

Pleasant Hill History Center Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 4
June 2015



Pleasant Hill History Center

Pleasant Hill, Ohio

Mission Statement

“To preserve the history of Pleasant Hill and Newton Township through documents, pictures, and artifacts.”

Historic

Pleasant Hill and Newton Township

“Preserving our local history by telling our stories.”

Pleasant Hill History Center Newsletter

Spring 2015

A Note from the President

I can hardly believe the time has come to end my term on the board of the Pleasant Hill History Center. It has been a whirlwind! We have accomplished a lot, and still have many goals we want to achieve.

In the history of Newton Township and Pleasant Hill, you might be considered an outsider if you have lived here less years than you are old. By that definition, I am a newcomer, as some of you may be. I believe that whether you reside here or not, whether you have been here 1 day or 90 years (Happy 90th Birthday to my fellow board member Jean Gilbert), you have something to offer! Make time to come visit us and see all that we have going on!

Lesa Delcamp, President

Membership News

We have 106 partners and 8 business friends. New members include: Mary Ortega, Ron Jackson, Lauren Marcum and the Jackson Family Farms.

Questions about your membership, call John Weaver at 937-632-4004. Thank you for your support.

John Weaver, Membership Chairman

Pleasant Hill History Center Museum

We have had a number of donations to our history center this winter. We are always welcoming new items from Newton Township and Pleasant Hill to add to our collections.

Pleasant Hill Sesquicentennial

On June 30, 1866, Pleasant Hill was founded. In 2016, we will celebrate our 150th birthday. A kick off planning meeting will be held June 25, 2015 at 7 PM at the History Center. Committees will be forming to create a celebration of this event. Bring your ideas and help plan for this joyous occasion.

Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting was held May 21 at the Museum. The new members confirmed to the Executive Board include Ruthann Beck, Lolita Schultz and Steve Patton. The new board members will join existing members; Jean Gilbert, Donna Favorite, and Rosalie Adams. The board will meet later this month to decide the officers for this year. We appreciate the work of John Weaver and Lesa Delcamp and their dedication while serving their term on the Executive Board.

Museum hours are every Monday from 3:00 - 7:00. Come visit your museum!

**Be sure to check our web site @ Pleasanthillhistorycenter.com
and visit us on Facebook**

Newton Township and Pleasant Hill in the War of 1812

The following is a list of the known men who served in the military during the War of 1812 who are buried in the three Newton Township Cemeteries.

Sugar Grove Cemetery

Daniel Hollinger 1795 - 1852 Captain Jacob Shingledecker's Company
Henry Moore 1795 - 1855 Captain William Wilson's Company
Michael Shafer 1786 - 1857 Captain Jacob Gilbert's Company
David Shoemaker 1785 - 1855 Captain Andrew Hemphill's Company

Joint-Union Cemetery

John Brooks 1795 - 1831 Jesse D. Jackson's Company
Samuel Peirce 1785 - 1863 Martin Armstrong's Company

Pleasant Hill Cemetery

William Green 1792 - 1864 Captain Abner Barrett's Company
John Hale 1775 - 1852 Captain Samuel Hale's Company
John Hill 1783 - 1840 Captain Charles Hilliard's Company
James Long 1784 - 1815 Captain Joseph Holme's Company
John Long 1793 - 1835 Captain George Gibson's Company
William Long 1781 - 1862 Captain William Humphrey's Company
John McConnell 1797 - 1863 Captain William Morrow's Company
Frederick Myers 1796 - 1876 Samuel B. Kyle's Company
William Perry 1781 - 1842 Captain Luther Leonard's Company
Philip Shoe 1785 - 1850 Captain Robert McClelland's Company
Jacob Shoemaker 1798 - 1877 Captain George Wolf's Company
George Williams 1776 - 1836 Captain George Williams' Company
Henry Williams 1782 - 1861 Captain Samuel Black's Company
John Williams 1786 - 1847 Captain Martin Armstrong's Company



