OUR MISSION

As a non-profit educational organization, the **Lorain County Historical Society** is committed to serve all persons and organizations interested in Lorain County’s past, present and future by: collecting, preserving, interpreting and presenting the history of Lorain County.

CONTENTS

President’s Message  .........................3
Note from the Director .......................4
Events ................................................6
Education ..........................................7
Collections ......................................8
Library ..............................................9
Affiliates ..........................................10
Support ............................................11
Staff ................................................14
Financials .........................................15

*Photos courtesy of Lorain County Historical Society unless otherwise noted. Cover photo by Rob Erick.*
2018 was another eventful year for the Lorain County Historical Society. Our programing was expanded to include more offerings to our members and the community. The education staff provided classroom presentations in the schools and hosted a variety of tour groups at our museums. Members continued to support and attend our various fundraisers making each event a success.

Throughout the year our members volunteered to assist with tasks ranging from raking up hickory nuts to stuffing envelopes. Work on exhibits continued as the World War I exhibit closed and plans were made for an exhibit to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote.

As we move forward in 2019 watch for more new programs, the opening of the 19th Amendment exhibit, and the relocation of offices at The Hickories from the basement to the second floor. Keep up to date with LCHS and other county historical groups with monthly issues of *Starr Lites*.

We thrive because of your support. Thank you.

*Jackie Kokai*  
*President*
You’re probably familiar with the adage: A picture is worth a thousand words. It’s easier to show something than to describe it. This can be true when you’re trying to tell a story, make a point, or talk to a room full of first graders.

The Lorain County Historical Society’s collection includes approximately 10,000 photographs. Using the “equation” above, that’s a total of 10 million words! If you add up the words in the *Bible*, Tolstoy’s *War and Peace*, *To Kill A Mockingbird*, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, Toni Morrison’s novel *Beloved*, and the entire *Harry Potter* series, it would still only be about 2.2 million words.

I love Harry, Ron, and Hermione, but clearly we have a lot of stories to tell.

Pictured here is Alberta Elkin Haas, who served in the United States Navy as a Seaman First Class during World War II. Haas was stationed on an island off the northwest coast of the the U.S., where she worked as a radio operator intercepting coded transmissions. It was only decades after the war ended that Haas was able to talk about her important contribution to the war effort. Last year, part of her uniform was put on display at the History Center. This artifact tells many stories: World War II, war on the home front, and women at war.

Telling Alberta Haas’ story is exactly what we do at LCHS, and it is your gifts, through funding and collections, that make this work possible. With your help, we are able to share local history stories with thousands of Lorain County students, residents, and visitors every year and we are able to provide resources to educators and researchers.

Thank you for allowing us to share your history. We are truly grateful!

Kerri Broome
*Executive Director*
YEAR IN REVIEW
EVENTS

We had a full calendar in 2018, from our Valentine Tea in February when we went back in time to the “Nifty ’50s” to the Holiday Gala in December, with a visit from Father Christmas at The Hickories. Working together, our volunteers and staff planned large and small events to provide funds and engage new people of all ages in our work. There’s nothing quite like seeing the picturesque lawn of The Hickories full of people enjoying summertime fun at the annual Ice Cream Social!
In 2018 the Education Staff - Janet Bird, Anne Michael and Jim Smith - presented more than 200 programs to over 6,600 people. A good number of these programs were given in the Amherst, Avon, Elyria and Midview School Districts. The territory covered by these presentations stretched from Lakeside to Lakewood, but focused on the communities of Lorain County. The staff also provided tours to over 700 people, many of these elementary students from Lorain County Schools. New cemetery “Spirit Walks” were added in 2018 that were very successful. Each staff member also developed and presented new programs throughout the year. Overall, a very busy year!

