

Ohio's Small Town Museum in Ashville

AAHS VOL. 12 FEBRUARY 2009



A Grand Opening and Birthday Celebration at Ohio's Small Town Museum. Happy Birthday! Charles Cordle, Charlie Morrison, and Art Deal.

WHO SAYS MIRACLES CAN'T HAPPEN?

It all started as a discussion between Mike Cummins, Michael Moore, and Bob Hines about the overcrowded Museum and the need to find additional room for growth. These men brought the idea to the Ashville Area Heritage Society trustees for approval to begin looking for additional space and to create a building fund. Max Marion, Bob Hines, Mike Cummins, Irene Younkin and Charlie Morrison evaluated several potential locations near the downtown, including the old Canning Factory, Fortner's Garage, and the old United Methodist Church.

Each of these locations had the additional room that the Building Committee were looking for, but it would have meant moving from our current location in the old Dreamland Theatre. After several years of evaluation and fundraising, the building directly adjacent to the current Museum became available and was purchased with the agreement that the building would be deeded over to the Town

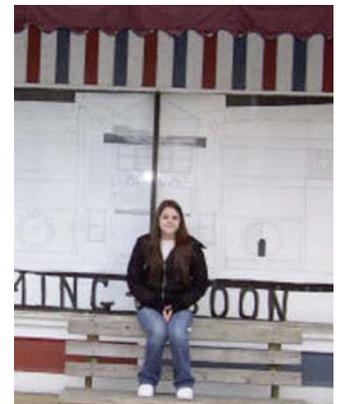
of Ashville, making the two properties whole.

Art Deal stepped to the forefront to see that the plans developed by the Committee were implemented. Coordinating this project was a monumental task. Not only were the funds for reconstruction limited, the labor was almost all volunteer. No schedules, no deadlines, no funding, no certainly—these are all elements needed to produce a construction disaster, still he plugged ahead. Art asked for help and arranged for companies to donate expertise needed to get the work done. The first thing that had to be done was to get a building permit. Art worked with Dale Hoover, the Town's inspector, to get the plans approved.

As soon as the Society took control of the building next door, it was clear that one problem had to be fixed right away. The roof on the old building was leaking in several places and needed to be replaced. To make matters worse, the

ineffective HVAC unit on the roof was going to have to be removed. Craig Foster brought in his crane to remove the unit and Eugene List and his crew reoriented the compressor room roof so water and ice would no longer dam up at the rear of the building. Gene also arranged for the new roofing to be applied.

The Town had a dumpster delivered and a team of volunteers including Colton Henson, Trent Morrison, Larry Rathburn, Michael Moore, Charles Cordle, Charles Morrison, and Bob Hines promptly filled it up with trash from the basement. Joe Allen and David Ballard shut off the plumbing and helped remove the internal walls of the annex.



Quartni Morrison in front of her drawing.

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Walls were removed in the Annex, but much work remained.



First of three dumpster loads of trash.



Removal of the HVAC Rooftop Unit.



Art Deal shows off the masonry work of Gary Costlow

Steve Clay and his son, Glenn, took the damaged plaster off the joining wall. Mark Leatherwood sent a team of workers in to cut three passageways through the joining wall. Obviously these activities created a great deal of powder and dust that covered everything in the museum.

Jay Hines of Troop 417 in Upper Arlington offered to build shelving in the basement to keep items safe during the renovation process. The Trustees accepted and Jay successfully managed the process using over 30 scouts and scouters from his Troop to complete the project. This was a big help in freeing space to work.

Ken Starkey, Charles Cordle, Dan Truex, and Bob Hines roughed in the front room. They were all greatly assisted when Joe Dean donated his professional services as a carpenter. Together with Joe's son, Jim, and a cadre of other volunteers, including Rodger Southward, boxed in the old front window. David Gloyd safely removed the old plate glass windows.

Doug Toole suggested that we reorient the service panel and run the main from the annex. Doug accomplished this for us and installed the lights, switches, and wall plugs in the annex.

Once the electrical was near completion, and Joe Allen roughed in the bathroom and furnace room plumbing, Secrest Plumbing installed the new furnace that was sized to service both the annex and the original museum. Gary Costlow installed the handicap ramp to the back exit and this paved the way for Joe Dean and his helpers to complete the roughing in of the back room.

Soon after, Joe and his helpers completed the birch plywood wall system throughout the annex and in the front room of the original museum. Joe finished the bathroom, the passage ramps and together with Jim Dean, he installed the flooring for both buildings. They also installed the ceilings, a new back door and sided the outside of the old compressor room so it could be used as a library/office.

In preparation for the Grand Opening, Max Marion (who has long been the official maintenance person for Teddy Boor's traffic light) moved the light to align with the front door opening. Bob Hines worked with Charles Cordle, Charles Morrison, Lauren Hines, Jay Hines, Diane Hines, Larry Ward, Steve Clay, Dan Truex and Dennis Blaney to install and reinstall over 100 displays. In the meantime, Mike Dean completed the finish electric work and Kenny Cummins completed two welding projects.

Shirley Marion, Rose Jamison, Gay Henson, Linda Cummins, Rosan Ward, and Linda Burns were constantly cleaning the building during the whole process. They removed layers of dust and dirt out of the two buildings and served as the reception committee for the open house.

The open house date was selected to honor the birthdays of Charley Morrison, Charles Cordle, and Art Deal. At the time the June date was announced, it was early April and few people thought it possible to meet the deadline. However, those people did not count on the determination of people like Joe Dean.

