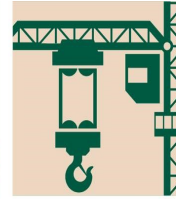


# Alliance Historical Society **NOW & THEN**



Volume 17, Issue 1

Fall 2023

## One big family: Alliance's three historical groups form association

The Alliance Historical Society, the Alliance Area Preservation Society, and the Castle Crusaders may have separate identities, but they have always been working toward the same goals.

Within the last several months, Alliance's three historical groups have made that clear as they have formed an association, each of the organization's boards voting to pursue a joint

mission to preserve, maintain, promote, and advocate for the structures, artifacts, and history of Alliance, and to help educate all in the rich heritage of our community.

Over the years, much confusion had grown among the general population and many citizens could not distinguish between the three entities or their causes. By joining forces, the three groups hope to grow stronger together

with the ultimate goal of creating a single heritage organization that will operate all of the city's historic sites, effectively utilize the funds generously donated to them, and to better serve the historic interests of the community.

Each group will continue to maintain its individual identity and the boards that govern them.

*See Association Inside*

## Fascinating character will be focus of 2023 annual meeting

Jim Perone stands beside his Mini prior to the start of the 2023 Carnation Festival parade. Perone, narrator of the popular *Marking Time* video series, will discuss the fascinating life of the largely forgotten Levi Lupton during the Society's annual meeting Nov. 14 at Union Avenue United Methodist Church.



### Jim Perone will discuss the life of Levi Lupton

At the turn of the century there were two influential men named Levi in Alliance.

One, Levi Lamborn, is well remembered for his connection to the scarlet carnation.

The other, Levi Lupton, has nearly been lost to history.

Dr. Jim Perone will shed some light on this fascinating, yet largely forgotten character during the 2023 annual meeting of the Alliance Historical Society.

*See MEETING Inside*

## Historical Society plans another Trivia Night



It's time to get your teams together and start studying up for another night of Trivia Night competition sponsored by the Alliance Historical Society.

The Society's third Trivia Night is set for Tuesday, Oct. 24, at A-Town Burgers and Brews from 6 to 9 p.m. and teams may register by going to [alliancehistory.org/trivia-night](http://alliancehistory.org/trivia-night).

As it was in the first two Trivia Nights last October and March, there will be six rounds of 10 questions each with categories including general knowledge, literature, TV theme songs, TV game show catchphrases, geography, and of course, local history.

Teams will consist of four persons and each team should register with a descriptive name and prepare for a good time. Entrance fee is \$80 per team of four and includes A-Town's burger bar.

Drinks will be available from the cash bar and includes a selection of craft beers, sodas, and incredible milkshakes.

Other fundraising activities will include a 50-50 drawing, table and round sponsorships, and basket raffles. Prizes will be given to the winning team.

Trivia Night is a fun way to support the Society's mission of sharing stories and preserving Alliance's history.

The Society is also accepting donations of gift cards and raffle baskets to be used as prizes during the trivia night. Those who would like to donate should send an email to [alliancehistory@yahoo.com](mailto:alliancehistory@yahoo.com)

Table sponsorships are at three levels – regular at \$100 or the silver level at \$250, with gold levels at \$500. Question Round sponsorships are \$50.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The following events are planned for later this year:

**October 30** — “Only Murders in Alliance” will be presented by Alliance Historical Society board member Jack R. Weber Jr., the community relations manager at Rodman Public Library. Just in time for Halloween, the program will explore some interesting murder cases from the late 1800s through early 1900s and the interesting characters involved.

**November 8** — “Streetcars, Streamlines & Changing Times: Alliance Railroad History III,” will be presented by Robb Hyde, president of the Alliance Area Preservation Society.

*The programs will be held at Rodman Library and registration will be required online at [rodmanlibrary.com](http://rodmanlibrary.com)*

## Alliance Historical Society Trustees

### Officers

Karen Perone, President  
Michelle Dillon, Vice President  
Jennifer Crist, Secretary  
Steve Stone, Treasurer

### Board of Trustees

Gary Conny  
Stacy Digianantonio  
Linda Fergason  
John Gross  
Mark Locke  
Ryan MacLennan  
Jack Madison  
Dave McMahon  
Mike Patterson  
Don Shaffer  
Jack Weber Jr.

Find us on the web:  
[www.alliancehistory.org](http://www.alliancehistory.org)  
[www.facebook.com/alliancehistory](https://www.facebook.com/alliancehistory)  
[YouTube.com/alliancehistory](https://www.youtube.com/alliancehistory)

## Ryan MacLennan joins board

The Alliance Historical Society welcomes Ryan MacLennan as its newest member of the board of directors.

Ryan is currently the education and outreach manager at the Trumbull County Historical Society. He received his bachelor's degree in both English:writing and philosophy from Mount Union College in 2010, and he earned his master's degree in history from New Mexico State University in 2015.

Before attending NMSU, Ryan spent time as a music critic.