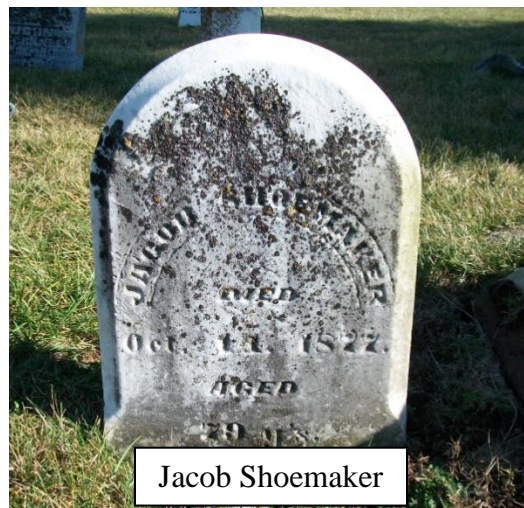
David Shoemaker



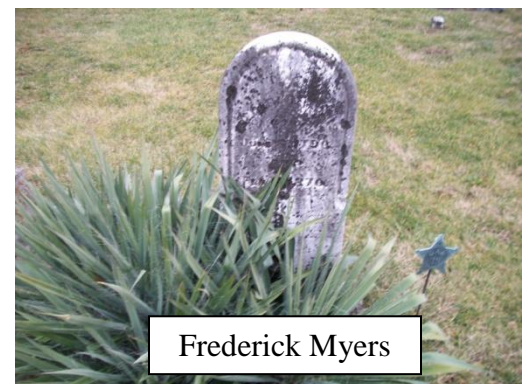
Samuel Peirce



Henry Williams



Jacob Shoemaker



Frederick Myers

Information was taken from cemetery records, veteran records and WPA records compiled in the 1930's.

Elsa Kortsch

Elsa Kortsch was born October 1, 1905 in Dayton Ohio. Her parents were Carl and Margarete (Bohnfeld) Kortsch. Both parents were born in Germany. Carl came to America in 1897 on the ship Pennsylvania. The Kortsch family had a bakery in Dayton and then moved it to Osborn. In 1913 they had their second daughter, Freida Margaret.



BAKED "GOOD THINGS TO EAT"

Herman H. Albers
SANITARY BAKERY
PHONE 16

Pleasant Hill, O.,.....191...

It was an ideal location for a small town of 800. They sold bread.... three loaves for a quarter. Elsa loved the flat ginger spice cookies. At Easter, the bakery's specialty was a 12 inch bunny made from bun dough cut by hand. Elsa's job was to put on the raisin eyes.

Elsa graduated from Bath Township School in the spring of 1924. In the fall of that year, Carl Kortsch and his family moved to Pleasant Hill, leasing a bakery from Herman Albers. It was an



Location of the Bakery at 27 N. Main

In 1928, the lease expired and the bakery faded into history. Later the space became a Kroger store and then Bean Stout's barbershop took its place. (27 North Main Street)



1937 Elsa Kortsch Class

Elsa attended the Miami County Normal School in West Milton and took classes at Miami and Wittenberg College. She started teaching first grade at Newton Elementary School, in 1925. She later taught fifth grade. She taught a total of 44 years at Newton.

Elsa was the Building Fund treasurer and the secretary of the Women's Fellowship at The Congregational Christian Church for more than 30 years. She was a charter member of the Astrobuds Garden Club.



In 1937, her sister Frieda died of Pneumonia in Dayton. Her father died 2 years later in 1939. She lived with her mother on Main Street in Pleasant Hill until her mother died in 1959. She continued to teach at Newton until her retirement at the end of the 1971 school year.

Elsa moved into the Brethren Home in Greenville in 1994. On March 4, 2007, Elsa died at the age of 101. She is buried in the Old Greencastle Cemetery, Dayton, Ohio.

