

Pleasant Hill History Center Newsletter

Volume 8 Issue 3

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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

Spring 2021

A Note from the President

This year the groundhog saw his shadow which means we have a few more weeks of winter. Soon the flowers will pop up and the grass will once again become green. Spring is a time to get outside and enjoy our area.

Our museum has been closed for nearly a year, but our mission of preserving the history of Pleasant Hill and Newton Township continues. We have had a number of donations to our museum and are anxious for you to see them.

We made the difficult decision to delay our opening. It will now be at least May 1st before we open again. We are hoping by then we will safely open and get back to a sense of normalcy.

We hope you are staying well and look forward to those warm spring days on the horizon.

Ruthann Beck, President

Membership News

We have 105 partners and 10 business friends. Memorial contributions in memory of Jean Gilbert, Carl Delcamp, Royce Kinney, Larry Favorite and Leo & Lucy Zimmerman were received.

Thank you to everyone who honored these individuals.

We have also received donations from Richard Sollmann, Dan Zimmerman, and Amy Fessler. Questions about your membership, call Dawn Spitler at 937-417-4985. Thank you for your support.

Dawn Spitler, Membership Chairman

Hometown Heroes

For the past 3 years, the Village of Pleasant Hill has honored veterans by creating and hanging banners down Main and Walnut Streets. These banners are sponsored by people who wish to honor a friend, loved one, or someone they know who served in the military. The cost this year is \$108.00, however if over 20 banners are ordered, the price will drop approximately \$20.00. If you would like to sponsor a banner, please contact Judy Barga at Judy.Barga@PleasantHillOhio.com or call (937) 676-2028

The deadline is March 12, 2021

Runabout Update

Our Runabout is currently with the restorer. He is working on it this winter with the hopes that it will be completed by May. We continue to receive donations toward our goal of \$3,000.00. Thank you to the following individuals who have contributed to this fund: Judy Amick, Reed Amick, John & Susan Davis, Mick & Roberta Edington and anonymous donors. Thanks to all who have donated to this worthwhile project.

Museum Hours

After great discussion, it has been decided that we will delay our opening until at least May 1. When we know the date, we will post it on the museum door, our website, as well as Facebook.

Stay well and see you soon!

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

Jean Gilbert

Jean Stout Gilbert was born May 20, 1925, in Troy, Ohio, to her parents Edward B. & Almeda (Schultz) Stout.

She grew up in Pleasant Hill. The family lived on Main Street where her father had a barber shop.

Jean graduated from Newton High School with the class of 1943. In 1947, she graduated from Ashland University with a bachelor's degree in Biology. She began teaching as a second grade teacher at Spring Creek Schools in Piqua. Later, she was a junior high science teacher at Van Cleve Junior High School in Troy. In 1965, Jean was hired at Newton Schools where she taught fifth grade and remedial reading.



Jean Gilbert portraying Ella Wampler during the first Cemetery Walk in 2013.



Jean was very instrumental in the Pleasant Hill History Center. Her knowledge of the history of Pleasant Hill was unsurpassed. She was a board member for many years and gave many hours helping the museum.

Jean was inducted into the Newton Hall of Fame in 2018.

Jean died Tuesday, November 24, 2020.

