



Chagrin Falls Exponent

Chagrin Falls Historical Society 21 Walnut St. Shute Memorial Building
Web Site: www.chagrinhistorical.org

John Bourisseau, Editor

April, 2014

Ron Humphrey, Graphics Editor

The Famous Whites of White Sewing Machine and White Motors

A presentation by

Dan Ruminski



7:30 April 17, 2014

**Shute Building, 21 Walnut Street
and**

It's Pie Night!

Join us for a lesson in history and good food!

Welcome
New Members
Kitt & Mark Rossi



John Bourisseau signing the closing documents.

PROPERTY PURCHASED!

March 31, 2014 will go down as a momentous day for the Chagrin Falls Historical Society. At 2 pm members of the Executive Board Pat Zalba, Anne Burr, Laura Gorretta and Carolyn Sihler were present when Society President John Bourisseau signed the note to close on the purchase of the George Ober House (circa 1874) located at 87 East Washington Street.



Witnesses to the signing, L-R Laura Gorretta, Dwight Milko, Pat Zalba, John Bourisseau, Carolyn Sihler and Anne Burr.

Under the terms of our agreement, the former owner, Russell Investments, will still occupy the building until the end of September so that the tenants will have time to find

new locations. During this period, Russell Investments will continue to be responsible for utilities, taxes etc. The basement area is to be cleared within the next 3 months, and the building is to be totally vacated by September 30, 2014. I want to thank Laura Gorretta and Carolyn Sihler for all the time and expertise that they have given to this process. Now the work begins!

The Core Team of Anne Burr, Bill Hamann, Carolyn Sihler, Laura Gorretta and I have met for many hours with KC Henry of Transitions Unlimited. We are very much in the organizational stage. We believe the resources to support this project are in the Chagrin community, it is our job to find them. Resources will be in the people who will do the hard organizational work as well as developing the funds to complete the project. There will be many opportunities for YOU to get involved!! To make this a reality, we all have to work together.

John Bourisseau

WHITE MOTORS

We are excited to have, historian and renowned storyteller, Dan Ruminski present our April 17 program, "The Famous Whites of White Sewing Machine and White Motors."

Mr. Ruminski will speak on the genius of the Theodore Howard White family and the creation of their companies. He'll share details of Theodore White's respect and treatment of his workforce, it's impact on his business and how he raised his sons to embrace the same philosophy. We'll hear little known stories about White family members and gain an inside look at the grand homes and estates they built.

Mr. Ruminski's presentations have been drawing large crowds of listeners for several years. His storytelling style and knowledge of Cleveland history and of the people who lived here offers a fascinating look into our region's past. We hope you will attend.

Because we are expecting a large response, please call Anne Burr, 440-241-2678 by Monday, April 14, to let her know you are coming. Also, this is pie night. When you call, please say if you'll be bringing a pie.

The program will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Shute Building, 21 Walnut St.

Program Chair Anne Burr

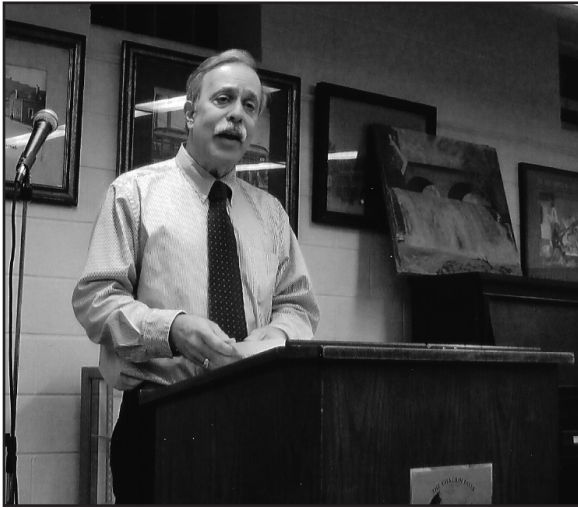


photo by Lucy Beattie

Scott Longert

LEAGUE PARK

A crowd of close to 60 people were in attendance March 20 to hear Scott Longert's interesting and fact filled talk on League Park. With his encyclopedic knowledge of Cleveland baseball, the history of the game, the park, and the players, Mr. Longert kept the group enthralled.