Support from the Community Foundation of Lorain County and the Nordson Corporation Foundation make this work possible. Thank you!
COLLECTIONS

LCHS received over 450 items from 71 donors in 2018. The collection now includes over 18,300 items. In order to improve records, our archivist, along with entering new accessions, updated object descriptions and locations, scanned photographs, and photographed items. He has also preserved photographs and documents in archival folders and boxes. LCHS presented the World War I and World War II exhibits at the History Center and an Elyria exhibit at The Hickories. We have partnered with Lorain’s Agudath B’nai Israel Synagogue to scan and archivally preserve the Synagogue’s collection of 110 group photographs, the earliest of which dates to 1924. This project is being funded by The Fields Galley Private Foundation,
The Johnson Family library at the History Center received close to sixty inquiries last year. The majority of searches were genealogical in nature, with house-related inquiries a close second. In addition, several researchers visited in person to examine our city directories and map collection, look for local photos and peruse our clipping files. Two books by local authors were added to the collection this past year: *Murders, Mysteries and History of Lorain County, Ohio 1824-1956* by Don Hilton and *Hidden History of Lorain County* by Kelly Boyer Sagert. It has been a pleasure to assist Elyria native Marci Rich with her research for her “Look Back Elyria” articles, published periodically in the *Chronicle Telegram*. 
The **WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION** aids LCHS in furthering interest in regional cultural heritage with special emphasis on the support of LCHS’s property and goals. In 2018 the group continued its regular schedule of meetings and special luncheons. Our June meeting included a luncheon at the historic home of Mary Ann Kloss, and members brought a favorite dish to share. To celebrate the Thanksgiving and Christmas season, we had a luncheon at The Hickories featuring a traditional chicken casserole. The Bakeless Bake Sale and Wreath Sale fundraisers were successfully held last year, and a chocolate sale was added. The Women’s Association helps to keep The Hickories decorated seasonally throughout the year. Meetings are usually held at the History Center on the fourth Tuesday of the month, and all are welcome to come learn more.

The **ELYRIA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION** (EHA) is an affiliate organization of the LCHS. It helps preserve Elyria’s heritage by presenting programs and participating in projects that are relevant to Elyria’s history. The group meets quarterly on the fourth Wednesday of January, April, July, and October. Membership is open to any LCHS member with additional dues of $5 per person. In 2018, the group continued to work on the restoration of the 1902 horse trough/fountain from Lake Avenue. The group also continued to maintain a showcase in the lobby of City Hall. Plans for 2019 include repairing damaged markers and re-mapping the Ridgelawn Cemetery tour and making application to the State for an Ohio Historical Marker honoring William Graves Sharp.
Thank you to our 2018 donors and members! We could not do our work without you!

ENDOWED LIFE MEMBERS

Ruby $10,000 to $19,999
William & Janet Bird

Emerald $5,000 to $9,999
Elizabeth Mulligan
Patrick & Freda Verburg

Sapphire $2,000 to $4,999
Nancy Baldauf
Steve & Sherri Chavez
Robert & Marcia Ebert
Fred & Lynda Gatz Helyes
Margo Hirth
Laurie Hoke
Jacqueline Kokai
Kevin & Pam Monschein
John & Maureen Musson
Benjamin G. & Sara Jane Norton
Ada Gates Patton
Jaki Pearce
Kenneth & Karen Rothgery
Jeff & Karen Sigsworth
Michael & Linda Tomlin-Brenner
James & Patricia Vandemark
Clarence & Mary Ann Wills

Life Members
Jack & Mitzi Baird
Jim Callihan
Jane Coven
Al Doane
Amalia Hoke
John & Helen Farrar
Edward & Linda Greenaway
Joan Kamper
Gilda Kaplan
Mary Keys
Jan Kleinberg
William Loufman
Karil Lyon
Dorothy MacIntyre
Lila McGinnis
Steven McQuillin
Cindy Nord
Ginny Palmer
Marty Perry
Arthur & Mary Ann Powell
Russell & Barbara Reed
William Rorick
Helen Charms Schaefer
Kenneth Sommer
Shirley Sprague
Elaine Stevenson
George & Marjorie Strom

Patron Members
Maud Andre de la Porte
Ellen Andrews
David & Ellen Basinski
Laurence & Karen Bettcher
Barb & Terry Brady
John & Danielle Bryan
Community Foundation of Lorain County
Andy Culberson
Peter & Maureen Davie
Phyllis DeMark
Fritz & Polly Dengel
Dave Dicken - Dicken Funeral Home
Michael Dubuc
Anthony Gallo - Lorain County Chamber of Commerce
John & Sally Grieb
Marcia & Ron Harmon
Robert & Marilou Hiltabiddle
Bill & Bonnie Ivancic
Richard Simpson Jerauld
Linda & David Karohl
Brian Klijn - Edward Jones
Nick & Maryann Ksenich
Robin & Denise Marquardt
Lynn Newell
Benjamin & Brenda Norton
Lois Ohlemacher
Ellen Otis
Talia Starr
Jane Stewart
Sherie Watson
Charles & Christine Wirth
Kay Zielazienski