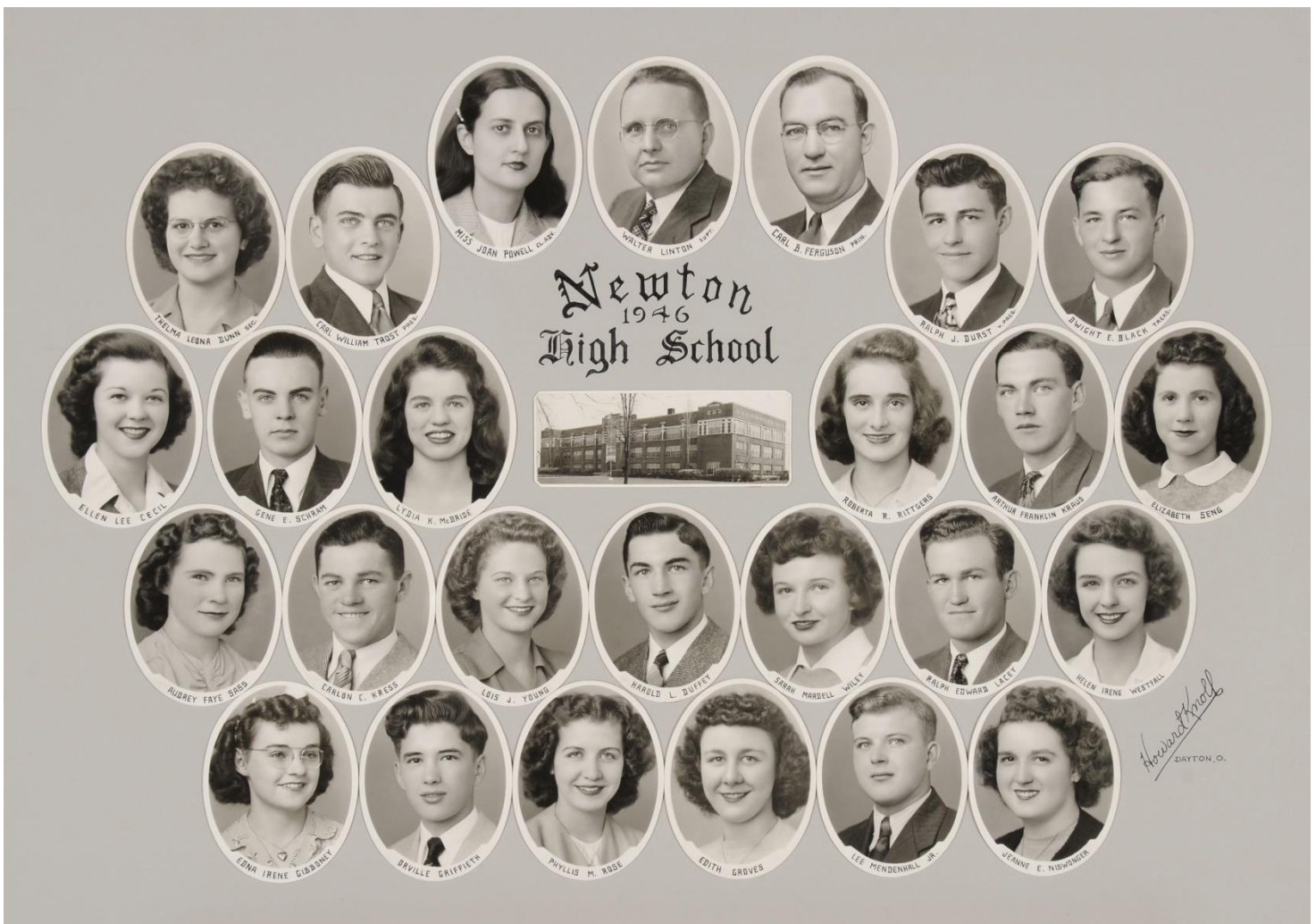
The History Center is very thankful to Jean for her knowledge and her love for Pleasant Hill. She will be greatly missed.



Identification Night – held to identify various Pleasant Hill pictures (Keba Heitzman, Jean Gilbert, ?)



Jean Gilbert



Class of 1946

- R1:** Edna Gibboney, Orville Griffieth, Phyllis Rose, Edith Groves, Lee Mendenhall, Jr., Jeanne Niswonger
R2: Audrey Sass, Carlton Kress, Lois Young, Harold Duffey, Sarah Wiley, Ralph Lacey, Helen Westfall
R3: Ellen Cecil, Gene Schram, Lydia McBride, Roberta Rittgers, Arthur Kraus, Elizabeth Seng
R4: Thelma Dunn, Carl Trost, Joan Powell, Walter Linton, Carl Ferguson, Ralph Durst, Dwight Black

This year the class of 1946 was to celebrate their 75th reunion at the Alumni Banquet. Unfortunately the banquet has been cancelled. Here are a few facts about the class:



The Valedictorian was Lydia McBride and the Salutatorian was Roberta Rittgers.

School was closed December 12-14 due to a flu epidemic.

The 15th annual Fall Fair featured the Oregon Rangers from radio station WOWO in Fort Wayne.

←
 Albert Grieve was hired as the new custodian.



