

Pleasant Hill History Center Newsletter

Volume 8 Issue 2
December 2020



Pleasant Hill History Center

Pleasant Hill, Ohio

P.O. Box 82 Pleasant Hill, OH 45359

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 2020

A Note from the President

This Thanksgiving looked a little different for many of us. One thing that remained the same is that we have many things to be thankful for. Our ancestors had hardships during their lives and yet they remained thankful. The history of Pleasant Hill and Newton Township is full of people who have shown us how to be thankful.

The Christmas season is upon us. It may also look a little different this year. Hopefully, you can creatively celebrate with your families and remember the reason for this season.

The museum is closed for the winter. Hopefully we will be able to open this spring. I know there are many who are anxious to visit. We look forward to getting back to normalcy. We have some special programs waiting to be presented once we feel like it is safe to do so.

Wishing you a happy Christmas season and a happier 2021!

Ruthann Beck, President

Membership News

We have 105 partners and 10 business friends. We welcome Steve Shade and Atley King as new members! Memorial contributions in memory of Carl Delcamp, Arlene Rasor, Royce Kinney, and Gloria Adams were received. Thank you to everyone who honored these individuals.

Questions about your membership, call Dawn Spitler at 937-417-4985. Thank you for your support.

Dawn Spitler, Membership Chairman

Kroger

Be sure that you are signed up for Kroger Community Rewards. This program is a great fundraiser for our museum. Our quarterly checks help pay our utility bills! Check your receipt to see if you are still signed up! We appreciate your help with this fundraiser.

Runabout Update

Our Runabout is currently with the restorer. He will be working on it this winter with the hopes that it will be completed by March. We have received donations totaling \$2000.00 toward our goal of \$3,000.00. Thank you to the following individuals who have contributed to this fund: John and Lolita Schultz, Marcus and Carol Miller, Doug Christian, William Smith, Bill and Donna Favorite, Jim and Amy King, Chuck Martin, and anonymous donors. Thanks to all who have donated to this worthwhile project.

Winter Hours

We are closed for the winter. We will hopefully re-open on March 1, 2021.
Keep well this winter. See you next spring!

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

Arlene Rasor

Arlene Rasor was born May 22, 1923, in Miami County, Ohio, to her parents Hobert Hatfield & Ouida Mae (Hahn) Wick.

She graduated from Bradford High School in the class of 1941. On July 25, 1942, she married Leo Emerson Rasor.



Arlene and Leo operated the Rasor Plumbing & Heating Co. at Circle Hill. Together they raised two daughters.

She was a member of the Stillwater Valley Grange, a 4-H advisor, and was a lifetime member of the American Legion Post 80 Women's Axillary.



Arlene & Leo Rasor

Arlene and Leo were on the Executive Board of the Miami County Historical & Genealogical Society for many years. They helped many people with their family histories.

Arlene and Leo were very instrumental in the Pleasant Hill History Center. They spent countless hours researching the history of Pleasant Hill. In 1995, together they published a book on the Pleasant Hill Civil War Monument. They were selected to be the Grand Marshals of the Old Soldier Festival that year.

In 2002, Arlene was given the Heritage Award from the Miami County Historical & Genealogical Society for her outstanding service.

Arlene was a member of the Pleasant Hill United Church of Christ since 1956. She served on many committees there. She and Leo wrote a book on the history of the church which was published in 1995.

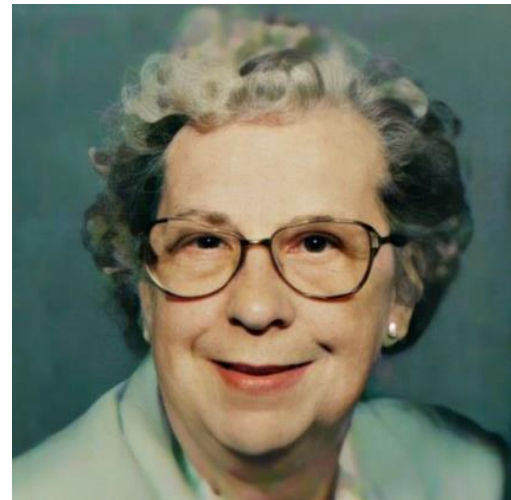
Arlene died at the age of 97 on August 25, 2020. She is buried beside her husband of 61 years in the Pleasant Hill Cemetery. We, at the History Center, owe a great debt to Arlene for all the work she and Leo contributed to the foundation of our existence.

BRADFORD—Mrs. Leo Rasor, the former Miss Arlene Wick, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hobart Wick. While her husband is serving in the U. S. army, she is working at a local firm. Mr. Rasor is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Rasor.

Dayton Journal Herald
October 11, 1942



Grand Marshals
Old Soldier Festival - 1995



Arlene Rasor

Newton Class of 1945

Every spring, the Newton Alumni Association honors the 75th anniversary of the graduating class of Newton High School. Due to the cancelation of the banquet in 2020, this class was not honored. The alumni committee plan to honor them at the next banquet.



