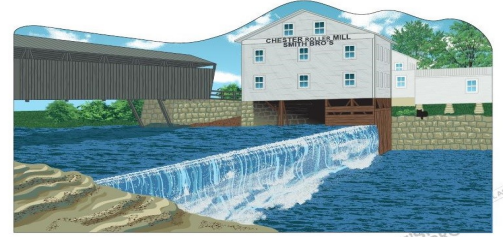


Recollections from:

ALONG SHADE CRICK



Spring Newsletter 2023

Chester, Ohio

Volume 41

Chester Shade Historical Association

Board of Officers and Trustees
Phone 740-985-9822

Officers

President: Jim Smith

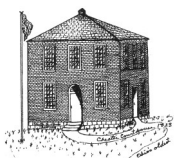
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From the Bench – March 2023

To our C.S.H.A. members, it is almost spring time and it's time for a new newsletter. We are currently going through some new changes in our organization. We have hired an office clerk, Addie McDaniel, to take care of our daily operations. Addie graduated from Eastern High School in 2020 and Marshall University in December of 2022. She will be working with us until the end of July 2023 when she will be starting law school.

Updates and Reminders

It is time to send in your yearly membership dues. Please fill out the membership form on the back of this newsletter and send it to C.S.H.A. or pay in person at the office in the academy building.

We recently hosted the D.A.R. 115th anniversary meeting of Return Jonathan Meigs Chapter. Regent Gina Tillis and member Diana Smith presented Jimmy Stewart with the D.A.R. community service award. This award was for C.S.H.A. community work in Meigs County, Ohio.

C.S.H.A. is planning a dinner/auction at the Syracuse Community Center April 21, 2023 at 6:30pm. Dinner tickets cost \$15 at the door.

The dining hall in the academy building is available for family events upon approval of trustees for a fee of \$40.00. You may contact C.S.H.A. at Chester Academy by e-mail or phone. We are now open on Friday and Saturdays from 10:00am to 4:00pm, subject to change. Please email or call before visiting to confirm hours. Our email address is chestercourthouse@windstream.net and our phone number is (740)-985-9822. Courthouse tours may be done by appointment on other days. More information will be announced in the future.

From the Bench, Continued

As your new president, I consider your memberships to be valuable assets to our organization. We will continue to serve the public with historical and genealogical research and provide tours of the courthouse museum.

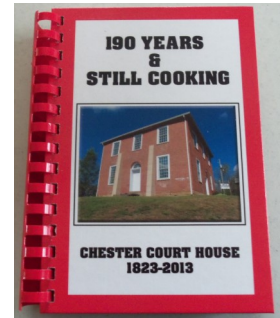
I look forward to serving the members of C.S.H.A.

Respectfully,

James M. Smith

200 Years and Still Cooking - Caramel Corn

5 qts. Popcorn, unsalted	1 tsp Salt
1c. Butter	½ tsp Baking Soda
2c. Brown Sugar	Peanuts, optional
½ c. Light Corn Syrup	



Spread popcorn and peanuts in shallow baking pan(s). Combine butter, sugar, syrup, and salt in deep saucepan. Cook over medium heat until it reaches 248°. Remove from heat. Stir in baking soda. (Be careful – the mixture will foam up.) Pour this over the popcorn and peanuts and mix well. Bake at 250° for 45 to 50 minutes. Stir every 15 minutes. Cool completely before storing in airtight containers.

This caramel corn recipe was contributed by Cleo Smith to the “190 Years & Still Cooking” cookbook and can be found on page 277. The cookbooks, originally \$20, are now on sale for \$5 each. The cookbooks contain hundreds of recipes from many contributors. You can purchase a copy by ordering online at www.chestercourthouse.com, by stopping by the Chester Academy during open hours, or by contacting us to set up another arrangement.

The Greatest Generation

August 28, 1944

Submitted by: Greg Bailey

In case there are some new readers, these stories are taken from the diary of Nick Mandella, Radio Operator/Gunner of the 450th Bomb Group, 723rd Squadron from WWII. This month I will just relate two normal (if there was such a thing) bomb runs.