Volunteers and Contractors

Joe Dean
 Jim Dean
 Mike Dean
 Ken Starkey
 David Gloyd
 Gary Costlow Concrete Company
 Doug Toole Electric
 Gene List (Roofing)
 Craig Foster (Crane)
 Mark Leatherwood (Passage Way)
 Rodger Southward
 Dennis Blaney
 Dan Truex
 Ken Cummings (Welding)
 Arthur Deal
 Bob Hines (Design)
 Jay Hines
 Lauren Hines
 Diane Hines
 Charles Morrison
 Trent Morrison
 Charles Dean Morrison

Charles Cordle
 Steve Clay
 Glenn Clay
 Shirley Marion
 Max Marion
 Dave Rainey
 Rose Jamison
 Quartni Morrison
 Larry Rathburn
 Joe Allen
 David Ballard
 Gay Henson
 Linda Cummins
 Dale Hoover Hardware
 Linda Burns
 Dorothy Cormany
 Larry Ward
 Rosan Ward
 Colton Henson
 Eric Criswell (Locksmith)
 Secret Plumbing (HVAC)
 ALSCO Aluminum (Siding)
 Michael Moore
 Andrew Hite
 Members of Troop Upper Arlington Troop 417



Looking through the Annex to the U.S. Transitional Flag

Local Funding

Mary Virginia Crites Estate
 The Orlan and Iona Hines Foundation
 The Hines Family Fund
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Huffer
 Mr. and Mrs. Edward Leatherwood
 VFW Post 3331 Circleville
 Ashville Savings Bank
 Citizens Bank

100 Dollar Club

(To buy birch plywood)
 Art Deal
 Mike Kindt
 Charles Morrison
 Dorothy Cormany
 Dennis Blaney
 David Rainey
 Lisa Coon
 Charles Cordle



Volunteers Ken Starkey and Dan Truex pause after roughing in the south wall of the Annex.



Joe Dean (on left) accepts a proclamation from Bob Hines on behalf of the AAHS Board of Trustees at the Grand Opening.

DONATIONS TO THE AAHS LEGACY ENDOWMENT FUND CONTINUE TO GROW

Since its inception, contributions totaling more than \$20,000 have been invested in the AAHS Legacy Endowment. We would like to thank William Hines and Meg Sondey for their \$5,000 contribution in Maud Elizabeth Hines' name. This fund is the start of an endowment to help fund the future operations of the AAHS. Those persons currently honored with a contribution made in their name include:

Georgia Mallory	\$500
Dale Logsdon	\$500
William Hinkle	\$750
Freida Hite	\$600

Mary Ellen Hinkle	\$750
Maud Elizabeth Hines	\$17,250

Anyone wishing to make a tax-deductible contribution in anyone's honor to the Fund can do so by issuing a check to:

The AAHS Legacy Endowment Fund
 c/o The Ashville Area Heritage Society

The check may be sent to:

Treasurer, AAHS
 34 Long Street
 Ashville, OH 43103



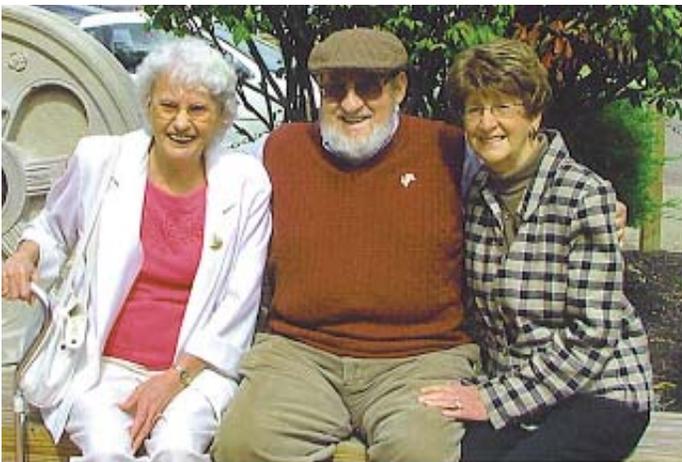
**JAMES HERSCHEL RAMEY
1946-1992**

~By Joe Hoover

Jim Ramey was born in Walnut Township, Ashville, Ohio, in 1946. He attended Walnut Township School and graduated from Teays Valley High School in 1964. Jim was drafted into the Army and sent for induction by order of the local Selective Service Board on December 6, 1965. Jim was a young man of 19 years. He and eight other boys from the Pickaway County area left for Circleville, Ohio on that cold winter morning for military service.

I do not know the route or history of the other boys, but 'Herschel', as I called him, was sent to Vietnam where the war was raging. He was assigned to drive a tank called a 'Duster'. Jim was promoted to Sergeant in less than a year. I didn't know he was a Sergeant until I read it on his grave marker. There were some other things I did not know about his time in the service.

Reading from the military newspaper 'Stars and Stripes', the 'Duster' operated by Jim was pinned down by enemy fire as dark approached. They fought through the night. By the time help arrived the next morning, Jim and his



Jim's mom, Ruth, Joe and P.J. Hoover next to Jim's monument

crew had taken the lives of 39 Vietnamese. Taking a life, even in war, has to be the most horrific experience a young man can endure. Jim never recovered from this terrible experience.

I doubt that Jim ever mentioned this story to anyone. He never talked about his service to me, ever. I got my information in 2007 from a trunk that was stored in his mother's attic. She told me that trunk had never been opened by anyone else in the family.

Jim left home a very personable and out-going young man. When he returned from service, he was very quiet and unable to function or work at his trade (he had been a good carpenter). He was suffering from what we now know as "Traumatic Stress Disorder". He spent most of his time in his room writing the President, Senators and Congressmen, trying to get help for his problems, but received little attention. He also worried about and tried to get information concerning his cousin, Ashville graduate Eugene Wheeler, who is still listed as Missing in Action in Vietnam.

