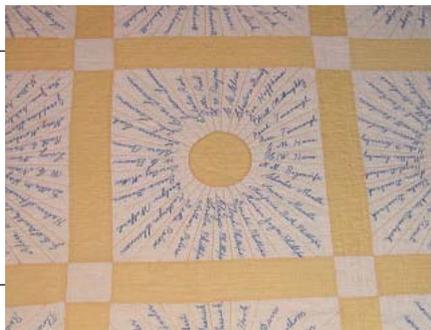


Ohio's Small Town Museum in Ashville

AAHS VOL. 13 JANUARY 2010



THE QUILT

Tom Brinker, son of the late Edgar and Norma Jean Hoover Brinker, donated an antique (circa 1919-1924) quilt made by his grandmother, which contains hundreds of hand embroidered names of local residents of that era, some who are still living. Joe Dean constructed a frame for the quilt which hangs in the museum.

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THE MURAL

In the summer of 2010, we will all witness the unveiling of a mural that will be installed on the front of the Museum Annex. Dirk Rozich is the artist selected to compose the mural. The mural is being funded through a generous donation from Judy Nicely and Mary Jo Py in honor of their parents Ruth and Stanley Bowers. The following article is a tribute to Ruth and Stanley.

RUTH AND STANLEY BOWERS were born in Pickaway County. They graduated from Ashville-Harrison High School (Ruth in 1929, Stanley in 1930), and reared two daughters, Judy (Alfred Nicely) and Mary Jo (Phillip Py). Judy graduated from Ashville High School in 1956 and Mary Jo in 1958.

Both Stanley's and Ruth's families trace their German roots back to the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. Their ancestors came to the Lancaster, Pa area about the time of the Revolutionary War. Their grandparents who lived in Pickaway County were farmers and or merchants. Stanley's family owned a farm close to Ringgold. His father was a teacher and Ohio legislator. He died of a brain tumor when Stanley was only four. About twelve years later, his mother sold the farm and the family, Harold, Helen, Stanley and Georgia (Dore') all moved to Ashville. While in high school and in college, Stanley worked as a steward on large passenger ocean liners out of New York and Los Angeles. He loved to share his stories about these unique experiences with his family. Ruth's great grandparents on her mother's

Continued on page 2



Ruth and Stanley Bowers

side came from Germany to Ashville. They were involved in German activities in Columbus and wrote the German newspaper. One of Ruth's relatives served as a German military officer against Napoleon in the War of 1812.

After high school, Ruth worked as a secretary in Columbus and Stanley went to Finn College and Ohio Northern University studying electrical engineering. The Depression in the 1930's prevented him from completing his degree. In 1933, he began working for the Ohio Department of Taxation. They were married in 1934 at Ruth's home on Main Street with Bill and Isabel Fischer as their attendants. While working, Stanley took accounting and law courses in the evening at Franklin University now Capital University. He became an attorney in 1940, the year he and Ruth moved to 289 E. Main Street in Ashville. They lived in this home for forty-six years, and in 1986 they moved to Friendship Village, a senior retirement center in Dublin, Ohio.

Stanley spent over thirty years with the Ohio Department of Taxation where he served as Tax Commissioner under Governors Frank Lausche, William O'Neil and Michael Disalle. He also served as president of several state and national tax organizations. In addition to his chief specialty, local, state and federal taxes, he did accounting and general legal matters for people who lived in Ashville. After serving in the Department of Taxation, he had an active law practice in Columbus where he handled only major tax issues.

Stanley and Ruth were active participants in community

events. Stanley was a member of the Pickaway Bar Association, Ashville Community Club and Lutheran Church. Ruth was a charter member of the Ashville Women's Civic Club. She also was an active member of the Lutheran Church, DAR and Pythian Sisters not to mention her work as a leader of girl scouts and a board member of the Pickaway County Public Library. Both participated in the Fourth of July festivities, particularly the fish fry and float decorations. In 1980, Ruth was named Woman of the Year during the festivities.