“Target-railroad yards, Misrolcz, Hungary. Ship-Merry Widow. Briefing at 5:45, take-off at 7:00. Escort 9:52, attack at 11:02, return 2:00P.M. Bomb load-ten 500lb.

Boy, do we love these kind! An easy ride and double credit. Doesn't happen too often so when they do we really appreciate it. I'll describe everything leading up to it. The operations officers come through the barracks waking everyone, and on arising, most of the boys go to breakfast, but I kind of go for the extra half hour sleep myself. Just before briefing we carry our equipment, heated suits, heavy boots, flak helmets, Mae Wests and parachute harnesses over to the parachute ship to pick up our chutes and flak suits and on to the briefing room.

Then the trucks take us out to our ship. We all wait around for the pilots and officers to come with nothing to do except smoke and check radios and stuff. When the officers come out, Haworth passes out the escape kits, which contain concentrated foods, maps, compass, money and what-not, just in case our luck runs out.

The Greatest Generation, Continued

The ships all taxi out to the runway and take off, twenty to thirty seconds apart. Once in the air it takes about half an hour to assemble and get to altitude. We picked up our escort right on time, three groups of sP-51 mustangs. They sure are pretty to see, floating over and around us. These all had red noses and red tails. We saw no enemy airplanes in the area where they were expected to be.

The first two groups to hit the target were a little late so we had to alter our course. Doing this we missed our original and made our run slightly different. When Pappy released ours, only one of them went out. On the way back we passed over a small bridge so Haworth pulled the salve handle and the bombs went out too late and they missed the bridge and hit the river. Very little flak and nothing else very exciting took place.

Greaser and Haworth had brought along two cans of grapefruit juice and on the way back we all had some. It was ice cold, in fact some of it had frozen. Boy was that good. When we landed the Red Cross girls were waiting with doughnuts, coffee, and lemonade. They are there after every mission and coming back we really look forward to those refreshments. Also every mission entitles us to a one ounce of whisky. We are saving ours for our trip to a rest camp or for when Pappy becomes a pappy again. Handsome and Greaser are also expecting, but Pappy's is the nearest. We have almost two quarts saved already so should have a nice time, especially since only about half of the crew drinks.

Personal feelings - Still praying hard and long and scared, although not as bad as at other times.

Target: Budapest, Hungary	Briefing: 6:00	Attack: 10:42
Marshalling Yards	Take-off: 7:15	Return: 12:30
Ship: Illegal Eagle	Escort: 10:08	Bomb load: 6-1000lb

September 17, 1944

Someday, this crew of ours is going to take a ship up without any trouble. It hasn't failed yet. We get into some kind of mess every time. This trip had all the earmarks of a rough baby. Our briefed course and bomb run to the target took us right down Main Street of Budapest. That is what is known as inviting flak.

As we approached Budapest we could see the wave after wave of B17s and 24s coming off the target and huge columns of smoke and fires spreading in the area. As we came around for our run we expected to be riding through very heavy flak and we were sweating it out as usual. I was just about finished throwing out the "chaff" when Bombs Away came. It was almost unbelievable no flak as yet. It couldn't last though and up it came but it wasn't very accurate, about 2,000 feet too low. After dropping our bombs, we rallied sharply to the left and were just about out of range when they finally tracked us down and started coming close. However, only two bursts got close enough to be heard by us. Scared the hell out of us. It had been a very easy run though. We planted our bombs right in there and saw more fires and smoke. More groups followed us so that target was just about wiped off the map. Seeing all those planes up there gave us first hand proof of the Allied supremacy in the air.

We had a beautiful escort of P-38s who picked us up a half hour earlier than expected and rode us almost all the way home. I love those boys! The sky was pretty cloudy so we stayed up above. It was damn cold up there at 20,000 feet and altogether we must have sucked oxygen for at least 3 ½ hours. Spuda was keeping close check on our gas supply and was transferring from one engine tank to another. Some way between he and Haworth there was some sort of mix-up and three props at once started to run away. We lost about 500 feet in just a few seconds, but Bahrhead was on the stick as usual and recovered okay. Everybody grabbed for their chutes and waited for the Greaser's order to bail, but he had everything under control. Nothing's over

The Greatest Generation, Continued

Personal feelings: Ditto as always. Scared and praying.”