Row 1: Fern Hershey, James Pemberton, Betty Johnson, Carol Johnson, Dale Bevington, Janet Byers **Row 2:** Dick Long, Carolyn Newlin, Donald Cress, Virginia Klopfer, John Woodhouse, Maxine Lowry, James Herbst **Row 3:** Harold Warner, Laveda Vogler, Alberta Christian, Joy Christian, Martha Thompson, Harold Byers **Row 4:** Pat Kauffman, Marjorie Schultz, Clarence Shipley, Walter Linton, Virginia Landis, Louis Robbins **Row 5:** Mildred Fair, Wilbur Cool, Carolyn Snell, Ruth Jackson, Leonard Bair, Gloria Deeter

Virginia Klopfer was the Valedictorian and Gloria Deeter was the Salutatorian. Little Jimmie Dickens headlined the Fall Fair in November. The play, *Enter Mr. Patricia*, was given in the spring.

Don Cress is the only member of this class still living.

Newton Graduation May 14, 1945

Rev. Fay Lee Meadows, Dayton will address the 29 members of the senior class of Newton school at commencement exercises Monday, May 14 Baccalaureate services will be conducted Sunday, May 13, at the Brethren church, at which time Rev. Floyd Sibert will speak. The graduates are Leonard Bair, Dale Bevington, Harold Byers, Wilbur Cool, Donald Cross, James L Herbst, Charles P. Kauffman, Charles R. Long, James R. Pemberton, Earl Louis Robbins, Harold D Warner, John I. Woodhouse, Janet Byers, Alberta Mae Christian, Joy Christian, Gloria Deeter, Mildred I. Fair, Fern M. Hershey, Ruth L Jackson, Bette Faye Johnson, Carol Jane Johnson, Virginia Lee Klopfer, Virginia Ann Landis, Maxine Lowry, Caroline V. Newlin, Marjorie Ann Schultz, Carolyn Sue Snell, Martha V. Thompson, and Laveda I. Vogler. The school adjourns May 23.



1944-45
Newton Basketball Team
& Cheerleaders

Record:
8 W - 9 L

←
Piqua Daily Call
May 11, 1945
→

R1: Harold Warner, Lewis Robbins, Dick Long, Aubrey Jackson, Bruce Iddings
R2: Lois Young, Jim Herbst, John Woodhouse, Don Pointer, Richard Hildebran, Darrell Shade
John Bowman, Phyllis Rose, Mr. Shipley, Coach

Newton Class of 1970



MARIANNE WARNER
Valedictorian



LINDA PEMBERTON
Salutatorian

Newton High Graduation Ceremony Set For May 24

PLEASANT HILL—Graduation ceremonies for 59 Newton Township Local High School seniors is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. Sunday, May 24. The Rev. William Gay will offer the sermon.

The high school band will play the processional and the recessional and the choir and the Girl's Ensemble will sing. Marianne Warner, class valedictorian and Linda Pemberton, salutatorian are the speakers.

Marianne headed the class with a 3.8 average. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold D. Warner of 11850 West Panther Creek Road. She is president of the Future Nurses Club, Vice President of the Newton National Honor Society, member of the Girls Athletic Association, Choir, Girls Ensemble, Newspaper Staff, Science Club, Future Teachers of America and Student Council. She is enrolled for next fall in the University of Evansville, Indiana and plans on majoring in nursing.

Linda Pemberton, Salutatorian, has a 3.6 average. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Pemberton, 706 North Johnson Road. She is treasurer of the Newton Band, reporter of the Newton National Honor Society and also a member of the newspaper staff, Choir and 4-H Clubs. She won the Smart award as a bandman. Linda is enrolled at Wright State University for next term to major in music.

The graduates — Charles Adams, Mary Jane Angle, Bill Angle, Terri Ashmore, Joyce Stevenson, David Bradley, Sam Bowman, Debbie Chipley, Carol Cool, Debbie Cress, Ned Diers, Craig Earhart, Mike Fasick, Dwight Fetters, Amy Flary, Brent Fouts, Connie Garvey, Beth Gilbert, Gloria Whalen, Dennis Hall, Larry Haney, Diane Hess, Kent Hess, Kathy Iddings, Vicki Jordan, Karen Kearney, Bob Kendall, Luella Kinnison, Jan Kraus, Harry Lee, Steve Marker, Decky Martin, Phil McFadden, Connie Miller, Debby Miller.

Gail Mitchell, Mike Murray, Brenda Neargarder, Doug Netzel, Linda Pemberton, Pam Noll, Sam Roetter, Bob Robbins, Jack Salyer, Lora Shulerberger, Bill Sink, Karen Smith, Van Spittler, Lawrence Studebaker, Dan Stamp, Susan Swartz, David A. Thompson, David E. Thompson, Anne Wall, Marianne Warner, Steve Wenrick, Glee Whitacre, Judy Wood and John Young.