For Stanley and Ruth, family was their top priority. Stanley had a brother, Harold and two sisters, Helen and Georgia who lived in the area. Ruth had three sisters, Elva, Lena, and Ethel Allison. Ethel lived in the family home with their father, Solomon Allison. Family consisted of siblings and their children. They always celebrated major holidays and birthdays together. The children shared their favorite books and stories and enjoyed playing games. In the summer or fall, the families enjoyed picnicing in the Hocking Hills area. All family members had a long history of supporting the Lutheran Church in Ashville. Ruth and Stanley loved to entertain and they traveled extensively for business and pleasure. Judy and Mary Jo were a part of these many interesting road trips that included over forty-six states before they graduated from high school.

After the Bowers moved to Friendship Village, they maintained warm ties with family and friends in Ashville. They received the "Pickaway News" and weekly Lutheran Church bulletins. When both were driving, they continued to come to Ashville to their high school class reunions and reminisce and share the many wonderful experiences and opportunities they had while living in a unique "small town." Ashville holds many special and important memories for the Bowers and Allison family members who lived here for many, many years.

~ Judy Nicely



CHARLES CORDLE DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN

Charles Cordle loves the Ashville Community beyond all measure. He has given a tremendous amount of his time and talents to saving our history. He was there the first day we started to renovate the old railroad station and has never stopped working to preserve local history. He has served as Vice President, President and Trustee for the Ashville Area Heritage Society and for thirty years he has been a goodwill ambassador and guide for the museum.

People from all over Ohio, America, and the world know about Ashville through him. But if you ask him, his biggest thrill is guiding local kids through all the exhibits and demonstrating the old Edison phonograph.

Those of us who have had the privilege of working with Charles on numerous projects can honestly say that we have never heard him raise his voice in anger or curse when things did not go right. I have never heard him speak ill of anyone.

We are pleased to note that Charles was selected along with Joe Dean, Bob Mabe, and Jean Siriano as Distinguished Citizens by the Ashville Community Club and honored each of their contributions at the Fourth of July Celebration.



Bicycles and bicyclists were everywhere.

XOBA

It is not every day that hundreds of bicyclists touring across Ohio descend upon Ashville, but that is exactly what happened on Tuesday morning, July 28th. The Across Ohio Bicycle Adventure tour operated by Columbus Outdoor Pursuits made it a point to stop in and see Ohio's Small Town Museum.

Here is the note sent to the museum volunteers:

"Thank you for welcoming the riders on the 12th Annual Across Ohio Adventure—The Ice Cream Tour. Our riders said that Ohio's Small Town Museum was their favorite attraction on the route. Our riders took lots of photos which will provide memories for years to come."



BIG FUN IN A SMALL TOWN

Brian Albright got it right. His article in the February, 2009 *Country Living* magazine featured the expanded Ohio's Small Town Museum and the educational, but fun displays visitors can view.

"The exhibits are a mix of the exceptional and the everyday, intermingling common items from the town's past (bottles, the first town directory) with the accomplishments of the town's most famous sons and daughters.

"The older part of the museum is lined with glass cases stuffed with items from local schools and theaters, uniforms from both World Wars and oddly shaped marching band instruments. There is a lobby where Charlie Morrison continues to hold court every morning along with various members of the AAHS and whoever else wanders in.

"The new annex, which more than doubled the size of the museum, is brightly lit and much more open, with neatly framed displays covering everything from the local mop factory to the nearly famous country rock band McGuffey Lane."

Brian's fine 2-page article brought us a slew of visitors from all over the state. Thanks, Brian, for the wonderful publicity.

WALTER STEWART—A STORY OF DETERMINATION



If there was ever a "feel good" story about someone charting their own course out of despair, it has to be the story of Walter Stewart. Walter is making a name for himself as a starting defensive end, red shirt freshman on the 2009 Cincinnati Bearcats football team.

"From a coaching standpoint, this is how you get motivated, when you see a guy like Walter Stewart ... have so much success as a

freshman and have a bright future in front of him," UC coach Brian Kelly said. "That's what gets you fired up and energized about coaching a kid like that."

Walter moved to this area with his foster parents, Keith and Lynn Fields. He credits them for charting his path.