Ryan and his wife Sarah live

in Alliance, where they met at Mount Union in 2006, with their two children Penelope and Augustus. After spending time in New Mexico and Florida, Ryan and his family decided to move closer to home after the birth of their daughter.

Sarah found a job at the Alliance Area Domestic Violence Shelter, where she had worked previously in college and briefly after graduation.

Sarah currently works at the Ohio Domestic Violence Network as the relocation program coordinator.



**MacLENNAN**

In his limited free time Ryan enjoys cooking and spending time with his family and friends.

## THANK YOU, JOE



The Alliance Historical Society marked its Founders' Day by paying tribute to a man who spent more time on its board than anyone else in its history. A small group gathered inside Haggart Hall at the Alliance YWCA on Thursday, June 29 – the exact site of the first meeting of the Alliance Historical Society on that date in 1939 – to pay homage to Joe Zelasko. A retired teacher who spent 44 years in the Alliance City School District, Zelasko was a member of the board for 52 of the Society's 84 years, serving since April of 1971. Zelasko had announced he was stepping down earlier this year.

## Open Hours At Mabel's

Tours of the Mabel Hartzell Historical Home and Alliance History Mini Museum are offered every first weekend of the month. Reservations are required for these first-weekend open hours.

Tours are given at 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. sharp on Friday. Saturday tours are given at 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. sharp. On Sundays, tours are given at 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. sharp.

Those wishing to take a tour should visit our website ([alliancehistory.org](http://alliancehistory.org)) to book a reservation.

The suggested donation is \$5 per adult. Children under 12 years old and members are admitted free.

## GIVE Alliance 365 grant will help create East Main Street self-guided tour

Thanks to a grant from the Greater Alliance Foundation's GIVE Alliance 365 Fund, the Alliance Historical Society and the Alliance Area Preservation Society will establish an East Main Street Historic District Walking Tour.

With the \$3,375 grant, the historic groups will place 25 to 30 permanent signposts along the East Main Street Historic District, which was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2017.

Each signpost will include a stop number, name of the stop, and a QR code. When the QR code is scanned with a smart phone, the user will be directed to the Clio history website for narrative (audio and written), photographs, and maps of the building or lot.

Some signs will be mounted to the building, some will have new signposts installed, and some will be placed on existing street signposts.

The tour will replicate previous guided tours that featured temporary paper signs and display boards along the path at various stops. However with the use of the QR codes and the Clio app, the tours will be self-guided and will be perfect for tourists and residents alike visiting downtown Alliance.

The project was among 17 proposed to GIVE Alliance 365 for support and among eight chosen to receive funding in 2023.

The GIVE Alliance 365 Fund is supported by donors who contribute a “dollar-a-day” to make a difference in their community.

To learn more about the fund, visit [greateralliancefoundation.org](http://greateralliancefoundation.org).

# 2023-2024 Members and Donors

Thank you to the following people for renewing their memberships or for joining the Alliance Historical Society **as of September 9**. Membership year runs from July 1 to June 30 for Mabel Hartzell, Patron, Family, Individual, and Business members. A full updated list is available on our website. We appreciate your support!

## Mabel Hartzell Club Members

Alliance Ventures  
Pat Antonosanti  
Keith & Margaret Brown  
Mark Cade  
Richard & Susanne Campbell  
Gary Conny  
Coralee Cox  
Larry Cox  
Jennifer Crist  
Steve & Deborah Daskalov  
Dick & Susan Diser  
Denise & David Downard  
Philip & Lynn Francis  
Cindy & Art Garnes  
Brad & Sue Goris  
Tiffany Gravlee  
Lee Gray  
Jim & Jill Greiner  
Andy & Sue Grove  
Pamela Hanke  
E. Faye Heim  
William Koch  
Stephen & Kathy Kramer  
Rachel Nelson  
Charles Onaitis  
Cheryl Paine  
Bill & Nancy Prueter  
Glenn & Lois Rupp  
Jack & Amanda Weber  
Eddie Williams & Jane Wearstler

Bill Wright  
Sidney Zufall

## Patron Members

Cynthia Carlin  
Betty Davis  
Ron & Betty Derry  
Ann Egli  
Robb Hyde  
Bryan Israel  
David & Kathy McMahon  
Vincent C. Obmann  
Michele & Joe Pederzolli  
Kathleen Purdy  
Priscilla & Rudy Roggenkamp  
Len & Lynda Slack  
Michael & Carol Stuller

## Family Members

Bruce Barber  
Karen Blaser  
Vanessa & Tom Botzman  
Bill Brown & Lori Spall  
Kelly & Judi Brush  
Kristopher Bugara  
Kathy Butcher  
Ron & Jill Castina  
College Inn Eatery  
Kelly Eubank  
Patricia Helsel  
Doug & Ann Hendel  
Alan & Nancy Howenstine

