

BAY VILLAGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Potluck and Program

Pamela Ebert, Vice President

Thursday, September 16—Bay Lodge

6:00 p.m. social, 6:30 p.m. potluck dinner, 7:00 p.m. program

Main Dish – Provided by The Bay Village Historical Society

Last name beginning with:

A-L bring an appetizer *or* dessert for ten; M-Z bring a side dish for ten.

Bring your own place setting.

There will be a \$10 charge for non-members at the door

Kicking off a Great Season—Tail gate party



Put on your best Football attire and come join us for a tail gate party, brats and burgers will be grilling.

Bring your beverage of choice (alcohol is permitted at Bay Lodge.) Picnic side dishes will be provided by members.

RSVP to **Pamela Ebert 216-789-1272** or Blinglady17@gmail.com by September 13.

Our next meeting will be November 18 at Bay Lodge— details to follow.

Back In Time—A Rose Hill Celebration

Pamela Ebert

On July 25 more than 75 people enjoyed the opening of Rose Hill Museum and Osborn learning Center after being closed for a year due to COVID. The Log cabin was also on display that day after being closed for several years.

During the closure a lot of improvements were made to Rose Hill and the other buildings. The event was held on the grounds. The ticket price was \$10, but there were many donations in larger amounts.

Light refreshments were served and tours of the museum were offered. There were many guests that had never been in any of the buildings.

Much had been done to Rose Hill including a newly appointed gift shop and many of the costumes archived and stored in protective coverings. Some of the rooms got a fresh coat of paint and all were thoroughly cleaned.

The volunteers had fun dressing in clothing of the time. Docents were stationed in the various rooms to help with the tour. The weather was ideal that day.

Wish List

Cathy Flament

If you can donate any of the following—thank you!

Duplicating paper

3-tab manilla reinforced file folders

Tobacco pipe

Vintage frames 8" x 10" and smaller

Girl Scout paraphernalia 1915-40

preferred

September 2021



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Pamela Ebert

Historian

Will Krause

Docents & Greeters

Peg Phillips

Rose Hill, Log Cabin & Smokehouse Director

Cathy Flament

Osborn Learning Center Director

Tom Phillips

Accessions

President's Message

Cathy Flament

It is hard to believe that we have finally been able to open our doors and greet the public again. It seemed so long ago since we were able to share our treasures and our rich history with the public. To say the least, the last month or so has been a whirlwind. "Back in Time" was a complete success with well over 100 visitors who enjoyed the festivities. Greeting visitors to Rose Hill has been rewarding and exciting. Guests have been receptive and complimentary about the changes that we have made. There are masks and sanitizer available at the door if you have yet to visit.

Before you enter Rose Hill and the Osborn Learning Center you will be greeted with updated signage that has been graciously provided by the city. This replaces the previous signage that had changeable letters that frequently wouldn't stay in place and definitely didn't provide the buildings with a professional appearance.

Signage throughout the museum identifying individual artifacts with pertinent information has been installed to offer guests a more comprehensive view of our collection. As you enter many of the rooms, pedestal stands have a synopsis of the room and identify facts in history that relate to our collection. QR codes on the pedestals will link your phone to a page on our website providing details about our collection. Have you ever wondered who the individuals in the Portrait Gallery are besides just a name? The pedestal in the gallery not only provides their names, but basic information on each individual. To enhance this even more, if you use the QR code you will be able to uncover additional details about their lives. Things just keep getting better!

Everyone knows that seeing something in person is much more interesting than online, but if you want to explore the updates before or after you visit, go to our website: <https://www.bayhistorical.com/> Speaking of websites, ours has had a total transformation. The changes are exciting and it is still evolving. Be sure to visit often to view the changes that I'm sure you will find informative. Any suggestions? Let me know.