Jim also wrote several pieces of poetry about his experience in an out of the military. This material was very hard for me to read, because it showed the terrible pain he was in day and night. I referred to Jim during this time as 'a walking casualty of the Vietnam War'. While his name does not appear on the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C., the fullness of his life ended the night of the attack.

After years of this tortured existence, he could take no more.

I DIDN'T GET ANY PARADE

~By J. Herschel Ramey, 1987

A compilation poem
Vietnam Combat Vet 1966-1967
1st Infantry Division—9th Infantry Division

Oh what a shame, it was not all a game,
for a teenage soldier who once was sane.

It's those crazy voices in his head.
They cry for help, but it doesn't come.

He came home without a scratch on his shell,
but his brain sure had caught hell.

He screams at night in his bed
—dreaming of the wounded and dead.

Cries in the day,
thinking of the villages he had wasted away.

They called us liars and crazies,
but when it came to who went and who stayed,
'I didn't get any parade'.



Teddy Boor's Original Traffic Signal.

PLENTY TO SEE AT OHIO'S SMALL TOWN MUSEUM

Visitors to our museum use to ask, "What do you have that is special that we should see?" What we have is an eclectic set of artifacts and stories that contribute to the understanding of life in one rural community and which dispel the notion that small town residents are bystanders watching the parade of American life.

We are working on a self-guided tour that makes over fifty stops throughout the museum where visitors can learn about special attractions in the museum. Each stop will have a number and a description on the wall. For example, here are the first five stops:



Center of the Puppetry World.

1. The World's Most Unusual and Longest Active Traffic Light.

Ripley's "Believe or Not" identified Teddy Boor's device as the most unique traffic light in the World. Believe it or not, people have come from all over the world to view Boor's solution to traffic control.

2. Center of the Puppetry World. South Bloomfield and Ashville were the Center of Puppetry in the 1950s and 1960s. The Puppeteers of America's store was in South Bloomfield and their Journal was published in Ashville. Believe it or not, this national association was incorporated in Ashville, Ohio in 1961.

3. Fourth of July. Ashville's long-established American Small Town Fourth of July Celebration has been featured in the New York Times, Philadelphia Enquirer, and in numerous other media.

4. What's the Big Idea? This area has long been a place to dream about new ideas and test them. The list includes the timed traffic light, gyro-plane, flashing light railroad signals, driverless car, test strips, inhalant device, portable fire escape device, trivia tester, extension fire ladder, test sieve, and many more patented inventions. This area has produced more than 50 patented inventors and countless improvements to our way of life.

5. The First, Largest, Smartest, Only One in the World. Come on. Wouldn't you think that a community that had a spell binding traffic light would also have some pretty other unique curiosities? There is Catherine Scholey—the World's Largest Person; Buster—the Dog that Voted Republican, Chic-Chic—the World's Smartest Rooster, and the Blue Racer Snakes that hibernated each year in the burial mounds called the Snake Den Mounds. Ashville is home to the State's largest Catalpa and Red Muhlberry trees. The region boasts the only Ohio-born Munchkin from the Wizard of Oz fame—James Hulse.



Mrs. William Scholey – Largest Person in the World

SIX MAN FOOTBALL

~By Larry Fullen

[**Editors Note**--Larry Fullen is nearing completion of his non-fiction book about the 1944-45 Ashville High School basketball team, but while he is finishing that he managed to write an entertaining look at the History of Ashville High School Six Man Football, covering the years 1952 through 1957. The complete history is available for viewing at the Museum, but here is an excerpt of first year.]

The six-man game was developed in 1934, in Nebraska, by Stephen Epler, a high school coach in Chester, Nebraska. The game became popular in Texas and by 1950 more than 150 schools in Texas were playing the six-man game. ⁽²⁾ The game was popular with multiple leagues in the Dakotas, Arkansas, Minnesota, New Mexico, Florida, and Canada prior to the start-up of the Pickaway County League. In 1952 there were six-man teams in Ohio, including Licking County, Perry County, and Logan County. Today, the game remains a viable form of football in Texas, parts of Canada, and in the mid-west plains and northwestern states in the U.S.

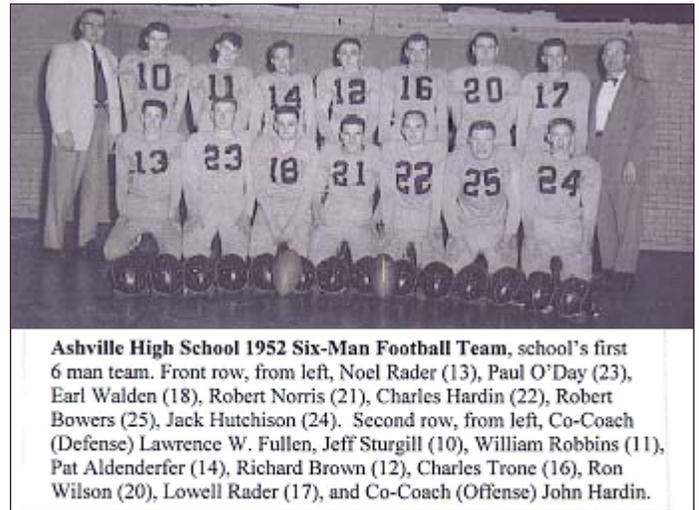
“Coach Eberle did not want to coach football”, according to Ron Wilson, Quarterback 1952 and AHS class of 1953. John Hardin, school superintendent, and Lawrence “Pop” Fullen, seventh grade teacher, were co-coaches the first year for the Ashville High School six-man football team. Hardin took responsibility for the offense and Fullen was responsible for the defense. Neither had prior experience coaching football. Hardin and Fullen had been competitors in 1942-1945 when Hardin coached the Pickaway Pirates basketball team and Fullen coached the Bronco varsity team.