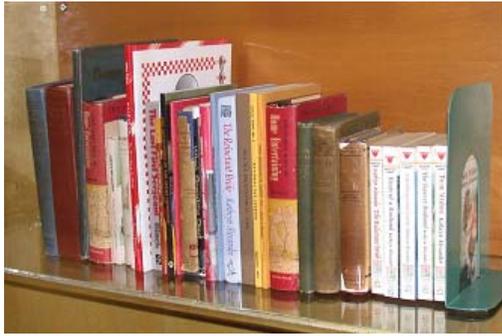
Stewart's easygoing personality and obvious athletic ability allowed him to assimilate easily into his adopted hometown, and that athletic ability combined with fierce determination has made him an impact player in only his second year at the University of Cincinnati. He is a small-town star on the way to accomplishing big-time feats.

The young man without a home has found one in an unlikely place, and he is doing so well on and off the field that he can dream of a day when his mom, his mom's extended family, the Fields family and the many foster children they help raise can form their own cheering section at Nippert Stadium.

"To know you have so many people behind you," Stewart said, "it's just a great feeling."

~ Scott Priestle @ CNATI.com





ASHVILLE AREA AUTHORS DISPLAY

We have started collecting books written by Ashville area authors. Our collection is missing about thirty known books, but at least we have a start. It turns out that area residents were not as illiterate as some of our urban friends supposed.

Gale Leatherwood, 1946 graduate of Ashville-Harrison High School, joins the long line of published poets with his new self-published book: *"Thoughts Of A Dreamer"*. Gale's poetry is both serious and slyly comical, and covers an eclectic range of subjects and expresses the impact of people and places throughout his life. The book was published by Vantage Press, Inc., 419 Park Ave. South, New York, NY 10016. It can be ordered from Borders and Amazon.

Larry Fullen's new book *"The Broncos of 1945"* is scheduled to be published by Authorhouse this February.

John Pabst followed up his first children's book, *"Millennium: The Worst Best Dog in the World"* with *"Millennium's First Christmas"*



GOOD MORNING COLUMBUS

Johnny DiLoretto, reporter for WTTE Fox 28, Good Day Columbus, featured stories and items found in Ohio's Small Town Museum. Johnny reported on Teddy Boor's Traffic Light, Hatfield's Eye-Que game, the Driverless Car, Chic-Chic, Buster the Dog, the 17-star U.S. flag, Ward's sonic sifter, and a myriad of other things.

THE AAHS LEGACY ENDOWMENT FUND CONTINUE TO GROW THROUGH DONATIONS

Since its inception, contributions totaling more than \$20,000 have been invested in the AAHS Legacy Endowment. 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 | \$900 |
| Mary Ellen Hinkle | \$750 |
| Maud Elizabeth Hines | \$17,250 |

Anyone wishing to make a tax-deductible contribution to the Fund in anyone's honor 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

2009 AAHS FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Assets

General Fund

| | |
|----------|------------------|
| Checking | 8,435.59 |
| Savings | <u>18,658.04</u> |
| | \$27,093.63 |

Building Fund

| | |
|-------------------------|---------|
| Certificates of Deposit | \$83.50 |
|-------------------------|---------|

Restricted Asset

| | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| AAHS Endowment | <u>\$16,545.52</u> |
| Total Assets | \$43,722.65 |

Liabilities

| | |
|-------------------|--------|
| Total Liabilities | \$0.00 |
|-------------------|--------|

Net Worth

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Total Net Worth | <u>\$43,722.65</u> |
|-----------------|--------------------|

2010 AAHS OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

President - Mike Kindt

Vice-President - Belva Morrison

Treasurer - Andrew Hite

Secretary - Rose Jamison

Trustees - Linda Cummins (2012); Charles Cordle (2011); Shirley Marion (2011); Charlie Morrison (2012); Bob Hines (2012)