Row 1: Sarah Wiley, Helen Westfall, Roberta Rittgers, Phyllis Rose, Harold Duffey, Lee Mendenhall, Jr. Row 2: Edna Gibboney, Audrey Sass, Thelma Dunn, Ellen Cecil, Carlton Kress, Ralph Lacey
 Row 3: Lydia McBride, Teacher, Joan (Powell) Linton, Ralph Durst, Carl Trost, Dwight Black Row 4: Arthur Kraus, Jeanne Niswonger, Gene Schram, Lois Young, Elizabeth Seng, Orville Griffieth



R1: Marvin Adams, Mary O'Brien, Bruce Jennings, Matha Peacock, Ken Saunders, Rita Getzendiner, Richard Hess, Linda Deeter, Sally Caldwell **R2:** Vicki Slusher, Les Copas, Milan Westfall, Gary Benning, Verda Via, Robert Smith, Beverly Harshbarger, Max Selanders, Martha Diers **R3:** Teresa Jackson, Steve Wood, Kristie Landis, Dave Yingst, Carolyn Kosier, Roger Studebaker, Lois Westfall, Terry Wackler, Debbie Edwards **R4:** Patti Rasor, Larry Laughman, Jill Hess, Terry McBride **R5:** Betsy Kraus, Dave Burns, Steve Bayer, Judy Davis **R6:** Earl Lee, Jane McBride, Colvin McFadden, Michael Short, James Alley, Michael Barnhart, Gary Slusher, Jane Noll, Nancy Fisher

Class motto: Some men see things the way they are and ask, "Why?" We dream dreams that never were, and ask, "Why not?"

Valedictorian: Matha Peacock
Salutatorian: Steve Bayer

Class colors: Royal Blue and Ivory
Class flower: Scarlet Rose

In Memoriam
Larry Laughman - 1982
Les Copas - 2000
Verda Via - 2002
Debbie Edwards Seas - 2015
Bev Harshbarger Cecil - 2020
Linda Deeter Moise - 2021



Becky Kendig, Jane McBride, Lois Westfall, Patty Rasor
Gary Benning, Bruce Jennings, Sally Caldwell, Vickie Bashore, Matha Peacock, Milan Westfall, Judy Davis, Bev Harshbarger, Jill Hess
David Burns, Dave Yingst, Steve Wood, Terry McBride
Bill Angle, Vicki Slusher, Mary O'Brien, Martha Diers, Rick Mohler, Jane Noll, Earl Lee, Carolyn Kosier, Gary Slusher, Terry Wackler

Newton Band – The George Edge Years

On Aug 20, 1979, George Edge was hired and began his amazing legacy at Newton! It would be nearly impossible to list all of the accomplishments that were amassed during Mr. Edge's tenure at the helm of the Great Newton Band. The following gives just a sampling of the awards the band received during his time:

1979 - 1980 In George's first year at Newton the band excelled. They were the 1st place winner at the Darke County Fair. They swept the Mum Festival, with a 1st place in the Parade, 1st place with their show, and the 1st place band overall. The band received a *Superior* rating at both the District and the State levels.

1980 - 1981 Covington Parade - 1st place;
Fairborn-Baker Band Completion – 1st place;
Bradford Pumpkin Show – 1st place.

1981 - 1982 Darke County Fair – *Superior*;
Ohio State Fair – *Excellent*; Piqua Marching
Band Contest – 1st place; Tipp City Band
Contest – 1st place; Bradford Pumpkin Show –
1st place

1982 - 1983 Darke County Fair – 1st place; Tipp
City – 1st place and Grand Champion overall;
Troy – 1st place

1983 - 1984 Piqua – 1st place and Grand
Champion; Tipp City – Grand Champion;
Fairborn Baker – Grand Champion; Grove City –
Grand Champion; Troy – 1st place overall;
Cincinnati Music Bowl – 1st place; Played at
Capitol University

1984 - 1985 Athens – 1st place; Troy – 1st
place; Westland – 1st place
Won the third *Buckeye Invitational High
School Marching Band Championship*; over 26
schools competed at Ohio Stadium. Because of
this win, the Newton Band was awarded the
opportunity to play at halftime of the OSU –
Wisconsin Game.

Also during this year, the band was the 1985
ASBDA National Concert Band winner. They
also received the Best Band Award at the
National High School Concert Band Festival
at Bowling Green State University.

1985 - 1986 Wadsworth – 1st in class; Athens –
Grand Champion; Troy – Grand Champion;
Buckeye Invitational – Grand Champion; Received
1s in the State Competition. The concert band
received an invitation to perform in Vienna, Austria.



Field Commander – Jodi Shellenberger



1986 - 1987 Lexington – Grand Champion; Miamisburg –
Grand Champion; Music Bowl – Grand Champion; Troy –
1st place; Ohio State Honor Band Performance; State
Contest – *Superior* Rating The band traveled to Orlando,
Florida to compete in the *Festival of Music* where they
were awarded the Best Overall Band.