The Bronco Booster Club raised money for uniforms and equipment. “The major contributor was William “Willie” Fischer, Jr.” Robert Bowers, AHS Class of 1953. Willie was the second generation owner of Will W. Fischer and Son Produce, headquartered on Wright Street in Ashville. Willie had played eleven-man football for Ashville in the late 1920’s.

The AHS game uniforms were ordered through Kocheisher Hardware and Sporting Goods, Circleville. The store was managed by Romaine “Red” Wilson, starting guard on the state final AHS basketball team of 1945. In order to have team uniforms, not practice gear, by the first game, the school accepted yellow and black uniforms instead of being outfitted in the school colors of orange and black. The new game uniforms consisted of yellow pants and yellow jerseys with black numbers. The team wore black leather helmets. Some of the county teams began the season using their practice gear as game uniforms.

Ashville’s first team consisted of 14 players. The most likely line-up, on offense was: Bob Bowers at center, Ron Wilson at quarterback, Jack Hutchison and Lowell Rader at running backs, Bill Norris and Charles Hardin at ends. Other players were: Paul O’Day, Earl Warren, Bill Robbins, Noel Rader, Jeff Sturgell, Pat Aldenderfer, Charles Trone and Richard Brown. There were eight seniors, Aldenderfer, Hutchison and Robbins were juniors; Brown and Trone, sophomores; and Sturgell, freshman.

Ashville won its first six-man football 20-14 over Pickaway Township, at Pickaway. Hardin kicked a field goal and two extra points for 8 points. Jack Hutchison (HB) and Ron Wilson (QB) scored touchdowns on short runs around right end. “On one play the Broncos had 4 laterals behind the line



Ashville High School 1952 Six-Man Football Team, school’s first 6 man team. Front row, from left, Noel Rader (13), Paul O’Day (23), Earl Walden (18), Robert Norris (21), Charles Hardin (22), Robert Bowers (25), Jack Hutchison (24). Second row, from left, Co-Coach (Defense) Lawrence W. Fullen, Jeff Sturgill (10), William Robbins (11), Pat Aldenderfer (14), Richard Brown (12), Charles Trone (16), Ron Wilson (20), Lowell Rader (17), and Co-Coach (Offense) John Hardin.

1952 Team

of scrimmage”. Over 400 spectators watched the game, standing on the side-lines. ⁽³⁾

“Walnut wins in upset over previously undefeated (2-0) Ashville 52-16, at Ashville.” Over 450 fans witnessed the game, the largest crowd reported thus far for the new league. Leading scorers for Walnut were Norman McPherson with 3 TDs, Raymond Bullock and Ernie Martin each 2 TDs. Dick Smith, Walnut and Charlie Hardin, Ashville, each drop kicked two extra points. ⁽⁴⁾

The next week, The Broncos became the first county six-man team to win a non league game, besting DeGraff of Logan County, 41-21, at their home field under the lights. In a gadget play, Bob Bowers, center, caught a pass for a touchdown. Ron Wilson threw three touchdown passes.

The Broncos lost two games to Walnut in the first year. All teams except Jackson Township, the last team to join the league, played a second game against a league opponent. Unfortunately for Ashville the repeat opponent was the juggernaut Walnut Tigers. “Details of the lopsided loss not available except Lowell Rader suffered a fractured broken leg”. Walnut trounced the Broncos 70-20. ⁽⁵⁾

Walnut won the league with 5-0 record. Ashville and Pickaway tied for second with 3 wins and 2 losses. Williamsport was fourth with 1-4 and Jackson was at the bottom with 0 wins and 4 losses.

Footnotes:

- (1) *The Circleville Herald*, August 19, 1952
- (2) *Six-Man football.com*, Texas Six-Man Football Association, “The Bible of Six-Man Football.”
- (3) *The Circleville Herald*, September 13, 1952
- (4) *The Circleville Herald*, September 27,
- (5) *The Circleville Herald*, October 18, 1952

SYNOPSIS ASHVILLE SIX-MAN FOOTBALL - 1952-1956

The Ashville Broncos won 19 games and lost 5 in the Pickaway County Six-Man Football League in the five years the team participated in the league. All the losses were in the first three years of play and four of the losses were to Walnut Township, the league champions the first three years. Ashville was the undisputed six-man football champion of the county in 1955 and 1956 winning all eleven league games. In those eleven victories the Broncos outscored the opponents by an average margin of thirty points per game.



BOY SCOUT TROOP BUILDS NEEDED SHELVING FOR MUSEUM

Jay Hines, from Upper Arlington Lutheran Church Troop 417 created an Eagle project designed to provide much needed shelving in the basement of the Museum Annex. Over 30 scouts and scouters from Upper Arlington worked under Jay's supervision to build over 100 linear feet of 2-foot wide shelving in the cramped basement space.

The Society was especially in need of shelving space so they could safely store items that were in areas that were being renovated. So all of the storage that was formerly in the old compressor room and along the walls were we cut through to join the main museum and the annex needed a temporary home while work on the new display areas and office continued.

The project was a challenge because the basement had a sloped floor, no lighting, a damp floor, and limited head-room. Jay designed a means to level the shelving and keep the feet of the wooden shelves dry.