Now for some exciting news. We have been the recipient of a number of historically significant items to Bay Village in the last couple of months. Stop by the OLC to see the dresser that Reuben and Sarah Osborn brought with them when they settled in Dover. Sally O'Connor also donated a beautiful oil Osborn painting that is hanging in the library at Rose Hill along with numerous other treasures. The "Aldrich/Rose Family Mementos 1800s-1960s" Scrapbook was donated by Mary Ellen Spore of Houston, TX and includes a large number of photographs that are all labeled and previously not in our collection. We were thrilled to be able to fill in some blanks. Very recently we became the recipients of a c1830 Empire Tiger Maple dresser that belonged to William and Melissa Eldred Cahoon from Barb and Frank Schmidt of Philadelphia, PA. William was the son of Joseph and Lydia Cahoon and when he married and left Rose Hill settled in Elyria. The dresser is truly an art piece that will be enjoyed for generations at the museum, a must-see artifact. We are eternally grateful for all of these items.

The cabin, which hasn't been open for the last couple of years due to construction in the area, COVID etc., as you know is once again greeting guests thanks to Bob and Gail Reid. The Reid's have been the driving force behind the reopening. They are greeting 20-30 visitors each Sunday. They don't let many walking on the new path slip by!!!

We still need a few volunteers at Rose Hill. Please consider volunteering as this is only a few hours a year after many have volunteered hundreds of hours. The updated signage makes the job much easier!

Stop by frequently to be sure you don't miss out on any displays. Our early book collection has some interesting features with items rotated frequently that I'm sure you'll enjoy.

Monica Thomas and Pamela Ebert have put a considerable amount of thought and effort into the gift shop and it is evident. Finding a treasure or two for yourself or as a gift will be much easier. Stop by and take a look. You will be pleasantly surprised. Be sure to check out frequently as new seasonal additions are added.

Please continue to stay safe and I hope you are able to join us for our next meeting.

Special guests visited Rose Hill recently to view the wedding dress of Lugene Vicchio when she married Frank in 1912. Detailed lace and beading adorn the dress that is truly exquisite. Their grandson, along with his daughters and grand-daughter viewed it for the first time. It was nice to share a bit of their family history with them.



Girl Guides/Scouts in Bay

Cathy Flament

Bay Village had one of the first Girl Guides/Scout troops in the country dating back to 1912. What a great tradition that has continued through the years. The GS Council historian has been able to provide the names of those in the first troop. So...who can help play detective and see if we can uncover stories, memorabilia, etc.? After doing some research I have been able to come up with a few details. Recognize anyone from the 1915 photo? If you have connections to any of these families, PLEASE let Cathy Flament know, cbflament@sbcglobal.net.

Olive Walker (1900-1989), parents Fred W and Marie, Bradley Rd. between Davider's and Meilander's, never married.

Norma Walker (c1902-1973), parents Fred W and Marie, sister of Olive, m. Robert Mulhauser

Helen Morgan (1904-1990), parents George and Rose Effie Osborn Morgan, 27715 Lake Rd., m. Rev. John C. Inglis and had four sons.

Sally Morgan – assumed Sarah, sister of Helen, (1906-1992), never married.

Dorothy Barker (1906-1994), parents Raymond and Alice, 29336 Lake Rd. next to Geo. Osborn, m. Henry Shaw

Evelyn Feeney – unable to find her

Marjorie Yarian (1904-1998), parents Dr. Norman and Grace, 29904 Lake Rd., across from Bay Methodist Church. She married George Quay and had three children. This may have been a summer home for them.

Mildred Miller and her mother who was convinced to become the leader – unable to identify.

Upon signing up they immediately wrote for uniforms (dark blue skirt and middie blouse with a light blue tie). To their great disappointment they found that uniforms were not yet available. Not to be discouraged, they decided to wear their gym suits (navy blue full bloomers, white middie blouse and blue tie) for uniforms. Bonds, Georginanna. The First 75 Years- A Council History 1912-1987, Lake Erie Girl Scout Council. 1987.