Richard & Annalea Rorick
Jim Slaughenhaupt
Joe & Sandy Strong

Garford Club Members
Brad Engelland
Steve & Kathy Kaplan

Heritage Members
Ron & Melinda Billings
Gail & Kevin Flanigan
David George
Edward Martin
Fred & Flora Ouweleen
Sustaining Members

Philip & Angela Bak
Roger & Marilyn Bauer
Robert Baumann
John & Wendy Beckett
Joanne Biasal
Holly & Greg Brinda
Margaret Brooks-Terry
Brian & Joan Brown
Kevin & Lisa Brubaker
Terry & Amy Butler
Leonard Czarnecki & Cynthia Murnyack-Czarnecki
James & Cindy Czerski
Kathryn Dean-Dielman & Brad Dielman
The Fortnightly Book Club
Fred & Linda Donaldson
Ellen Drell
Gloria & Bill Erickson
Holly Fauver
Gary & Andrea Fischer
William & Jane Fowls
Steve & Mary Ann Francis
Judith Friedman
John & Dian Haynes
Carol Hobert
Neal & Cheryl Hubbard
Frank Kosem
Linda & Jeff Kras
Richard & Christine Laubenthal
Carlee Mahajan
Gayle Manning
David McGuire
Lynd & Robert Miller
Jane Nord
James & Cheryl Piper
Laura Ploenzke - Avon Lake Public Library
Barry & Milagros Pyne
Donald & Marcella Rothgery
Jay & Jean Rounds
Charles & Susan Schillig
Beverly & Richard Schmittgen
Edward Schweagarle
Robert & Sherry Tarry
Roy & Libby Thomas
Michael & Patti Thomin
Ralph & Christine White
Craig & Christine Willing
Pat Worcester

Family Members

Ed & Barb Abahazi
Kim & Gil Ach
Tom & Kathy Aden
Joe & Jennifer Arthur
David Ashenhurst
Paul & Laurie Bate