The scouts cut and assembled the shelving posts at Jay's house for the first part of the project. The following week-end they transported all the lumber to Ashville and began the arduous task of assembling the shelving in the cramped quarters of the basement.

The scouts were treated to Ashville-baked pizza. Some raved that it was better than any pizza they could get in Upper Arlington.

Jay thanks the Society for permitting him to conduct this project and is especially indebted to Art Deal for acting as the AAHS contact person. Jay still has to pass his Eagle Board of Review, but hopes to have it completed this summer.



SUBMITTING STORIES

We love it when someone takes the time to write a short article about someone who once lived here. There are stories about teams, about teachers, about events and more. We especially love ones about unforgettable characters.

If you would like to write an article about the area that we can publish in our newsletter please send your material to the Newsletter Editorial Board at:

34 Long Street
Ashville, Ohio 43103

Or E-mail them to: aahs@ohiosmalltownmuseum.org

ASHVILLE AREA'S INCREDIBLE PATENTED INVENTIONS

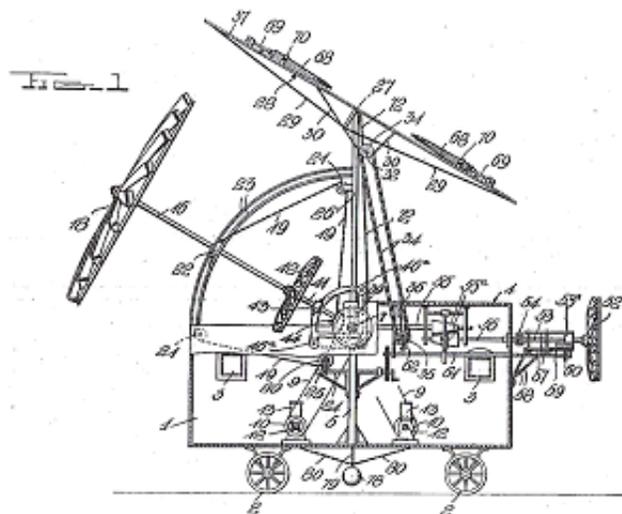
The search to identify potential patented local inventors began several years ago. We hoped to find information about patented inventors that once lived in what is now the Teays Valley School District. To date, we have managed to locate 52 inventors who produced over 80 patents. Some were commercially successful like Charles Ward's Sonic Sifter and some, like John Oman's fantastic airship, never got off the ground, but they all represent unique solutions to the problems of their times.

The oldest known patent was for a butter churn designed by A.C. Stiles of South Bloomfield in 1844. The most prolific patented inventors are Theodore Boor, Solomon Graumlich, Charles Pratzler, Joseph Eagleston, William Koch, Charles Ward, John Oman, Carl McClurg, and John Albright. Each of these inventors had at least three patents.

The period of greatest patent activity took place in the 1880s and 1890s when 23 patents were issued to area inventors. There were 29 patents that were directed at improving agriculture, 10 that focused on traffic and fire safety, and 9 that are medical in nature.

The youngest area resident to earn a patent was Ross Larue. The only women currently on our list are Eliza Steward and Anita Waggy.

All of these patents have been assembled into a notebook that is available for you to view at the museum.



John William Oman's 1909 Autogyro Airship Design



SPIDERMEN FROM ASHVILLE HELP AMERICA WIN WWII

Sometimes when compiling research about former area residents you come across some really interesting facts. For example, we learned two years ago how an Ashville man turned South Miami Beach into a tourist mecca. The following story titled "Along Came a Spider" in the *American Surveyor* (2005) magazine is equally compelling:

In July 1942 an article in *Popular Aviation* stated, "An adequate supply of spider silk vitally needed for the

cross-bars of bomb sights, gun sights, telescopes, and microscopes, is assured in the United States through the development of a 'spider ranch' at Fredericktown, Ohio. There, harnessed in a contraption which prevents them from snipping the silk with their hind legs, more than 200 spiders of the Golden Garden *Miranda aurentia* breed are 'in production' for Uncle Sam's war program."

"The 'spider ranch' was operated on the farm of Emil Albright near Fredericktown, who became involved in the endeavor in about 1937. The project had been somewhat inadvertently initiated by his brother, Dr. John G. Albright, who was Associate Professor of Physics at Case School of Applied Sciences in Cleveland. It began that whenever the school's telescopes and other optical instruments became out of order, Professor Albright would be called upon to repair them. During his visits to his brother on the farm, he would go out into the field with a forked stick to reel in some spider web to bring back to the school for making cross-hairs."

The article goes on to describe how this grew into a thriving business where spider silk was collected and wound onto reels with 100 feet to a reel. It sold for about \$9 per reel. It describes how the farm was featured in several educational films

[Editor's Note: Both Emil and John Albright grew up in the Ashville area during the late 1800's and early 1900's.]



Museum icon—Jack Lemon was a train man.



Mike explains his vision for the future of the AAHS

MEMORIAL TO A GREAT MAN: JACK LEMON 1920 TO 2007

~By Glenn Clay

Dear People of Ashville,

Last year, a very dear friend of mine passed away. His name was Jack Lemon. It seemed to me that everyone in Ashville heard of him or knew him. I started going down to the museum in mid-February of 2007 and started hearing stories about Jack. It was the beginning of April when I finally met him and he was so kind and funny. I learned a lot of Ashville history during the many months I spent down at the museum from Jack and Charlie Morrison. I also noticed how Charlie and Jack were like brothers—they were always teasing and laughing about the past. I have learned a lot about my town's heritage through Jack and I will always remember when I first met him he was carrying a bag of oranges from Florida.