I’m so impressed by these young men as they went about these dangerous missions as “another day at the office.” A big salute to all the veterans.

The UB Church in Meigs County, and Moses

Submitted by: Daniel T. Will

Studying over an 1883 map of Meigs County published by H. H. Hardesty, I noticed numerous notations of not only villages, but also locations of schools and churches. Churches are even identified in many cases by denomination. One denomination appears more frequently than others in the eastern part of the county: United Brethren. This sparked my interest, as I have attended a UB church my entire life. Before I continue on, I want to give you a little background history of the UB Church.

The Church of the United Brethren in Christ (UB) began in the latter half of the 1700’s. Dead formalism had beset the established churches. But then a revival movement swept through the colonies of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia. Attempts were made to revive the church and reach the lost through “great meetings,” which emphasized the new birth and a deeper life experience.

Leaders of the established denominations opposed these emphases. Therefore, the revival movement leaders formed a new denomination – the first American-born church, not a transplant from Europe.

Spearheading the movement were Philip William Otterbein and Martin Boehm. Otterbein, a German Reformed minister, immigrated from Germany in 1752. Boehm was a Mennonite evangelist. The two men met on Pentecost Sunday in 1767 in a barn near Lancaster, Pennsylvania, during a service in which Boehm preached. Otterbein threw his arms around Boehm and exclaimed, “We are brethren.” From that greeting came the name “United Brethren.”

Gradually, the movement took form and proceeded toward becoming a full-fledged denomination. A conference in 1800 adopted the name “Church of the United Brethren in Christ” and elected Otterbein and Boehm as bishops. They served until their death.

The church’s doctrinal position was stated in the Confession of Faith adopted in 1815. The statement has remained essentially unchanged; it concisely spells out the UB major beliefs concerning Christian faith and practice. A Constitution was adopted in 1841.

The denomination grew rapidly, expanding into Ohio and Indiana with the westward movement of the young nation. In 1821, the church took a historic stand against slavery which hindered the church’s growth in the South. This stand was included in the 1841 Constitution.

Other denominational elements were added. Departments were formed as needed. A publishing house began operating in Circleville, Ohio, in 1834, moving to Dayton seven years later. The first missionary endeavor sent a caravan of settlers to Oregon.

A college, Otterbein University, was established in 1847. Since 1817, a General Conference – the highest governing body – has been held every four years. More recently, the body has transitioned into the US National Conference that now meets once every two years.

Toward the end of the 19th Century, problems arose concerning the representation in General Conference and membership in secret societies. A division occurred in 1889, producing two fellowships with the same United Brethren name and co-existed for 57 years that way. The larger group, known as the “Liberals” adopted a new constitution and confession of faith and eventually merged with the Evangelical Association to form the Evangelical United Brethren Church. The EUBs then merged into the Methodist Church in 1968 to form today’s United Methodist Church.

The UB Church in Meigs County, and Moses, Continued

The smaller group, known as the “Radicals”, reorganized under the guidance of Bishop Milton Wright, father of the famous Wright brothers. The UB Church had to start over again in most areas, with many congregations having lost their property. But gradually, the church picked up the pieces and moved forward. In 1897, headquarters were established in Huntington, Indiana. Huntington College, now University, was chartered in the same year.

Today, the denomination consists of over 500 churches in nearly 20 countries; about 40% of the churches are in the United States. The mission arm supervises work in 17 foreign countries and helps support missionaries in many other countries.

In 1889, most UB churches were located in rural areas. For the past several decades, the church has taken advantage of outreach opportunities in cities. Nearly all of the churches in the far west are in urban areas. Some small rural churches have merged or relocated.