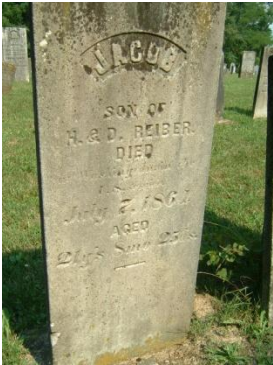
"Give to the world the best you have and the best will come back to you." - Elsa Kortsch

Delilah Reiber

Delilah Reiber was born to Phillip and Elizabeth (Miller) Hartzell on February 6, 1816, in Covington, Ohio. She married Henry Reiber on April 7, 1840, in Miami County. Henry was the son of Jacob and Catherine Reiber. The Reiber family came to Newton Township from Pennsylvania in 1835.

Delilah and Henry had at least 10 children. They include: Phillip born in 1841; Jacob born in 1842; Susannah born in 1844; Benjamin born in 1845; Joseph born in 1845; Rebecca born in 1847; Jemimah born in 1849; Malinda born in 1853; William born in 1854; and Sarah born in 1856.

Her first son, Phillip, enlisted in Co. G, Ohio 110th Infantry on May 5, 1864. He was wounded and captured in the Battle of the Wilderness, Virginia. He was taken to Andersonville Prison, which was a notoriously cruel rebel prison. He died from scurvy on October 1, 1864 and is buried in the Andersonville National Cemetery in Macon County, Georgia. His name is listed on the East side of the Monument in Pleasant Hill.



Jacob Reiber

Her second son, Jacob enlisted in Co. G., Ohio 147th Infantry on May 2, 1864. He died of Diphtheria at Fort Marcy Hospital in Virginia on July 3, 1864. His body was taken to Sugar Grove Cemetery for burial.

Her third son, Benjamin, enlisted in Co. G., Ohio 110th Infantry on February 4, 1864. He died of measles on February 29, 1864 in the Regimental Hospital at Brandy Station, Virginia. His body was also brought back to Sugar Grove Cemetery.



Benjamin Reiber

On October 17, 1886, her husband, Henry Reiber died and was buried in Sugar Grove Cemetery. He was 70 years old.



Henry Reiber

PLEASANT HILL.
PLEASANT HILL, Nov. 6, 1895.
Last Thursday was a grand day in Pleasant Hill. Notwithstanding the disagreeable weather, a large crowd assembled around the Soldiers' Monument and that aged lady, Mrs. Deliah Reiber, came out and unveiled the monument. Gen. J. Warren Kiefer made an excellent address and the monument was dedicated and stands as a tribute to the gallant soldiers of this township who laid down their lives that their country might live.

In 1895, the GAR chose Delilah to unveil the newly constructed Civil War Monument in Pleasant Hill. Mrs. Reiber stood on a wagon bed and pulled the cloth off the monument. The band played and the crowd cheered.

On August 18, 1901, Delilah Reiber died. Her body was taken to the Sugar Grove Cemetery for burial. She was 81 years old.

Descendants of her children Joseph and Rebecca can still be found living in Miami County.



This picture of the monument is not the dedication, but taken a few years later. The fence was removed in 1902.

