

Pleasant Hill History Center Newsletter

Volume 5 Issue 2

December 2017



Pleasant Hill History Center

Pleasant Hill, Ohio

8 East Monument Avenue

P. O. Box 82

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

Winter 2017

A Note from the President

Hello. I hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving. As I sit here, having just celebrated the holiday myself, I think about how much I have to be thankful for.

I am thankful for the monetary and many other types of donations from numerous people, including the Village of Pleasant Hill, the Newton Township Trustees, D & M Excavating, Stull Woodworks, Inc., and the Miami County Foundation. I apologize now to anyone that I have missed. Without their generosity and the many volunteers, chairmen of committees and the Executive Committee (past and present), I know we would not have been able to achieve everything we have accomplished thus far. Thanks to all of you.

I would like to suggest several ways that you, your family and friends can help insure that the History Center continues to survive and grow. Volunteer; apply for Kroger Rewards and Amazon Smiles designating the Pleasant Hill History Center as the Non Profit recipient; make a donation in Memory of or to Honor someone; and support any fund raising event we sponsor.

As we enter the holiday season and end of the year, please keep us in your thoughts and prayers. On behalf of the Pleasant Hill History Center's Board, we want to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Donna Favorite, President

Membership News

We have 112 partners and 11 business friends. New members include: Pat Bridwell, Sally Farno, and Linnea Thomas. Questions about your membership, call Dawn Spitler at 937-632-0000. Thank you for your support.

Dawn Spitler, Membership Chairman

Correction to the Deeter Article in the Last Newsletter

In the last edition of the newsletter, in the article on the Deeter's Mill, Earl Robbins should be changed to Clyde Robbins. "In 1938, **Clyde Robbins** purchased the saw mill and moved it to his home near Troy."

Displays at the History Center

This fall, we had two displays at the history center. Jean Gilbert displayed her cups and saucers during the months of September and October. During the month of November, we had many wonderful quilts from area residents. Both displays were excellent.

Winter Hours

On November 28th we will close for the winter. We will re-open on March 5, 2018.

Memorials and End of the Year Giving

We had donations in memory of Carolyn Weeks and Sam Roetter. Thank you for honoring their lives. As you consider year-end giving for tax purposes, please consider the Pleasant Hill History Center. We are a non-profit organization so your donations are tax deductible. It is through your support that we can exist.

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

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

Cemetery Walk 2017

Our third annual Cemetery Walk was held September 10, 2017. We featured Mazie Teeter, Joseph Plunkett, Mary Mikesell, and J. K. Teeter.

Mazie Teeter was a teacher in Pleasant Hill. Joseph Plunkett was the father of Roy Plunkett, discoverer of Teflon. Mary Mikesell was the mother of Daniel Mikesell, founder of Mikesell's potato chips. J. K. Teeter is credited as the founder of Pleasant Hill.



Our presenters were: Brenda Carroll, Norv Deeter, Cynda Renner, and Dan Leistner. Each gave wonderful reenactments.

The day was sunny and warm. Many enjoyed the day at the cemetery.

Pleasant Hill History Center Sign

The Pleasant Hill History Center is the proud owner of a new sign. The sign was created by Brian Stull and his sons of Stull Woodworks, Inc. Two of our partner families paid for the materials and finishing, resulting in no cost to the History Center.

On Thursday, October 19, 2017, Brian Stull and two of his 3 sons brought the sign to our building and hung it.

We are grateful for the generosity of Stull Woodworks, Inc. and our two partner families for this beautiful addition to our building.



Christmas in Pleasant Hill

SANTA CLAUS PAYS VISITS ON MONDAY

Appears at Covington, Pleasant Hill and Bradford and Distributes Treats.

Covington, O., Dec. 27.—Santa Claus visited the children in Covington, Pleasant Hill and Bradford Monday afternoon and gave between 1100 and 1200 generous treats, consisting of candles, nuts, oranges, apples, pop corn balls.