Financial Report

Eric Eakin

Financial report of the Bay Village Historical Society for the society's fiscal year, June 1, 2020, to May 31, 2021

(All figures are rounded)

Total revenues: \$18,742.00
Total expenses: \$22,177.00
Loss (\$3,435.00)

Revenues:

Dues and donations		\$ 10,736.00	
Interest and appreciation on investments	\$ 1,751.00		
Sale of merchandise	\$ 624.00		
Miscellaneous		\$ 500.00	
Bay Village Foundation grant		\$ 4,000.00	
Ohio History Connection grant	\$ 1,131.00		
Total revenue:			\$ 18,742.00

Expenses:

Maintenance of collection		\$ 11,610.00	
Insurance		\$ 2,448.00	
Curators		\$ 5,989.00	
Miscellaneous (P.O. Box, supplies, etc.)	\$ 2,130.00		
Total			\$ 22,177.00

Total investments on May 31, 2021 \$ 70,709.00

Restricted funds (included in investments above):

Lakeside Cemetery Fund	\$ 1,146.00
Louella Meyers Bequest	\$ 10,000.00
Amazing Abby Sammon Fund	\$ 2,065.00
Kay Laughlin Memorial Fund	\$ 1,365.00

Membership**Eric Eakin**

Thank you to the following for their generous financial donations to the Bay Village Historical Society (as of 5 August):

Benefactors (\$150 and above):

Denise Baldanza	Ed Neal
Cindy Bauman	Gail and Bob Reid
Dean Brennan	Susan and Steve Ruscher
Claire and Mike Boettler	Monica Thomas
Nancy and Dwight Clark	Marianne Wagner
Peter D'Angelo	Larry Wolf
Marj and Chris Elhardt	
Bonnie and Chuck Erickson	
Doris Gorgas	
Gina Hamister	
Therese and Paul Koomar	
Terri and Ben Miyares	

Patrons (\$75 to \$150):

Evelyn Allen
Marilyn and Greg Baeppler
Eileen Cernea
Carol Cole
Beth and Dave Conroy
Sonia Coulton
Steven Dever
Debra and Howard Doughty
Cynthia and Eric Eakin
Paul and Cathy Flament
Rosemary and Walter Halun
Barb Houston

Marilyn Lahnen
Ken and Cindi Lindgren
Rev. Richard Lutz
J. Marshall Osborn
Jean and Tim Pell
Linda and Jim Potter
Carole Roske
Cornelia and George Ryan
Glenda Schillizzi
Timothy Stanton
Sandra Taradash
Jane Taylor-Kettren
Judy and Don Trask
Wendy Wagner

Osborn Learning Center**Tom Phillips and Dean Brennan**

First of all we want to welcome you to the Osborn Learning Center after the year of unintended "non-attendance."

Our first Porch Talk was about the *folding rocking chair* invented in 1868 for all uses but especially for ocean liners and the covered wagons. In 1912, the *wooden water power washing machine* was invented and used to great extent. Both of these items are on display and have been loaned to us through the Patty Jean Killeen estate.

We are very pleased and grateful that there will be a speaker from our Police Department coming in either September or October. Check the website for updates, as we are designing a crime room which will include Sam Shepherd, Elliot Ness, Patrick Garity, and the Bay Village Police Department. This idea was the brainchild of Pamela Ebert, our current Vice President and resident artist for the Historical Society.

We look forward to seeing you on Sunday afternoons. We have missed you!

Seedling Project**Will Krause**

Many of the Bay Historical Society members were saddened by the demise of the Grand Abby Oak recently. Abby Sammon was a long time trustee and treasurer of the society who passed away several years ago. As part of the settling of her estate her beautiful lakefront property was sold. On it was a white oak estimated to be 350 years old. She loved and cared for that tree for the many years that she owned the home. With the continued loss of tree cover in Bay Village and the monumental problem of climate change, I thought what CAN I do.

Every day I walk my dog around the block in my neighborhood. It is a wooded neighborhood with many mature native oaks and hickories. One of my neighbors had gotten behind on their yard maintenance due to some health problems. Beneath the largest oak in their yard, among the pachysandra was a crop of oak seedlings. I offered to clean out the bed in exchange for the seedlings. The offer was gratefully accepted. I dug up over 100 seedlings from two to five years old. Thanks to a response by historical society members I had plenty of pots to transplant them into. They were offered for free at the recent grand re-opening of Rose Hill, next to a display about the Grand Abby Oak. About twenty were taken home by attendees. It may not have been the greatest fit for the event because many of the attendees were dressed for a tea party and not for gardening!