He began with the building of the park at the northeast corner of Lexington Ave. and E. 66th St.. It had seats for 9000 on wooden bleachers. Opening Day, was May 1, 1891, with Cy Young pitching. Cleveland won the World's Series there in 1920 and the Indians played their last game in League Park at the end of the 1946 season. The building was torn down in 1951. In between were stories of the ups and downs of the teams, the owners, the ball park, the surrounding neighborhoods, Cleveland and the country. It was a unique perspective on the development of our National Pastime.

Following the program, audience members shared their memories of League Park. Many remembered going there as children. To the delight of our speaker, member Joan Matilo, shared a photograph of herself in a baby buggy in front of the park in the early 1920's.

Thank you to all who made this program such a success.

Big thanks to the Humphrey Popcorn Company for providing the delicious popcorn balls and lemonade, to the setup crew, John Bourisseau, Bruce Adler and John Dagil, and the Hospitality and Program Committees, Gretchen Hamann, Jo Roeder, Pat Zalba and Anne Burr.

DAVID WARTHER CARVING MUSEUM

In this newsletter is the registration for the Spring trip to the David Warther Carving Museum. This will be a great trip! We have reserved the newer Precious Cargo Van for this trip and seating will be limited to 30 people. We expect this trip to fill up quickly, so if you are interested, please get your reservation in as soon as possible so that you don't get shut out!

John Bourisseau

WHERE THERE IS A WILL, THERE IS A WAY

Have you considered planned giving. While monies from bequests may not be available for our immediate needs, they can certainly help to sustain the Society in the future. Talk to you financial planner to discuss how you can help to sustain our future.

John Bourisseau

DON BARRIBALL PRESENTS TO NOCIA

On Saturday, March 22nd, we opened the museum for members of the Northern Ohio Chapter Society for Industrial Archeology (NOCIA). They had contacted us asking if Don would talk to them about the history of early industries in Chagrin Falls. Zo Sykora and I worked with Don to put together a photo presentation to accompany his lecture and John Dagil and Bruce Adler assisted. It was clear that Don's extensive knowledge of the mills and machinery was well received by the 40 or so in attendance.

John Bourisseau

NEWSLETTER

We would like to begin providing newsletters by email. If you would like to receive your Exponent via email, please provide us with your email by sending an email to Carolyn Sihler. cjsihler1@gmail.com

John Bourisseau

Curator's Corner

Overview Calendar

April

Nominating Committee Meeting, Shute Bldg.

- April 5 Chagrin Valley Consortium of Historical Societies meets at Beachwood Hist. Soc. 10 am to 12 pm
- April 5 Region 3 of the Ohio Local History Alliance meets in Middleburg Heights
- April 6 GERSHWIN ON THE AIR, a program produced by Chagrin Arts at the Performing Arts Center. Displays of 1930s Chagrin Falls by the Historical Society, begins at 2 pm with a pre-concert talk
- April 8 C.F. Historical Society Board Meeting, Shute Bldg. 9:30 am
- April 16 CV Chamber of Commerce Round Table of Historical Societies at Township Hall, 8 am
- April 17 Evening Program, Dan Ruminski speaker, THE FAMOUS WHITES of White Sewing machine and White motors, Shute Bldg., 7:30 pm
- April 21 Girl Scout Troop at the Historical Society talking about "Chagrin History" with Pat.

Accessions with a Chagrin Falls Connection:

A 1908 reproduction Sears Roebuck catalog was received and placed in the kitchen display.
(Donor-Kathy Watterson)

We received a card table with a leather like top cover featuring advertising for Chagrin Falls businesses.
(Donor-Mareen Wolfe-Bainbridge Hist. Soc.)

A three ringed notebook entitled, AN UNAUTHORIZED BIOGRAPHY (of 75 Hall St.), researched by Constance Sancetta and dedicated to Don Barriball for all of his research and writings about Chagrin Falls over the years.

(Donor--Constance Sancetta)

Pat Zalba
Volunteer Curator