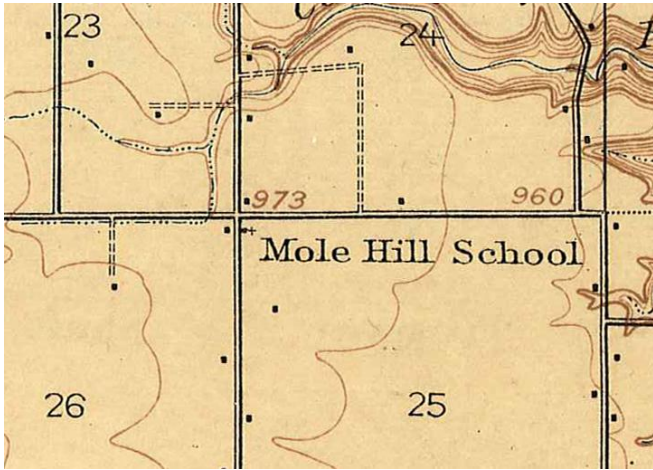


Delilah Reiber

Newton Township One Room Schools

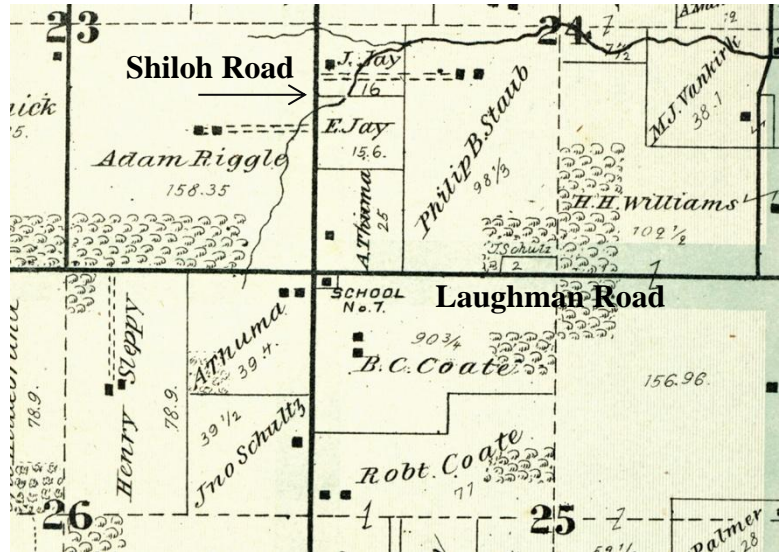
School # 7 - Mole Hill School

Location: Being one acre of land in a lot 10 x 16 rods in the Northwest corner of the North half of the Northwest quarter of Section 25, Town 8, Range 4, East.



1911 USGS Map

Land was purchased from Benjamin Coate around 1870.



1894 Plat Map

sep. 14. 1899. Newton Township Miami Co. Ohio. Sup. District. No. 7. 1899 to the clerk of our said township this is certify that Eliza Jay has furnished one cord of wood at school house No. 7 Newton Township and there is due sum \$3.25
Joseph Zimmerman

MOLE HILL PUBLIC SCHOOL		PUPILS	
District No. 7		Ethel Border	Olive Furlong
Newton Twp., Miami Co., Ohio		Clarence Divens	Marie Trost
ETHEL HILDEBRAN, Teacher		Maude Wright	Clarence Zimmerman
		Iva Divens	Irvin Oakes
		Edna Schultz	Hazel Divens
		Lawrence Furlong	Ionia Oakes
		Ruth Border	Elmer Widener
		Etoile Fritz	Stean Widener
		Jaunita Furlong	Ray Widener
		Chester Zimmerman	Emma Border
		Freda Trost	Miriam Coate
		Leonard Oakes	Edna Laughman
			Vern Trost

When Newton Schools consolidated in 1923, Mole Hill was sold to J. W. Hill for \$180.00.

Some teachers at Mole Hill include: Angie Crew, Thomas Norris, Vinnie Mikesell, John Stichter, Charles Staub, Ethel Hildebran, Helen Kelsey, Miriam Morton, Edyth VanKirk, Virden Thompson



Mole Hill Location in 2013



Mole Hill School - 1920 - Last day of School

- Row 1: Glenna Miller, Viola Miller, Robert Coppock, Hazel Zimmerman, Pauline Eberwein, Gladys Gibboney, Lucille Miller, Carl Eberwein, Glenna Furlong, Beatrice Robbins
- Row 2: Helen Robbins, Opal Sleppy, Ruth Wright, Catherine Eberwein, Ruth Minnich, Noel Eberwein, Richard Furlong, Robert Furlong, Rueben Miller, Lloyd Miller
- Row 3: Louise Eberwein, Treva Minnich, Freda Trost, Martha Robbins, Hazel Wright, Vernon Minnich, Lloyd Sleppy, Henry Miller, Gail Trost, C. V. Thompson - Teacher