Santa arrived in a gorgeously decorated truck which announced his arrival by the ringing of a large bell. Between 400 and 500 treats were distributed in both Covington and Bradford and at least 250 in Pleasant Hill.

Frederick Kendell of Covington and Cecil Abernathy of Bradford acted as the genial Santa Clauses. They were assisted in their work by members of the American Legion.

Piqua Daily Call
December 27, 1934

Christmas has been celebrated with Santa Claus coming to Pleasant Hill and giving treats to children for many years.

In the past, the Civil War Monument was decorated as a Christmas tree. Evergreen branches were placed around the monument with brightly lit bulbs. The tradition ceased due to some residents believing that it was not respectful to the monument.

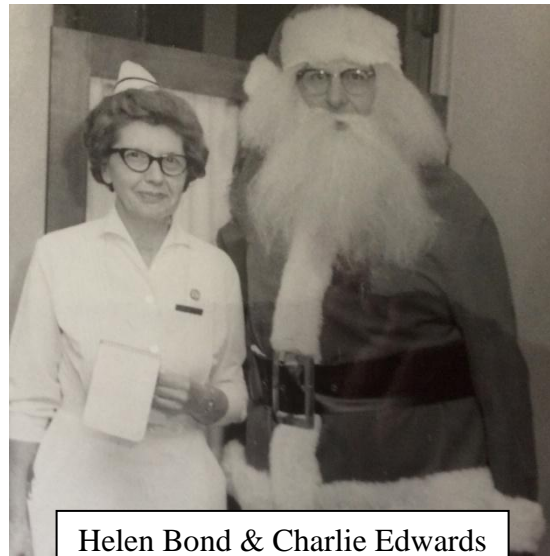
Today, wreaths are placed on the monument as decorations.

December 1966



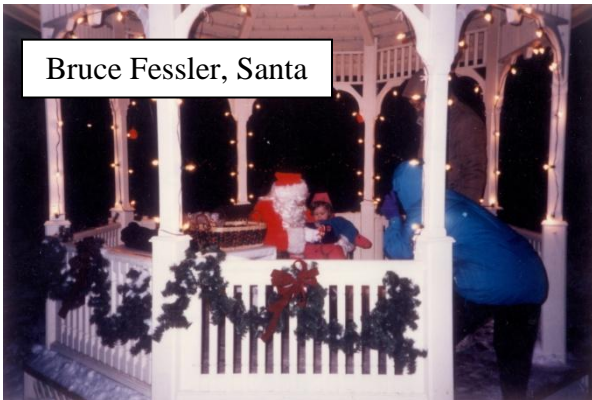
PLEASANT HILL—Santa Claus is coming to-town at 7:30 Dec. 23 for children of the village and Newton township. The fireman are sponsoring the program when treats will be distributed.

Piqua Daily Call - 1970



Helen Bond & Charlie Edwards

Bruce Fessler, Santa



Pat McBride, Santa



Many residents have portrayed Santa over the years. Charlie Edwards was Santa in the 1950's and 1960's. Later, Bruce Fessler and Pat McBride portrayed our Santa. Most recently, Harry Vannus took over the role.

In the early days, Santa came to the Sinclair Service Station to give out treats. Later, Tommy Lewis Park was the site for Santa. For a few years, the Pleasant Hill History Center was host to Santa. The location of Santa has changed, but he still visits the children of Pleasant Hill.



December 1993



December 2016

1948 Basketball Team

NEWTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

PLEASANT HILL, OHIO

Community Appreciation Dinner

GIVEN FOR

THE "NEWTON INDIANS"

1948 BASKET BALL TEAM

Miami County and Stillwater Valley League Champions
Finalists in the Springfield District Class B

Monday Evening, April 5, 1948 — 7.00 P.M.



THE TEAM: First row, left to right—Mr. Burns, Sweitzer, Miller, Wahl, Rudy, J. Jackson, Mr. Adams; second row, left to right—Amick, Hall, Martin, Newlin, A. Jackson, and Coach Ferguson.