Nancy Heaton of BAYarts contacted us about these seedlings and picked them up while I was putting away the display. Her plan is to request permission from the Metroparks to plant them on her campus and use them as a giveaway at some of their youth activities. I can see Abby Sammon smiling.

Westshore Native Tree Cover

Will Krause, Historian

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Ohio Coastal Atlas Third Edition was published in 2018 by its Office of Coastal Management. It features information on the Lake Erie Watershed, including a series of maps on just about any topic one can think of. It is available to view on-line and also as a free print publication.

One of the many maps in the Atlas is one showing a snapshot of the natural vegetation that was original to Ohio's Lake Erie region at the time of European exploration and settlement (circa 1800). While much of this vegetation has been replaced by man-made surfaces and landscaping, if one looks carefully at our current environment some of this native vegetation can be observed, particularly ancient trees and their descendants.

The same topography, soils, micro-climates and general drainage patterns have persisted until now to support the same types of trees that have grown in northeast Ohio since a few thousand years after the last ice age ended. The map shows that the Westshore area was primarily what is called a mixed oak forest due to somewhat dry soils. Though Lakewood and the Westshore portion of Cleveland transitioned into a mixed mesophytic forest where soils have a moderate amount of moisture (consisting of tulip trees, certain oaks adapted to moister soil, chestnut and hickory). Further from the lake there were areas of elm-ash forests in swampy areas and beech forests where the soil was consistently moist but not swampy.

In 1949, Dr. Arthur B. Williams, the Cuyahoga County Metroparks first naturalist, wrote a bulletin for Holden Arboretum titled "The Native Forests of Cuyahoga County, Ohio." A couple of interesting things he points out are that the only evergreen trees native to Cuyahoga County in 1800 were white pines and eastern hemlocks and that Cuyahoga County is "at a sort of ecological crossroads in North America. He says that Cuyahoga County, is on a tension line between eastern and western, northern and southern plant associations and that our climate is transitional between that of the east coast and the continental interior.

While the east and south sides of Greater Cleveland have the hilly topography of the Appalachian foothills, we in the Westshore are at the eastern edge of the flatlands that start becoming swampy in Lorain County and eventually became what was known as the "Black Swamp" in the Toledo area.

Most of the Westshore area is part of the level Lake Erie Plain and as any gardener knows the underlying clays are very dense in this area and this effects how well the land drains and what trees grow well on it.

Dr. Williams writes that based on the study of stratified pollen deposits obtained from an Ohio bog, after the retreat of glacial ice 25,000 years ago Cuyahoga County first had a boreal type of evergreen forest similar to northern Labrador. Then one of spruces and pines, similar to southern Manitoba. Then one of pines and oaks similar to northern Michigan.

He writes that (even in 1949) in the western section of the Lake Erie Plain there were "few old forest remnants except in the valley of the Rocky River within the Cleveland Metropolitan Park System. Here, on the sides of the valley walls, when not too steep, and on lands above flood plain level, the beech-maple forest, with its characteristic associated species, occurs. At the top of the slope the common trees are black oak, red oak and white oak." He also states that on the lake plain eastern hemlock appeared as a tree of swampy areas or in small ravines. White pine was not an abundant tree anywhere in Cuyahoga County even 150 years ago and was even more rare in the Westshore area. He states that white oaks were the most common oaks after red oaks and that along the Lake Erie shore bur oaks were common.

Holden Forests & Gardens has published a brochure, "Forecasting the Future of the Forest in Northeast Ohio's Changing Climate." They emphasize that Northeast Ohio's climate will continue to get warmer and wetter. The amount of moisture retained seasonally in the forests will increase. The trees that will be most affected negatively include beech and those trees for which northeast Ohio represents their southernmost range including eastern hemlock, white pine, and sugar maples. Modeling suggests that bitternut hickory, black, scarlet and bur oak, black walnut, and eastern red cedar will be less effected.

Modeling also suggests that trees that we are currently on the northern edge of their range including sweet gum, blackjack, chinkapin and post oak, persimmon, and eastern redbud will become more common and thrive. One way to mitigate climate change is to plant more trees and these types of native trees are good candidates to plant!