ASHVILLE AREA HERITAGE SOCIETY 2010 PREPAID MEMBERSHIP AS OF 12/31/2009

Lifetime Members

Josie Ann Aldenderfer, Scott Allen, B. Bruce Barnes, Louise Barr-VanTongeran, Daniel Barth, Bob Bartholomew, Evelyn Bastian, Leo Berger, Dennis & Carol Blaney, Robert & Barbara Bowers, Robert & Katherine Boyer, William Boyer, Carl & Mary Bumgarner, Linda Burns, Ralph Burns, Barbara Carder, Eleanore Chandler, Jim & Lyda Cook, Lisa & Mark Coon, Charles & Cleora Cordle, Max & Dorothy Cormany, Kay E Cremeans, Terri Cromley, Barbra Cummins, Linda Cummins, Art & Ada Lou Deal, Joe & Eleanor Dean, Marty Dore', Kathryn Dum, Carol Duvall, Melvin C Eisaman, Ellery & Pamela Elick, Judith Fischer, Bob & Debbie Forquer, Terry Frazier, Dr. Michael Freeman, Charles W. Fridley, Larry Fullen, Louella Garrett, Stanley & Donna Gloyd, Russ Gregg, Colton Henson, Paul & Vivian Hickman, Annabell Hines, Chuck & Mary Jane Hines, John & Renee Hines, Nolan Hines, Robert & Diane Hines, Andrew Hite, Mary Holbrook, Ruth Howell, Bob & Carol Huffer, Mary Hume, Tiffany & Angel Jackson, Rose Jamison, Jordan Christopher, Hanna Marie Jordan, Kathryn Kight, Michael Kindt, Dick & Loche Kline, George MD Kraft, 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 McCallister, Charles & Dolores Messick, Richard & Violet Messick, Ralph Mets, Ula Metzler, Robert Graham Miles Jr., Brian Miller, Linda Mithoff, Michael & Janet Moore, Belva Lou Morrison, Charles D. & Rhonda Morrison, Charles W. & Mona Morrison, Walter & Lori Myers, Robert Nothstine, Paul O'Day, Boyd & Sandy Oliver, Jacqueline Olney, Pickaway County Historical & Gen. Societ, Darlene Quick, Betty Richards, Thomas & Eileene Rife, David & Janet Roese, Gretchen Seitsinger, Bill & Coral Sherman, Brent & Kendra Sherman, Elizabeth Sliwinski, Eleanor Sondey, Roger & Patricia Southward, Pamela Starr, Swanhilda Burgoon, Robert Swoyer, Judith Thomas, Daniel Truex, Barbara Valentine Younkin, Virgie

Vause, Andy & Pam Ward, Hildegard Ward, Louise Warner, Betty Wears, Carolyn Weigand, Susan Wendt, Kendall Wharton, Merrily Williams, Eugene & Jane Wilson, Marge Wilson, Michael & Sandra Wilson, Pamela Woodruff, Mary Irene Younkin.

Individual and Family Members

Jeff & Elizabeth Allen, Eleanor Barr, Thomas Cline, Barbara Davis, Arlene & Chester Fortner, Darryl & Jodi Glick, Gay Henson, Grant & Robin Hossfeld, Wilma A Immelt, J's Barber Shop, Mark & Kim Knore, H E Luckett, Judy Myers, Weldon & Mabel Owens, Dorothy Pecora, Katherine Petty, William Plum, Tom & Carol Ramsay, Charles & Wilma Sark, Herbert Seymour, John Swingle, Gary W. Throp, Tim & PJ Tosca, Terry & Suzanne Trego, Carol Tussing, Larry & Rosan Ward, Harry Webb Jr., Martha Wharton, Mary Virginia Wilson.

Mutual Membership

Pickaway County Historical Society

2010 AAHS MEMBERS RENEWAL NOTICE

If your name is not on one of the above lists, please be sure to renew your membership. 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.

AAHS annual Membership renewals (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010) are now due and being accepted.

New members are welcome and needed.

Individual Annual \$20.00 Life \$200.00

Family (Includes children under age 18)
Annual \$25.00 Life \$250.00

Organizations Annual \$25.00

Small Business (less than 15 employees)
Annual \$25.00

Large Business (15 or more employees)
Annual \$200.00



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As each year passes we get closer and closer to a crisis. Currently our head docents are 78 and 83 years old. We are in dire need of volunteers. We also need the membership base to expand and get younger. Can you please help?