John Battcher
Sam Battle
Roland & Phyllis Baumann
Bruce & Mickey Becher
James & Lee Ann Berlyoung
Tim & Cindy Bertovich
Mike & Nikki Bird
Leonard & Jeanne Boey
Rita Bowen
Ed & Marilyn Brill
Lawrence & Eleanor Broome
Nathan & Kerri Broome
Art & Pat Bucknell
Don & Dee Carman
Jim & Marianna Carney
Jamie & Pam Christian
Ken & Jackie Collett
Luis & Tammy Colon
Roger & Fran Cooper
John & Clare Coulis
Perry & Maureen Crandall
Jim & Vickie Crawford
Bill & Martha Crowell
Shane Croxtom
Jeffrey Curtiss
Bill & Bonnie Cutcher
John & Helen Cutter
Ben & Christine Davey
James & Laura Deery
Richard Delombard
Bob & Helen Dupont
Joseph & Sheryl Elinsky
Linda & Ronald Ellis
Jeff & Denise Evans
Scribner & Ann Fauer
Tim & Kris Ferguson
Tom & Renee Flowers
Richard & Denny Fogel
Darla & Greg Folkwein
Kenneth Frankel & Celeste Bras
Ron & Barbara Gei
Susan & Michael Gerhardinger
Dennis & Sandra Gidich
Joan Glasgo & Jim Collins
Lisa A. Locke Graves & Dan Graves
Eric & Cheryl Greenly
Robert & Shannon Haas
George & Cindy Hasko
Tadaaki & Susan Hatta
Edwin G. & Carol J. Haywood
Alex & Stormee Heyd
Sara & Ben Hobbs
Tom & Laurie Hoerle
Charles & Bonnie Holtzman
Nancy & Eugene Horvath
Donald & Joyce Ignatz
Wil & Marlene Jacobs
Tom & Joanne Janas
Mark & Jackie Jessie
Jilliane & Bryan Jimenez
Paul & Kathy Justy
Nancy Kachmarik & Angela Pierce
Gary & Mary Kailes
Leo & Marilyn Kenzik
John & Linda Keys
Paul Kistner
Denise Klammer
Bill & Mary Ann Kloss
Rebecca Kois
Miki Kopocs
Joseph & Lynn Koster
Paul & Carol Landolfo
Marilyn Law
Dr. & Mrs. Dennis Lehman
Paul & Bev Lieux
Julie & Matthew Limbach
Jerry & Sally Logar
Michael Lotko
William & Nancy Malesky
Cindy Martin
Marty & Kathy Martinez
Douglas & Kimberly McDonald
Roger & Jan McFrederick
Mark & Donna McGuire
Peter & Claudette Mealwitz
Alan & Mary Melnyk
Anne & James Michael
Dennis & Kathi Milleti
Doug & Marge Mulder
Bill, Diane & Matt Nahorn
Rory Nemeth & Larry Worden
Kirk & Patricia Nevins
Charlotte & Carl Norris
Kathleen & William O’Malley
Dennis & Rita Pallardy
Lou & Carol Pongracz
Carolyn & Lyal Pritt
Diane & Ray Pucko
Chris Pyanowski & Amanda Deery
Errol & Mary Ratliff
Antoinette & Bill Ries
Bob & Sandy Rieth
Mike & Gayle Ritsko
Jay & Beverly Ross
Ken & Gloria Roth
Thomas & Janet Ruh
Anson & Marion Russell
Joseph & Maggie Savoy
Jennifer & Eric Schibley
Ernie & Suzanne Sciulli
Scott & Rebecca Serazin
Bob & Judy Skillicom
Ruth & Doug Skillicom
Greg & Susan Smith
Glen & Ali Smith
Jim & Sherry Smith
Mark & Sheila Smith
Matthew & Rhonna Smith
Sandy & Les Spike
David & Constance Spillar
The Lorain County Historical Society is grateful to those who include us in their estate planning and in memorial giving. We extend our deepest gratitude to the families of Elizabeth Bergman-Camp, Gilda Kaplan, Betty Mulligan, and Kenneth Rothgery.
FOUNDATIONS
Community Foundation of Lorain County
The Fields Galley Private Foundation
Nordson Corporation Foundation

FUNDS
Andrew and Phyllis W. Allan Fund
East Elyria Kiwanis Endowment Fund
Elyria Rotary Club
Ivan (Skip) Johnson Fund for Lorain County
Historical Society
Lorain County Historical Society Endowment Fund
John F. Smith Memorial Fund No. 1
Nancy Symons Fund
Katharine G. Thomas Charitable Trust

LCHS STAFF
Kerri Broome
Executive Director

Bill Bird
Facilities Supervisor

Janet Bird
Education Coordinator

Eric Greenly
Archivist

Donna McGuire
Collections & Research Assistant

Anne Michael
Education Coordinator

Pam Monschein
Office Manager

Jim Smith
Education Coordinator
2018 FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

Revenues, Gains, and Other Support
Contributions and Grants.....................................................$210,998
Fees and Dues........................................................................66,677
Earnings and Gains................................................................(22,731)
Total Revenues, Gains, and Other Support..............$254,944

Expenses
Personnel Costs.......................................................................$139,098
Occupancy........................................................................61,149
Investment Fees......................................................................6,093
Other Expenses......................................................................15,761
Building and Grounds...........................................................18,634
Membership and Programs....................................................1,421
Collections and Conservation..............................................895
Fundraising...........................................................................11,022
Total Expenses......................................................................$254,073

Net Revenue........................................................................$871

STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS (CASH BASIS)
December 31, 2018

Assets
Unrestricted Fund.................................................................$413,017
Temporarily Restricted Fund...........................................562,175
Unrestricted Building Fund..................................................821,931
Endowment Funds Held by Others........................................220,132
Total Assets........................................................................$2,017,255

Liabilities & Fund Balance
Liabilities...............................................................................$567
Fund Balances........................................................................2,016,688
Total Liabilities & Fund Balance...........................................$2,017,255
Lorain County
Historical Society

Lorain County History Center
284 Washington Avenue
Elyria, OH 44035

The Hickories Museum
509 Washington Avenue
Elyria, OH 44035

440-322-3341
lchs@lchs.org
www.lchs.org