical Society, but the rest also have exciting programs and knowledgeable trustees, providing fascinating information for visitors. This summer we hope to partner with them to propose day trips and special learning events. Remember: this year is the 100th since women received the VOTE! We salute many courageous and outstanding suffragists and abolitionists from our own County.

We look forward to a great year!

Susan Hill

President, ACHS 2020



We welcome Mia Owens, Ohio History Service Corps Member, Region 4.

Mia will help us embrace our Mission of learning, educating and promoting the history of Ashtabula County!



Historic Ashtabula County Courthouse

Ohio Channel Supreme Court Documentary!

Liesl Bonneau of the Ohio Channel in Columbus contacted us about adding Ashtabula County to the historic courthouse videos on their website. After an extensive afternoon of interviews of Katherine Whittington, J.P. Ducro, and Casey Kozlowski, Clerk Lisa Hawkins, and our own Ashtabula County Historical Society's Norma Waters and Judy Pallutch, a wonderful video was developed. Website link:

<https://ohiochannel.org/video/ohio-county-courthouses-seats-of-justice-ashtabula-county>

The first Court House was completed in 1811. It was a log structure replaced in 1836. A jail was built by Cornelius Udell in 1844. In August 1850 the Court House burned and by July 4, 1851 the new building was dedicated. It had large Doric columns in front and a bell tower. Repairs and "improvements" were made in 1891 adding a third story and a larger bell tower as well as a lovely Courtroom. A west wing was added in 1909 for additional office space and then alterations were not made again until 1992. In 1992 an elevator was added and the 1891 Courtroom was restored to its original beauty, visible today when Commissioners use it for a conference room or you attend one of the many meetings held here.



***Banquet and Blanc* Fund Raiser to be held at Jennie Munger Gregory Museum in Geneva-on-the-Lake June 26 from 6-9 pm**

Hold the date Friday June 26! In the evening the Ashtabula County Historical Society, Lakehouse, and the Geneva on the Lake Visitors' Bureau are teaming up to help Ashtabula County Historical Society move into 2020. Everything white is featured in honor of the brave Ladies of our County. The Vote for women was ratified in Ohio in 1920. During the campaign women wore white and wore or carried banners to attract attention to the issue. We honor Jennie Munger Gregory and other strong women of our County.

Tours and appetizers at Jennie Munger Museum, Banquet at Lakehouse. Displays and special entertainment are planned! We hope all will be capped by a great summer sunset.

From Dave Martin

"Have you ever wanted to learn more about the Village of Jefferson's most famous citizen, Joshua R. Giddings? Jefferson Historical Society in partnership with Ashtabula County Historical Society will produce a special production of 'A Visit with Joshua R. Giddings' over four days this year. The dates are May 16, June 27, July 11 and September 19. All four parts will be different. Each part will be one hour or less in length. The first part will be about Mr. Giddings' early years. The fourth part will cover the end of his life. Parts two and three will cover everything in between. After each program Mr. Giddings' Law Office will be open to visit. Come join us and learn more about this famous American who called Jefferson home."

(March-April Jefferson Historical Society Vol XV, 2020 page 5)



DIGITIZING documents from our Walter Jack Library

Jennie Munger Gregory Museum has many documents that are sources for historical research. We are hoping to partner with the Ashtabula County District Library Genealogy Library in order to provide access. This will make many of our unique items available for research online 24/7. It will also provide the extremely important backup copy in case of disaster damage.

Trustees of the Ashtabula County Historical Society – 2020

Susan Hill – President

Amanda Briggs de Lavini – Vice President

Courtney Johnson – Secretary

Norma Waters – Treasurer

Barry Bottorf

David Lepard

Dan Hill

Allen Slater

Dan Hill

John Johnson – Century Home Committee

Bob Thompson – Lenape Nation Partner

Website: <http://www.ashtcohs.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ashtcohs/>

Celebrating Women’s Suffrage in Northeast Ohio

The Northeast Ohio Suffrage Centennial Committee has developed the “Valiant Visionaries of the Vote” Trading Card Project, an initiative to engage the community in the history of the local Women’s Suffrage Movement. The project is coinciding with the centennial anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment that provided women the right to vote. The committee is made up of humanities professionals, educators, volunteers and staff of historical organizations, and Ohio History Service Corps Local History members.

The “Valiant Visionaries of the Vote” trading cards will feature thirty individuals and locations that were integral to the local Women’s Suffrage Movement. They will become available on “Suffrage Sundays” throughout the coming months, following our Suffrage Sundays Kick-off event that is to be announced. They will be hosted in Trumbull, Mahoning, Geauga, Ashtabula, Lake, Lorain, and Columbiana counties at nine historical organizations. The public can view extended biographies and suffrage resources through our website that will be launching in the spring: neohiosuffrage.org.

This program is made possible, in part, by Ohio Humanities, a state affiliate of the National Endowment of the Humanities.

To stay updated on the project’s upcoming announcements, “like” or follow the Facebook Page www.facebook.com/NEOhioSuffrage



Questions? Contact Mia Owens at mia@trumbullcountyhistory.org



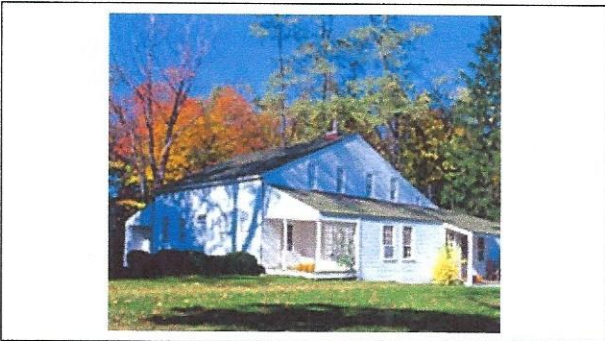
Please return your 2020 Survey!

The Board of Trustees of the Ashtabula County Historical Society want to make it responsive to the wishes of our members! Please return the Member Survey form and we will listen carefully to your wishes.

Tour of Shandy Hall is Being Arranged

A representative of the Western Reserve Historical Society in charge of Shandy Hall built by Robert Harper, will lead a special Tour for 10-15 interested members of the Ashtabula County Historical Society. If you want to be included in the Tour, call Susan Hill: 440-294-2351. It will probably be held in April. Shandy Hall has been closed to visitors for years (“under preservation”) and your Trustees are very interested in how things are going for our first frame home in Ashtabula County. Here is the link to the WRHS entry about Shandy Hall:

<https://www.wrhs.org/plan-your-visit/historic-properties-2/shandy-hall-in-geneva/>



If you want to join the tour please call right away as the Western Reserve Historical Society prefers a small group.

Blakeslee Log Cabin Days

September 12 and 13th

Frontier Vendors

Fun and delicious Foods

Jams, Honey, Donuts, Bean Soup

Frontier Games and Activities

Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Displays

Herb Garden planted and maintained by the Daughters of the American Revolution!

Presentation by Claar Butcher, Blacksmith

Educational Programs by the United Lenape Nation

Presentations by Stephanie Blessing and John Wright Jr. of the Red Beet Farm

Music!



Volunteer Helen Oyen helps plant the Log Cabin Herb Garden August of 2019.