[Editors note: Jack Lemon was one of the original founders of the museum. He and Charlie Morrison took a cartoon slide show about the work being done in Ashville to preserve local history all around the state and to a national convention in Ames, Iowa where they and Ashville were selected to represent the United States at an international conference in India.

Jack was a tireless volunteer who helped renovate the last of the Scioto Valley Railroad Stations, and it was a real treat to have him give you a guided tour through his beloved museum. Jack has been greatly missed.

The Founder's Room in the museum annex was dedicated, in part, to the memory of Jack Lemon.]

VISIONARY LEADER: MIKE CUMMINS 1942 TO 2007

When Mike Cummins first explored Ohio's Small Town Museum he was inspired to make it a place where he would be happy to spend his retirement. He worked tirelessly to in his words, "make the best small town museum better."

Mike made it the first order of his AAHS presidency to explore how to expand our museum and to upgrade our practices. Together with people like Bonnie Myers, Michael Moore, Linda Burns, Shirley Marion and others, he improved our artifact documentation process and greatly expanded our membership roles.

Mike loved local history and wanted to see us have a space big enough to house farm implements and cars—like Addie Squires' Corvair or Sarah Fisher's IRL chassis. Most of all he wanted people to recognize that our community was blessed to have such a unique resource.

Unfortunately for all of us, Mike was not able to see his dreams for the museum expansion fulfilled. His life was cut short by a virulent form of brain cancer.

[Editors note: The front room of our new annex was dedicated to Mike's memory and his vision.]

MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP

As a member of AAHS and a trustee of same, I am very much interested in the progress and success of our museum.

As many of you may know, Charlie Morrison began this dream when he began to collect pictures and memorabilia of people, places and things from around Ashville. That interest in our surroundings has brought us to where we are, today; a new facility renovated around the old and holding all of these things that Charlie began collecting so long ago.

We have a gorgeous facility with still a lot of work to be done and that is why I, as membership chairperson, come to you. We, as a museum, can grow only with new members and their support and the continued support of our present members.

We invite you to come in and look around and see why we are so excited about the museum. We proudly boast of authors, actors, inventors, etc. We have a book listing more than 100 patents credited to the area. We have many artifacts from days gone by - like the permanent wave machine. It looks like something from a torture chamber, but I remember, as a young girl being on that thing getting a perm. I was concerned that it was going to fry my hair; after all, it was electric. Remember, ladies?

That is just one trip down memory lane. There are many more 'trips' at the museum.

We look forward to seeing you as a visitor and as a volunteer. There is much that you can do to help us be successful.

~Shirley Marion, Membership Chairperson

ASHVILLE AREA HERITAGE SOCIETY 2009 MEMBERSHIP AS OF 2/1/09

Annual Members

AEP Pickaway Plant Management & Employees, Dean & Pat Barr, Eleanor G. Barr, Steve Clay, Thomas G. Cline, Jane (Cooper) Conley, James F. Craycraft, Dixie Cummins, Richard & Barbara Cummins, Barbara L. Davis, Dictation Warehouse, Donald Forquer, Darryl & Jodi Glick, Gay Henson, Ralph Hite, Joseph & PJ Hoover, Grant & Robin Hossfeld, J's Barber Shop, Mark & Kim Knore, Herman E. Lockett, Jim & Marty Mathers, Robert M. Peters, William Plum, Tom & Carol Ramsey, Roese Bro. Paving Inc., Charles & Wilma Sark, Herbert Seymour, Jeff & Michell Stiver, John & Nancy Swingle, The Savings Bank, Gary W. Throp, Jerry & Mona Lee Trego, Larry & Rosan Ward, Harry Webb Jr., Martha Wharton, Grace A. Wiggins, Jo Ellen Essick Wilburn, Mary Virginia Wilson, Women's Civic Club of Ashville.

Lifetime Members

Josie Ann Aldenderfer, Scott Allen, Barnes, B. Bruce, Louise Barr, Daniel D. Barth, Bob Bartholomew, Evelyn Bastian, Leo Berger, Dennis & Carol Blaney, Robert & Barbara Bowers, Ruth Bowers, Robert & Katherine Boyer, William Boyer, Carl & Mary Bumgarner, Linda Burns, Ralph E. Burns, Barbara Carder, Eleanore Chandler, Jim & Lyda Cook, Lisa & Mark Coon, Charles A. Cordle, Max & Dorothy Cormany, Martha Cromley, Cromley Terri, Barbra Jane Cummins, Linda Cummins, Art & Ada Lou Deal, Joe & Eleanor Dean, Marty Dore', Kathryn Dum, Carol B. Duvall, Melvin C. Eisaman, Ellery & Pamela Elick, Wilson Ett, Judy F. Fischer, Bob & Debbie Forquer, Terry Frazier, Michael Freeman, Charles W. Fridley, Larry B. Fullen, Louella J. Garrett, Stanley & Donna Gloyd, Russ Gregg, Colton T. Tanner, Paul & Vivian Hickman, Annabell Hines, Chuck & Mary Jane Hines, John & Renee Hines, Nolan Hines, Robert & Diane Hines, Andrew Hite, Mary L. Holbrook, Ruth A. Howell, Bob & Carol Huffer, Mary Hume, Rose Jamison, Christopher Jordan, Hannah Marie Jordan, Michael Kindt, Gale & Vicki La Rue, Dorene Leatherwood, Edwin Leatherwood, Gale & Ann Leatherwood, Mark & Cathy Leatherwood, Kate Lemon, Benis & Carolyn Lutz, Robert Mabe, Charles & Charlene Malone, Max & Shirley Marion, Jack L. McCallister, Charles & Delores Messick, Richard & Violet Messick, Ralph A Mets, Ula Jean Metzler, Robert Graham Miles, Brian A Miller, Linda M. Mithoff, Michael & Janet Moore, Belva Lou Morrison, Charles D. & Rhonda Morrison, Charles W. & Mona Morrison, Walter & Lori Myers, Robert & Edna Nothstine, Paul O'Day, Boyd & Sandy Oliver, Jacqueline Olney, Pickaway County Historical & Genealogical Society, Betty L. Richards, Thomas & Eileene Rife, David & Janet Roese, Gretchen S. Seitsinger, Bill & Coral Sherman, Brent & Kendra Sherman, Elizabeth Sliwinski, Eleanor Sondey, Margaret Sondey, Roger & Patricia Southward, Darlene Standers, Pamela S. Starr, Swanhilda Burgoon, Robert L. Swoyer, Judith Thomas, Daniel Truex, Barbara Younkin Valentine, Joe & Virgie Vause, Andy & Pam Ward, Hildegard Ward, Louise Warner,