The same 10-12 people are doing all of the work (bake sales, mulching, cleaning, stuffing envelopes, raffles, setting up and breaking down at the picnic, extra help for large tours) and they need help. Can you please help?

Everyone whoever experiences our museum falls in love with it. If we all can bring in just one person it will help. But, to reiterate, that person should be from a newer generation. We realize that everyone is busy with their own lives, but

maybe if we find some new members we find some new volunteers. Can you please help?

At the rate we are going we will eventually have to limit the number of hours we are open. This might not seem to be an issue, but we have had established hours for years and altering them could cause conflicts. Also, we have lots of flyers and advertisement out that announce our hours. Changing the flyers would cost money that we do not have and do not want to spend. Can you please help?

Daily, we have two docent shifts: 10:00am-12:30pm and 12:30pm-3:00pm. On Saturday the shift is from 9:00am-12:00pm. Even one day off a week will be a blessing to our head docents. It would be wise to be trained by one of two while they are still available. Can you please help?

Now is the time for action.

~ Mike Kindt

YEAR IN REVIEW – 2009

By Rose Jamison

Visitors walking through the door to the Ashville Museum are greeted by a recording of James Earl Jones telling about the Ashville Traffic Light which hangs straight ahead. Lynn Dountz Brooks, a TVHS graduate, introduces Mr. Jones.

Additional recordings featuring other stations in the museum are planned. A self-guided tour sheet is available for museum visitors to follow and plaques indicating the stations are now in place.

The following committees were appointed by President Steve Clay:

Legal and Finance – Andy Hite
Membership – Shirley Marion
Program – Mike Kindt
Historical Research – Charles Cordle
Acquisitions – Charlie Morrison
Public Relations – Charlie Morrison
Newsletter – Bob Hines
Refreshments – Rose Jamison
Museum Store – Mike Kindt
Museum Guide – Bob Hines
Library – Dorothy Cormany
Fund Raising – Rose Jamison
Janitorial – Shirley Marion
Building Maintenance – Joe Dean

Teays Valley School District can boast of many published authors, some of whose books are in the Ashville Museum. Others are still in print and may be purchased; however, funds are needed. The District also boasts of many patent holders. We have compiled an enormous notebook file of patent information relative to our community. The book is housed in the museum.

Teays Valley School District teachers are encouraged to make use of the many and varied resources the museum has to offer.

A book entitled “Crossroads of Liberty” is about Rickenbacker Air Base and its importance. Bob Hines believes this book should be purchased for the museum.

On February 26, John DiLoretto, Fox 28 reporter, broadcast live from the museum on the Good Day Columbus Show. He interviewed Bob Hines, Charlie Morrison, Charles Cordle, Steve Clay and Dorothy Cormany. Glenn Clay has prepared a DVD of the broadcast, copies of which are available for purchase at the museum.

The Ashville Museum was featured in the February 2009 edition of the South Central Electric Country Living Magazine. Sixteen visitors attributed their visit to reading this story.

Terry Frazier spoke at the February AAHS meeting about the 2010 Pickaway County Bi-centennial. One of Terry’s plans is to compile an atlas showing the progression of Pickaway County since its inception. Pickaway County Commissioner, Ula Jean Metzler, is holding a series of planning meetings.

AAHS volunteers are publishing a historical type cookbook featuring recipes of our parents and grandparents as well as modern day cooks, including stories and pictures.

Bob Hines designed and constructed additional display panels for the museum, including Teays River and Stages Pond. The Plaskolite (plexiglass) for the panels was donated by David Chan and assembled by the Begemy Company.

We purchased, online, a stuffed Boston Terrier that closely resembles Clyde Brinker’s “Buster, the dog who voted Republican”.

Volunteers with woodworking skills are needed to make models of museum items, e.g, Go Ball Game, Oman’s Gyroplane, Largest Woman in the World’s chair, etc. Also needed are volunteers with computer skills.

Two successful Wendy’s Burger Bash fundraisers were organized by Steve Clay.

Larry Harris, Circleville resident and history buff, presented a slide show about the building of the Ohio Erie Canal.

