

Alliance Historical Society NOW & THEN



Volume 14, Issue 2

Spring 2021

2020—What a Strange Year

2020 started out so normal. The Society held two historical programs at Rodman Library attended by large audiences. And then, the world stopped. We thought you'd enjoy reminiscing with us by looking at some photos taken around town to remember this historic year.

We would love to add your memories of this year to our collection for future generations to understand how we made it through the COVID-19 pandemic in Alliance, Ohio. Email them to alliancehistory@yahoo.com or send them to PO Box 2044, Alliance, OH 44601.

Alliance Historical Society Trustees

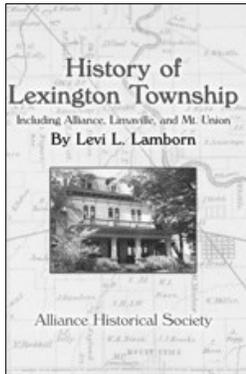
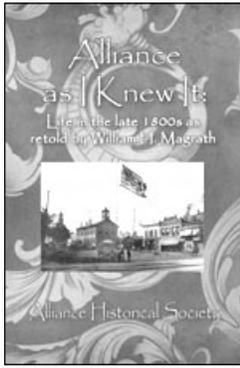
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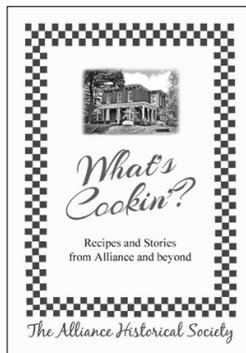
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Copies of our award-winning books are available at Rodman Public Library and the Alliance Area Chamber of Commerce or from our website.



Find us on the web:
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Visit <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/34-6530762>
for details on how you can help the Alliance Historical Society when you shop at Amazon.

Looking Forward

As we look towards a new year, we are eager to get back to some of our favorite activities here at the Alliance Historical Society. I don't know how soon we will be able to have real programs with people in attendance, but until that time we will continue to use our Facebook, website, and YouTube pages to bring you interesting information on Alliance history. I don't know about you, but I can't wait to find out what the next episode of *Marking Time in Alliance* will be!



Last fall we offered a historic walking tour using the Clio application, which allowed for a self-guided tour that can be accessed at any time using a cell phone; it was so successful that we want to offer more tours using Clio.

And speaking of tours, did you know that the Mabel Hartzell home and Alliance History Mini Museum are open for small group tours by appointment? You can now book a tour online, by phone, or by email.

During the downtime of the pandemic, the Alliance Historical Society board has kept busy—via small meetings, online Zoom meetings, and email—working on strategic planning to further the mission of the Society, which is

to keep the history of Alliance alive for the education and enjoyment of the public. Stay tuned for more great programs, tours, and exhibits in the future, and thanks to all for your continuing support.

Michelle Dillon, President

Planning Continues

The saying goes, "When life gives you lemons, make lemonade." That is just what the board of the Alliance Historical Society board has done over the fall months.

We have not been able to hold our usual fall programs, so we turned our efforts to planning and improving our organization. During our strategic planning sessions, we realized that we do want to continue planning for a large historical museum and the area surrounding the Mabel Hartzell Historical Home.

We enlisted the help of SCORE volunteers to help us develop a business plan so that we could take stock of where we are, where we want to be, and how we are going to get there.

A museum feasibility task force has been meeting weekly with the SCORE volunteers and is making good progress on these essential business planning documents.

The Alliance Historical Society is financially sound thanks to the many memberships and donations given by people like you. **If you would like to make a donation or give a gift membership to a friend or family member**, you can do so through our website, alliancehistory.org, or by mailing us at PO Box 2044, Alliance, OH 44601. This year, as in 2020, the CARES Act is allowing individuals to deduct donations to non-profit groups like ours up to \$300 for individuals and up to \$600 for couples filing jointly.

Volunteers Wanted

Now is the time to become an active member of the Alliance Historical Society. In addition to our tour guides, we also need people who would like to help outside at Mabel's house. Volunteers help keep the grounds clean by picking up trash, and help keep the grounds looking neat and tidy by trimming hedges and planting flowers. If the outdoors isn't your thing, we need people to clean inside the house as well.

Are you more of an organizer and prefer office work? We have an extensive archive full of files that need to be organized with typing and filing tasks. And then there are events that need planning. If you enjoy organizing fundraisers or events, then we need you!

Call us at 330-736-1116 and leave a message or email us at alliancehistory@yahoo.com today.

Marking Time Videos

Our *Marking Time in Alliance* videos have been viewed more than 8,700 times since they debuted in January 2020! Eight new videos are in production currently, including the Alliance High School auditorium murals, City Courthouse, Firehouse Theater, Freedom Square, and more.

Subscribe to our YouTube channel, youtube.com/alliancehistory and like and comment on them so you don't miss any.



Love of History

We welcome Linda Ferguson as our newest board member. Linda has a longtime love of history and the Mabel Hartzell Historical Home and wanted to get more involved with our organization. She brings a wealth of experience working in the non-profit sector to the Historical Society and has jumped right in with committee work and strategic planning.



Members and Donors

Thank you to the following people for renewing their 2020-2021 memberships or for joining the Alliance Historical Society **since September 1, 2020**. Please see our website at www.alliancehistory.org/2020-2021-members for a full listing of our current members and donors. We appreciate your support!

Mabel Hartzell Club

Patti Antonasanti
Linda Ferguson
Pamela Hanke
Sarah & Phillip Mastroiani

Patrons

Alan & Nancy Howenstine
Edward Moffett
Michele & Joe Pederzoli

Family Members

Judith Boyle
Kathy Butcher
Mark Cade

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Amy & John Recchiuti
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Jeanne Baylor
Joanne Kuehnling
Jane Mako
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John & Georgene Gross
Grove Refrigeration
Betty Kee

William Koch
Leigh Mainwaring
David McFarland
Mike & Libby Patterson
Doug & Kyle Schwarz
Katie Winner Weitzel

You may make a tax-deductible donation to the Alliance Historical Society at any time. Make your check payable to Alliance Historical Society and mail it to PO Box 2044, Alliance, OH 44601.

Donations may also be made by credit card through the PayPal link on our website, www.alliancehistory.org.

Alliance Historical Society

P. O. Box 2044
Alliance, Ohio 44601

Ohio History Fund Supports Projects Across the State

The Ohio History Connection's History Fund grant program is one of the few grant programs in the state just for history, pre-history, and historic preservation projects – and it needs your help to grow. If you receive a refund on your Ohio income taxes, consider donating a portion of it to the “Ohio History Fund”

tax “check-off,” **line 26f on your state tax return.** Your donation with those from your friends, relatives, and thousands of other history lovers makes possible grants for local history projects in places big and small throughout Ohio. Since the Ohio History Fund started in 2012, it has made 73 grants in 37 counties for a total of \$688,000. There's a huge need for the History Fund, however. It has received 388 grant applications from 66 counties, totaling more than \$4.7 million in requests!

In 2019, the Alliance Historical Society benefited from this program with a grant of \$13,240 to replace the roof of the Mabel Hartzell Historical Home and return it to a style that matched a photograph of the house from the 1890s.

For a list of grant recipients, visit: <https://www.ohiohistory.org/preserve/local-history-services/history-fund/recipients>