Arguably one of the best basketball teams in Newton history is the 1947-48 Basketball team. This team won the Miami County Tournament, the Stillwater Valley League and was a finalist in the District Tournament. Their record for the year was 16 wins, 1 loss.

The team members were the following: Robert Amick, Nelson Hall, Andrew Jackson, John Jackson, Clyde Martin, Arthur Miller, Paul Newlin, Harry Rudy, Max Sweitzer, and Richard Wahl. The managers were Bill Schultz, Myron Burns, and Sam Adams. The coach was Carl Ferguson.

In January 2018, this team will be inducted into the Newton Athletic Hall of Fame.

NEWTON

"INDIANS"

Cheerleaders—Shirley Bowman, Julia Brandenburg,
Betty Kirchner

Colors—Red & White

Coach—Carl Ferguson

Managers—Bill Schultz, Myron Burns, Sam Adams

Players	Yr. of Grad.	Number	Position
Junior Jackson	49	11	Forward
Nelson Hall	49	77	Forward
Paul Newlin	48	66	Center
Dick Wahl	48	55	Guard
Arthur Miller	48	99	Guard
Bob Amick	50	00	Forward
Harry Rudy	49	33	Forward
Clyde Martin	49	22	Center
Max Sweitzer	49	88	Guard
John Jackson	51	44	Guard
Jack Nicholas	50		Forward
Roger Furlong	49		Center
Fred Wackler	48		Guard
Owen Sibert	48		Forward

SEASON'S RECORD

Team	Points	Opponents	Points
Newton	56	Franklin	31
Newton	53	Lostcreek	24
Newton	45	Lena-Conover	30
Newton	38	West Milton	37
Newton	39	Vandalia-Butler	35
Newton	32	Tipp City	19
Newton	30	Versailles	24
Newton	53	Covington	35
Newton	53	Elizabeth	45
Newton	41	Bradford	35
Newton	33	Covington	26
Newton	46	Elizabeth	36
Newton	39	West Milton	36
Newton	47	Beavercreek	36
Newton	49	Tipp City	38
Newton	53	Bradford	35

April 2, 1948



CHAMPS OF MIAMI COUNTY

PLEASANT HILL—Champion basketball team of the Miami county tournament, the Newton township high school Indians, are shown above with coach Carl F. Ferguson. Front row, left to right, John Jackson, Arthur Miller, Richard Wahl, Max Sweitzer. Second row, Bill Schultz, manager Paul Newlin, Clyde Martin, Nelson Hall, Andrew Jackson and manager Sam Adams. Third row, Harry Lee Rudy and Robert Amick. (Cramer Photo)

won 16

Program from the Miami County Tournament

1922 School Building

On August 30, 1921, an election was held to ask the public if they would be in favor of centralizing the school system. When the votes were counted, 515 votes were cast in favor of Centralization and 185 were cast against it. At the September 12, 1921 Board of Education meeting, a resolution was passed unanimously that the school would be centralized. The board members were McCool, Coppock, Coate, Laudenslayer, and Schlegel.

Construction of the new building began in the fall of 1922. The building was built directly behind the 1875 building.

The first day of school was formally opened on October 8, 1923. The new building contained 51 rooms including a gymnasium and auditorium. Eighteen passenger trucks were used to transport the students to the new building.



The building before the new windows were installed

In 1939, the new gym and auditorium were built. This gym was able to accommodate 1,200 people.

In 1959, five additional classrooms were added north of the existing building.

New windows were installed in the summer of 1965 and additional rooms were added. The cafeteria was moved into the new addition and the science rooms were moved into the former cafeteria space.



In the spring of 2010, the building was torn down to make room for the next new school building in Pleasant Hill.



Scaffolding for the new building can be seen behind the 1875 building.

The first superintendent of the school building was W. A. Bahner. He had been the superintendent in the Pleasant Hill School since 1919.

On February 8, 1924, just a few months after opening, the building was closed due to lack of funds. The school was reopened March 17, when the Ohio Supreme Court ruled that the school could borrow against future tax revenues.



June 11, 2010