Joe Dean was inducted into the 2009 Central Ohio Area Council on Aging, Senior Hall of Fame, representing Pickaway County. Joe, who donated many hundreds of hours remodeling the museum, was nominated by the AAHS for his volunteerism.

Charles Cordle reported that our traffic light would appear in the June 2009 edition of Esquire Magazine,

Steve Clay notified the AAHS Trustees that he would not be able to complete his term as president because of his night work schedule made it difficult to attend and run meetings. The trustees asked then vice president, Mike Kindt, to assume the role of president and he accepted. Fortunately for the society, Steve has been able to devote daytime hours to the museum.

Eighty Ashville Elementary 4th grade



Annual Picnic at the Ashville Park in September



Ashville 4th of July Festival Information Booth

Year in Review – 2009 continued

students and teachers toured the museum with guides, Steve Clay, Charlie Morrison, Charles Cordle, Rose Jamison, Gay Henson and Shirley Marion. The children were treated to home made cookies. All were impressed with the museum.

Volunteers sold older model tee-shirts, baked goods, hot dogs and bottled water at the June and August yard sales, as fund raisers for the museum.

AAHS volunteers manned the information booth at the Ashville 4th of July festival. Items sold were '2009' tee shirts, souvenir coffee cups and souvenir playing cards, traffic light charms, badges and other museum memorabilia.

TVHS art students participated in the '2009' tee-shirt design competition, under the direction of Mike Kindt and art teacher, Cheryl Cherry. The shirts were printed by Steve Paul, as in years past.

Ruth Howell's sister, Judy Skerl, of Wichita, Kansas designed and constructed a traffic light wall hanging and a red-white and blue lap-quilt and donated them to the AAHS for a raffle.

Visitors to the museum included representatives of the Ohio News Network and representatives of the Ohio

Historical Society (interviewing Charlie Morrison and taking pictures) and twenty seniors from the First Baptist Church of Groveport.

Twelve AAHS members attended the Tecumseh Outdoor Drama in September.

Our annual picnic was held at the Ashville Park in September. We had a very good time.

Museum Maintenance: Inspection of the main roof revealed a need for a new roof. Estimates have been obtained, but no decision has been made as to a course of action.

Linda Burns, Shirley Marion and Dorothy Cormany spread mulch on the Centennial Park Gardens. A rose bush was planted in memory of Jack Lemon. The village trimmed trees and cut off bushes, repaired the electric lamps in Centennial Park and supplied a new outside trash container. Downspouts on the museum building were replaced and hooked up properly by Bulldog Gutters.

The Floyd E. Younkin Branch Library celebrated its 10th year anniversary on December 13.

Our Christmas party was well attended and everyone had a good time.



Joe Dean, Charles Cordle, and Bob Mabe, Distinguished Seniors



AAHS Christmas party in December



Jim Irwin

GIFTS

We always appreciate it when people ask that their obituary include a statement asking friends to consider sending a donation to the Ashville Area Heritage Society in lieu of sending flowers. This is a wonderful way to pay tribute to the lives of people that have impacted our community.

We thank the families of Arby Lemaster, Joe Vause, Mike Cummins, Bernard Moore, and Jack Lemon for remembering us in this way.

We are equally indebted to people that remember the Society in their will. Mary Reid started this approach in her will back in the first years of our existence. Many others have made similar contributions since that time.

Our most recent gift of \$2,500 was presented from Jim Irwin's estate. Jim had an abiding love for all things related to this area. Jim participated in a number of programs discussing local history. We will certainly miss his sometimes humorous take on our local sports scene.

We also received numerous donations honoring the memory of Virginia Ann (Kraft) Weekley. Ann passed away June 6, 2009. During her life, she contributed historical items and information used in the Kraft Hardware display.

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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 WAR VETERANS

It has long been a desire of our organization to recognize the many young men and women from this area that perished while serving our country. We have lost youth in nearly every major conflict since the Civil War. We need your help identifying all individuals from Madison, Walnut, Scioto, and Harrison townships whose lives were cut short while in the service. Any names of individuals, names of living family members, memories, photos, or other items that can be copied will be welcomed.

~ Bob Hines