Betty J. Wears, Virginia Ann Weeklley, Ann Weekly, Carolyn M. Weigand, Susan J. Wendt, Kendall Wharton, Merrily M. Williams, Eugene & Jane Wilson, Marge Wilson, Michael & Sandra Willson, Pamela Woodruff, Mary Irene Younkin.

2009 AAHS MEMBERS RENEWAL NOTICE

If you are not on the above lists, please be sure to renew your membership. If you have not already received and invoice for the coming year, you should expect one shortly. Remember, we are a volunteer organization that depends on your generosity. Without your membership renewal, we will not be able to send future copies of our newsletter.

2008 AAHS FINANCIAL STATEMENT as of 12/31/2008

Assets

General Fund

Checking \$14,090.67

Building Fund

Mosaic \$15,000.00

Restricted Assets

AAHS Endowment \$14,989.92

Liabilities

Total Liabilities \$0.00

Net Worth

Total Net Worth \$44,080.59



PRESIDENT STEVE CLAY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In the next 12 months, during my term as President of the Ashville Area Heritage Society, I hope to see the following three goals accomplished:

1. To get the local schools involved once again.
2. To get more members coming in to volunteer—especially with the day-to-day operations.
3. To add at least 25 to 30 new members to our rolls.

I started coming to the museum 2 years ago and before long I got hooked. In 53 years of living in Ashville I never knew there was much history here. But thanks to Charles Morrison, Charles Cordle, and the late Jack Lemon I gained new insight into our amazing history. I am looking forward to serving as the President of the Ashville Area Heritage Society.

~Steve Clay

2008 YEAR IN REVIEW

~Rose Jamison

Two-Thousand-Eight was a year of vision, planning, sawing, hammering, painting, welding, dusting, planting and filing at Ohio's Small Town Museum. The building committee had the vision and planned what the Museum would become with an extensive renovation.

Once the building next door to the existing Museum was purchased and donated to the Village of Ashville, work began. Permits were obtained from the recently appointed Ashville Building Inspector, Dale Hoover, owner of the Ashville Hardware.

As Building Inspector, Mr. Hoover is responsible for registering contractors and sub-contractors for work within the village limits, approve registrations and conduct commercial and residential building inspections. He also assumes the planning and zoning responsibilities previous handled by the Village Administrator, Franklin Christman.

Labor and use of equipment was mainly donated. Work progressed steadily, if slowly at times. A new roof was one of the first projects, followed by a new furnace. By January, approximately \$27,000 had been spent on the renovation. Vector Security updated the alarm system to a 3-door, 3-motion detector system.

New flooring, new bathroom, carpeted handicapped ramp, new library made from converted compressor room; and many other amenities were installed by the incomparable Joe Dean, who donated every bit of his labor and expertise.

Money has always a concern and various avenues were explored. Some of these were the E. G. Kellogg Foundation, American Electric Power, Ohio Arts Council, State of Ohio, etc.

Bob Hines addressed graduates and guests at the Ashville-Harrison High School Alumni Banquet about the Museum and the need for financial support.

Several fundraisers were held throughout the year. A Wendy's Burger Bash was held May 12 and, again, December 16. In June and in August, yard and bake sales were held, and in September and December, basket raffles were held. We were happy that Joe Dean won in September and Charles Cordle was a winner at Christmas.

At the February AAHS monthly meeting, Charlie Jackson, Director of the Pickaway County Visitors Bureau, explained the Bureau's advertising strategy, and asked the AAHS to support the Bureau by purchasing an ad in their new advertising brochure. After consideration by the Board of Trustees, a one-fourth page ad was purchased for \$292.50.

Even though the outlook looked grim, in March, for all work on the museum to be finished by summer, an estimated completion date of June 25, 2008 was set. Thanks to the dedication, hard work and persistence of volunteers, spearheaded by Joe Dean, all renovations were completed on time.

A committee was appointed to plan and publicize the Grand Opening and ribbon cutting ceremony. Invitations were mailed, the gals scrubbed and dusted, made cookies and punch. Flowers donated by Reeb's Market, Shirley Marion, Linda Burns and Art Deal were planted by the girls in the Museum's Centennial Park. Permission was granted to close off Wright

Street for the event.

Joe Dean was presented a Proclamation signed by Ashville Mayor Chuck Wise, and a Proclamation from the AAHS Trustees in recognition of the untold number of man hours he donated in getting the museum ready for the big day.

The old Ashville Jail is being restored to its former state in anticipation of it's being used as a museum.