Jim & Joyce Lackey  
Julie Lee  
David & Cheryl Lundgren  
Jack & Lori Madison  
Michael & Gloria Magrath  
Scott & Mary Ann McKee  
Jed & Cheryl Mewborn  
William & Katharine Morris  
Thomas & Jane Pieper  
Dalton & Randy Rininger Kline  
Lanny & Sue Snodde  
Tim Snyder  
Matthew & Jeannie Stuller  
James Taddeo  
Lisa Trummer  
Janet Vick  
Esther Whiteleather  
Gerard Yost

## Individual Members

Marlene A. Admonius  
Sandy Antonasanti  
Judith Boyle  
Kay Brown  
Susan Burden  
Richard Cordingley  
Carolyn Crites  
Mary Ann Day  
Melinda Hall  
Karen Rhodes Heesacker  
Bonnie Kidd  
Tom Kuceyeski  
Theresa M. Lattanzi  
Robert Lavery  
Ryan MacLennan  
Diana Madison  
Carrie Mason  
Jeanne McLeod  
Al & Pat Retone  
Monica Rollins  
Peter L. Schneller  
Elizabeth Showalter  
Jam Stryffeler  
Ronald Tenney  
Elizabeth Vanderham  
Marsha Wehner  
Josh Weyrick

Merival J. Yarian

## Greater Alliance Foundation Together Fund Donations

Alliance Ventures  
Pat Antonosanti  
Keith & Margaret Brown  
Mark Cade  
Richard & Susanne Campbell  
Judith Clapsaddle  
Gary Conny  
Coralee Cox  
Jennifer Crist  
Steve & Deborah Daskalov  
Dick & Susan Diser  
Denise & David Downard  
Philip & Lynn Francis  
Cindy & Art Garnes  
Brad & Sue Goris  
Lee Gray  
Jim & Jill Greiner  
Andy & Sue Grove  
Pamela Hanke  
William Koch  
Stephen & Kathy Kramer  
Philip Kuceyeski  
Rachel Nelson  
Charles Onaitis  
Cheryl Paine  
Libby & Mike Patterson  
Jim & Karen Perone  
Bill & Nancy Prueter  
Glenn & Lois Rupp  
J. Terry Tolerton  
Jack & Amanda Weber  
Eddie Williams & Jane Wearstler  
Bill Wright  
Angela Zumbar

## Donations Received

Don & Cynthia Bianco  
Grove Charitable Foundation  
Robb Hyde  
Gordon & Jane Ruggles  
Rebecca Soules  
Shirley Weimer  
Joann Whetzel

## Association

### Continued from Front

However, the three will work in concert and in consultation to share resources with one another, to improve communication within the organizations and throughout the community, and to support each other's efforts and initiatives in every way possible.

Those efforts will include sharing human and physical resources, coordinating event scheduling and school tours, and the co-promotion and marketing for community event and tourism initiatives.

The venture includes the possibility of establishing a joint endowment and a possible future consolidation.

## Meeting

### Continued from Front

The meeting will be held Tuesday, November 14 at 7 p.m. at the Union Avenue United Methodist Church when Perone will deliver "Cult!?! Levi Lupton and the Missionary Home."

Born to a staunch Quaker family in Smith Township, Mahoning County, Levi Rakestraw Lupton became a land speculator in Michigan, founded Alliance's First Friends Church, established a controversial Pentecostal encampment just outside Alliance in Washington Township, and experienced a highly publicized fall from grace in 1910.

A brief business meeting with an election of board members will be held prior to the program.

## WANT TO HELP SUPPORT THE ALLIANCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY?

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 through PayPal via our website, [www.alliancehistory.org](http://www.alliancehistory.org).



## Alliance Historical Society

P. O. Box 2044  
Alliance, Ohio 44601

# Scout's Eagle project spruces up Mabel's back yard arbor, shed

The arbor and tool shed in the back yard at the Mabel Hartzell Historical home are now in great shape thanks to Seth Dillon, who took on the challenge as his Eagle Scout project.

Seth, along with seven other Scouts and six adults, worked a total of 66 hours painting the arbor and tool shed at Mabel's Home during July.

They scraped old and chipping paint off the arbor and shed before painting. Only one face of the shed was in need of new paint because of vines growing up the one side.

"This project will have a positive impact on the community because the Mabel Hartzell home is an important part of Alliance history," said Seth, "and any project that helps to maintain this home will make it more inviting for people to come and learn more about the city."

To take on the project, Seth first picked a date that would work best, received a donation of paint and painting supplies from Lowe's, then asked to borrow several tools from people to be used for completing the project. He organized the other volunteers and had any expenses covered by his family.

Throughout the entire project, Seth worked alongside his volunteers.



Local Scout Seth Dillon, right, consults with one of his advisers while working on his Eagle project at the Mabel Hartzell Historical Home.



**ABOVE:** A group of Local Scouts and adult Scout leaders, led by Seth Dillon, paint the arbor in the back yard at Mabel's.

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities to volunteer with the Alliance Historical Society abound, including workdays at Mabel's on every first Wednesday of the month. To learn how you can get involved, call 330-736-1116.