Turning our attention back to the UB church in Meigs County, the 1883 map mentioned earlier notes ten UB churches centered around the eastern “boot”. Other historical accounts record at least nine others not on the map, for a total of nineteen. They are: Bethany (1872); Carmel (1859; aka “Horse Cave Chapel); Pleasant Home (1838 – Nease Settlement); Eden (1898); Enterprise (1871); Morning Star (late 1800’s); Otterbein; Banner (1893); Mt. Olive (1870); Toppers Plains (early 1900’s); Bunker Hill (1897); Syracuse; Sharon; Nease Chapel (1901); Mt. Hermon (1877); Letart; Silver Ridge (1883 – aka South Bethel); Harrisonville (1850’s); Pleasant Grove (Olive Township). Today there are only two active UB churches remaining in the county: Eden in Reedsville; Mt. Hermon in the Texas Community. The others have ceased to exist due to mergers with the Methodist church, with each other, or became independent.

Moses Will (1820-1894), my great-grandfather, was the first minister at Mt. Hermon UB Church. In 1881, he and his sons, all being carpenters, constructed the church building that once stood on the hill in front of the Mt. Hermon Cemetery. That building was in use until 1964 when a new structure was built nearby; the old church was razed sometime in the 1980’s.

A funny story was told in our family, about Moses, that bears repeating, although there is no way to corroborate it. Back in that day, many country preachers preached against any form of card playing, among other things that were deemed sinful, but were not spelled out Biblically. Worship, or “preaching”, was conducted in most country churches Sunday morning and evening, as was the case at Mt. Hermon. Moses had thirteen children, six boys, seven girls. Being aware of what all of these children were doing to entertain themselves was next to impossible. But it seems one Sunday afternoon Moses caught some of the children, probably the boys, playing cards. This infuriated Moses; he grabbed up the playing cards and stuck the deck in his rear trousers pocket. Later that evening, while he was preaching from the pulpit, he became overheated and sweaty, and reached for his handkerchief in his rear pocket, to wipe his brow. To his dismay, and to the surprise of the congregation, when he pulled out the handkerchief, the whole deck of cards he had placed in the pocket earlier came spilling out on the floor all around the altar! It was never told what happened after that, whether the service continued or was dismissed early! ! He apparently was not fired nor did he resign, as he was still the minister at the time of his death.

Many years have passed since that supposed incident, and Mt. Hermon is still a vibrant church, with an average attendance on Sunday mornings of around 90. There are at least 35 descendants of Moses that attend there, either regularly or occasionally.

Charles Phelps

Submitted by: Jim Smith

The following is an excerpt from “Sines History of Meigs County, Ohio” written by Walter Sines.

“On the morning of January 7, 1887 excitement ran high in the Five Points settlement back of Pomeroy for the night before and old man had been murdered in a lone cabin on the back of hill road to Chester. This was a lonely old man by the name of Charles Phelps. When traveling north on Route No. 7, about one-half mile

Charles Phelps, Continued

north of Five Points, you can still see the outline of this old road leading off to the left, around and over the hill. This road has been discontinued a number of years but out this road a short distance on the right side was a small cove between the hills and here was located the Phelps cottage, no house or neighbor near it.

On examination of the body, they found a wound on the left side of the head three inches long and one and one-fourth inches in width. Also, on the left side of the neck they found another wound three inches long and one and one-half inches deep. The first wound evidently was made by a club and the one on the neck by a sharp instrument, presumably a knife. As murder was almost unknown in Meigs County and very few fatal accidents [occurred], this created great excitement.