The Newton Class of 1970 had their 50th graduation anniversary in 2020. Due to the cancellation of the Alumni Banquet, they will be honored next year.

The Class of 1970 had the distinction of having the first Prom King, Brent Fouts. The Prom Queen was Debbie Miller. The Valedictorian was Marianne Warner and the Salutatorian was Linda Pemberton.

The class motto was, *Preparation for the Future Demands Knowledge of the Past.*

Class colors – Mint Green and Ivory
Class flower – Yellow Rose

Homecoming - January 23, 1970

President - Brent Fouts
Vice President – Bill Sink
Secretary – Kathy Iddings
Treasurer – Connie Garvey

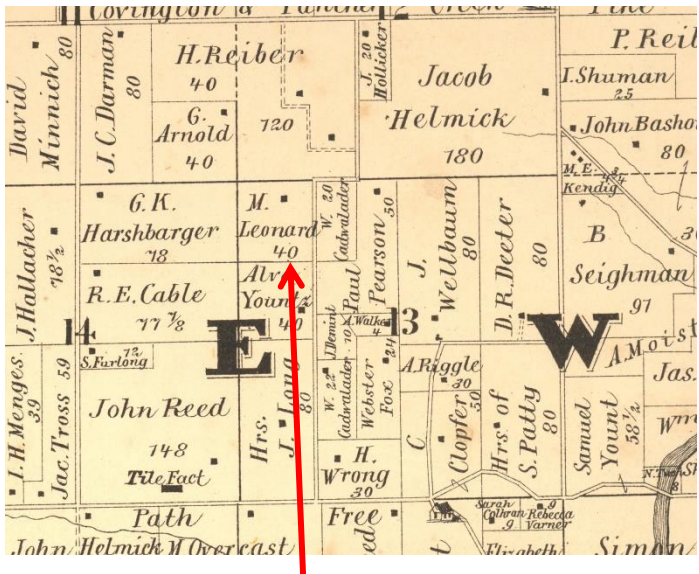


Debbie Miller, Connie Miller, Luella Kinnison, Kathy Iddings, Connie Garvey

- In Memoriam**

 - Van Spittler
 - John Young
 - Jerry Lee
 - Michael Murray
 - Deborah Chipley Crawford
 - Brent Fouts
 - Marianne Warner Bettag
 - Kathy Iddings Rolls
 - Carol Jean Cool Friend
 - Ned Diers
 - Diane Hess Sleppy
 - Dennis Hall
 - Sam Roetter
 - Pam Noll Coate

The Morgan Leonard House



Morgan Leonard property in 1874

Morgan Leonard improved his 40 acre farm, located on Leonard Road, by clearing trees and laying tile in the fields.

The Morgan Leonard family lived in their home until Matilda died in 1913. Morgan died in 1923. They are both buried in Pleasant Hill Cemetery.

The Clarence Hoover family was the next to live in the house. Clarence and Josephine raised four children. Clarence died in 1993 and Josephine in 2005. They are buried in Highland Cemetery near West Milton.

Having been condemned following a small fire, the house was sold, and in 2004 was dismantled and taken to New Mexico.

There the house was rebuilt and is currently the guest house of Tom and Barbara Briggs, near Cerrillos, New Mexico.

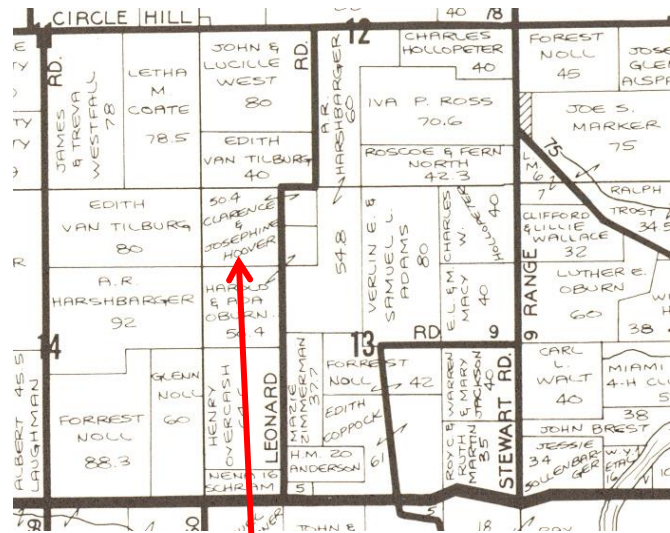
Leonard Road, located west of Pleasant Hill, was named for Morgan Leonard. He was in Company A of the 8th Ohio Calvary during the Civil War.

After being wounded three times, he was honorably discharged.

Morgan Leonard served as Newton Supervisor as well as Trustee. He and his wife Matilda had eight children.



Morgan Leonard



Clarence Hoover property in 1967



Morgan Leonard House being dismantled



The house as it looks today.