In April, the third annual Prehistoric Artifacts Exhibition was held at the Ashville Elementary School.

The 4th of July Information Booth was manned under the direction of Mike Kindt. Mike worked with Cheryl Cherry, Art Teacher at TVHS on the 2008 tee-shirt design. The winner of the 2008 4th of July tee-shirt design contest was Caitlin Hemming. Tee-shirts, flags, traffic lights, pins, souvenir cards and cups, etc, were sold at the booth.

Ten visiting Ohio Festival Queens toured the Museum and each was given a souvenir cup.

The AAHS invited guest speakers to the monthly meetings. These included Claire Leatherwood, daughter of Mark and Kathy Leatherwood, of Ashville, and a Yale University student, who gave a slide presentation about her recent trip to China, which was sponsored by Yale University.

Dwight Radcliffe talked about his professional and personal associations with Ashville during his 44 years as Pickaway County Sheriff.

Trish Bennett spoke about Ashville trivia and her role as staff writer for the Circleville Herald.

Members of the Ashville Broncos of '45, Dick Messick, Russ Gregg and Art Deal talked about basketball in the good old days. Cheerleaders, Ada Lou (Beckett) Deal and Rose Mary (Stewart) Jamison added their comments.

A Beige Multiplex Swinging Panel Display Wall Unit was purchased by the AAHS Trustees to hold all the graduating class pictures of Ashville-Harrison High School. Steve Clay was in charge of getting the heavy unit delivered to the museum. Joe Dean installed the unit on the west wall of the Museum Annex and Shirley Marion inserted the pictures.

A stained glass mosaic wall mural will be donated to the museum as a memorial to Stanley and Ruth Bowers by the Bowers family. The mural will be located on the wall of the Museum Annex which faces Long Street. The mural will include the Ashville Covered Bridge, the Traffic Light, and other historical sites. Judy Bowers Nicely has selected an artist that will implement mural.

A concept for the design of a new sign for the outside front of the Ashville Museum is being prepared.

James "Jim" Herschel Ramey Memorial. Sept 26, 2008 at 1 p.m., Jim's mother, Ruth Ramey, AAHS officers, members-at-large and local dignitaries attended a memorial service in memory of Jim, a local Vietnam veteran and victim of Traumatic Stress Disorder, caused by the horrors he endured during the war. A plaque designed by Jim's good friend and AHS classmate, Joe Hoover, was affixed to the concrete medallion that once graced the entrance to the gymnasium of the Ashville Harrison High School where Jim and Joe attended.

2008 Year in Review *continued*

Kenny Cummins constructed the metal stand that holds the medallion, as well as the stand that holds the old Ashville School Bell.

Museum Guided Tour. Bob Hines has prepared a museum self-guided tour for visitors to follow, identifying and explaining the various panel displays and historical items. Bob will, also, train volunteers to be guides.

Several Girl Scout and Boy Scout Troops were given guided tours of the museum during the year. Teays Valley teachers wish to bring their classes for tours this school year.

We held our annual picnic in the park in September. A delicious carry-in dinner was enjoyed by about 50 people.

Trustees authorized \$350.00 for plastic display case materials for some of the many valuable artifacts that need to be protected, yet still be displayed. We are starting with the many books, duck pin and ball, Hosler's captured German helmet, Thaddeus Cromley's Ohio Senate President Pro-Tem Gavel, Dr. Steward's pocket watch, hand bell from Ashville School and Don Hatfield's Eye-Que invention. Bob Hines will purchase supplies and construct the cases.

At the November meeting, AAHS Membership Dues were increased. Individual Annual from \$10 to \$20, Individual Life from \$100 to \$200; Family Annual from \$15 to \$25; Family Life from \$150 to \$250.

2009 AAHS Officers: Elected: President, Steve Clay, Vice President, Mike Kindt, Secretary, Rose Jamison, Treasurer, Andy Hite. Linda Cummins will finish the term of Trustee vacated by Steve Clay.

Prior to the 2009 Officer Elections, then AAHS President, Art Deal, resigned due to his failing health and that of his wife, Lou. A debt of gratitude is owed Mike Kindt for stepping up and taking over as Interim President, and as Interim Treasurer, in addition to serving as the 4th of July Information Booth Director, and the myriad of other tasks which he has voluntarily undertaken.

In December, the Museum was beautifully decorated under the direction of Shirley Marion. Thanks to Sue Toole for her donation of Christmas trees. Belva Morrison organized a lovely and delicious catered buffet supper held at the Rick Brown VFW Post #7941 in South Bloomfield. Guests donated toys for the VFW Kids Christmas Party and food for the Ashville Food Pantry. A lively Bingo game concluded the fun evening.

Shirley Marion was designated AAHS delegate to the Ashville Senior Housing Association annual meeting. Rose Jamison volunteered to represent the AAHS at Pickaway County Tourism meetings.

Quite a few acquisitions were reported: A large slide collection, weather charts and miscellaneous photographs from Donald and Elinor Flierl. A gold pocket watch once belonging to Dr. Charles Steward; a school bell (stolen) by Bill Plum from desk of a 5th grade teacher in the Ashville School (circa 1920) in what is now the Cookson Apartments; an old Pickaway County Directory. Donor: Bill Plum, Jr. A book authored by former resident Rich Cashen. A Johnny Lightening miniature car designed by Jim Cook; a copy of The Puppeteer Journal; and a commemorative plate from the famous Fleetwood Hotel (J. Perry Stoltz). Donor: Bob Hines.

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

ASHVILLE AREA HERITAGE SOCIETY
34 LONG STREET
ASHVILLE, OHIO 43103