Soon suspicion pointed strongly to a young man about twenty-seven years old by the name of Josiah (Si) Terrill, son of Joseph and Mary Terrill. When arrested, he was wearing the coat that had been worn by the victim when he was killed, and he could not give a satisfactory answer to how he came in possession of the coat. His only answer that he had bought it from a stranger he had met on the road. The coat and the general character of the man were strong evidence against him, although circumstantial only. The case was given to the grand jury J.V. Smith, foreman, and they brought in an indictment of first degree murder. The case went on trial before the petit jury, John McLane, foreman on April 23, 1837. Rudolph de Steuguer, Judge; George Titus, Sheriff; and John II. Lochary, Prosecuting Attorney assisted by D. A.; Russell William II. Lasley and J.Q. Speaker were the attorneys for the defense for Terrill. The trial continued but very little evidence was offered except circumstantial. The case was finally given to the jury and they brought in a verdict of first degree murder. The judge pronounced the sentence that he should be hanged in the penitentiary at Columbus, O on September 2, 1837. This sentence was carried out between midnight and sunrise of Sept. 2 and his body was shipped to his mother at Pomeroy O. He was buried at Rock Springs Cemetery on the Thomas Fork Road close to the entrance of the Fair grounds. His grave can be found down in the left-hand corner of the cemetery near the fence. A lady for whom Terrill had worked had a monument (this lady was Mrs. John Rakin, according to her will her husband had this monument erected after her death) placed to his grave but instead of using the word "died" they used the word "hung." Some person or persons, with a crude instrument cut the word "hung" from the monument but it can still be seen where it was engraved. No trial held in Meigs County ever created the interest that was caused by this trial and for years afterwards it formed a subject of conversation. He never confessed but always even to the last, claimed he was innocent of the crime and all the evidence was against him.

The record of the trial shows that D. A. Russell received \$150 for assisting the prosecution and Wm. II. Lasley and J. Q. Speaker each received \$100 for conducting the defense. So ends the oft story of 'Si' Terrill."

The following is an excerpt from The Newark Daily Advocate out of Newark, Ohio.

"September 3, 1887, Josiah Terrill Dies on the Scaffold Protesting his Innocence to the Last Columbus, O. Sept 3. — Josiah [Si] Terrill, convicted of murder of an old man named Phelps in Meigs county last January, was hanged about 12:30 this morning at the penitentiary. He protested his innocence to the last. His neck was broken in the fall and life was extinct in fifteen minutes. The history of the crime for which he was is as follows: Charles Phelps, aged sixty-five years, and old miser living near Pomeroy, Meigs county, Ohio was found murdered in his hut on the morning of January 6, 1887. His throat had been cut and the hair of his head was frozen to the floor in a pool of blood. Terrill was arrested on suspicion and convicted by an unbroken chain of circumstantial evidence, not a word of controverting evidence being offered by the defendant. A hand glass and overcoat belonging to the old man were found in his possession, and he was seen near the scene of the murder on the day in question. For years he had been regarded as a worthless fellow, of nomadic disposition, his name having appeared on the criminal docket on numerous occasions, although never directly charged with serious felony. He was soon to have married Miss Permeline Allmade, a young lady in the neighborhood."

2023 CSHA Membership

Membership dues start on January 1 of each year and expire on December 31 of each year.

\$15.00 Individual Adult, \$150 Lifetime Membership

PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____

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City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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(If email has changed, we are asking you to verify your email address)

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Number of Persons: Individual _____, Amount to Pay _____

Number of Years Paid _____ Date Paid _____ Donation _____

(If you would like - please mark one of the following and a member of the CSHA will contact you)

I would like to volunteer at the Courthouse/Academy

I have a family history or other items to donate to CSHA

I have stories to tell

Thank you, we appreciate your support!

Yes, I would like to volunteer!

Name _____

I can volunteer: One day a week _____

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One day a month _____

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Occasionally _____

As needed _____

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Special Skills*: Filing _____ Typing _____ Word Processing _____ MS Excel _____



Chester Shade Historical Association

46454 ST RT 248 P.O. Box 44

Chester, OH 45720

Web: www.chestercourthouse.com

Email: chestercourthouse@windstream.net

Phone: 1-740-985-9822

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Your Dues Count

The money that you pay for dues goes to promote our organization.

It helps us pay our utility bills and upkeep expenses, making it possible to keep the buildings open to the public, as well as historical programs for youth and adults. Please check out our membership page and sign up today. Memberships begin in January and end on December 31 of each year.