

UPTON ASSOCIATION *Update* PUBLISHED BY THE UPTON ASSOCIATION, INC.



From the President:

Planning for Our 30-Year Celebration

By Ken Conklin

It doesn't seem possible a year has gone by since becoming President (for the 4th time). I am extremely happy to report that NONE of my cabinet members have resigned!

Next year, we will be celebrating our 30th year of becoming the Upton Association. We are presently making plans for various events throughout 2019. Harriet would never believe that her home has been saved; that there is an organization named after her; and that the organization is highly respected in the community.

None, and I repeat, NONE of this could be possible without the dedication of many, many people. I take great pride that our organization is a total volunteer organization. What a blessing!

Without your membership and involvement, we would not succeed. If you are reading this newsletter, you have the opportunity to give a year's membership to a friend who presently is not a part of the Upton Association. I encourage you to submit a name for membership.

I would like to thank the Upton Board for their dedication and support. Sometimes, this president has some strange ideas but the Board is very supportive. THANK YOU!

It is an honor to serve as president of this fine organization and I look forward to seeing you at one, two, or ALL of the events this year.



MEMORIAL WALL TO VISIT WARREN

By Kay Fisher

This coming August "The Wall That Heals," a huge replica of the Vietnam Memorial Wall, will visit Warren under the sponsorship of the Warren Heritage Center (Kinsman House). It will be placed on the large south lawn of Packard Music Hall. Of special interest to the Upton Association are the eight women whose names are on the Wall. All were Army nurses who died in airplane crashes, rocket explosions and a rare Asian virus.

Of special interest is 1st Lieutenant Sharon Ann Lane from Ohio who was working in an Evacuation Hospital when a rocket exploded, killing her and her patients. These women were contributing even in an all-man's world.

The Wall is a reminder that today's women are serving in all aspects of the world. The suffragists would be so proud of them. Please visit the Wall and pay your respect.



RENTAL REPORT: A Personal Story

By Kathy Lepro

In previous newsletters, in addition to bits of information about Upton House rentals, I provided a tally of the various gatherings. However, since that information was listed in the recent membership letter, I decided to take a different approach in this report.



past January, with the theme, “Baby, It’s Cold Outside.” Notice the picture of the snowflakes adorning the Upton dining room.

I’m happy to share my personal story with all of you to give you a sense of what the Upton House means to me.

Back in the late 1990’s, my husband and I attended our first Upton-sponsored event. We thoroughly enjoyed the delicious appetizers and the choices of fine wines, as well as the opportunity to meet many new people. We were amazed at the beautiful garden setting and Harriet Taylor Upton’s lovely home. We lived, and still do, just a short distance away, and wondered why it took us so long to participate in an Upton activity.

The following year we had our daughter’s high school graduation party at the Upton. That was the beginning of many events we hosted at 380 Mahoning Avenue in Warren. Three and four years later our two sons had their parties at Harriet’s beautiful home as well.

It didn’t stop there. In the next several years following the three graduation parties, we had a total of five family reunions. It became so commonplace that we and our relatives would select a date and time, and no one even questioned where the gathering would be held. Where else but at the Upton House!

While on a planning committee for a class reunion, I suggested that fabulous location for a Friday night cocktail party. Those who came from near and far found the perfect spot to reminisce inside the house or outside on the patio that warm summer evening.

Jump ahead to 2016, the year of the Lepro weddings! All three of our children were married that year, and I’ll bet you can guess where the bridal showers were held. Since then, some dear friends and I planned three baby showers, the most recent of which was for our daughter this

I have great memories of the many gatherings with friends and family members over the years, and I also enjoy my task of managing the rentals for the Upton Association so that countless others can gather at such a great place. All of that has helped me convince perspective renters that they and their guests won’t be disappointed when they celebrate something special at Harriet’s beautiful home. And the results are in... no one ever is!

Will you be one of those renters some day? Will you spread the news that the Upton House is a wonderful place to have almost any type of an event? Thank you!

CURATOR REPORT

By Sandy Sarsany

Hark! What light from yonder ceiling breaks! The newest update to the Upton museum is the installation of track lighting. Thanks to Ken Conklin and an unidentified electrician, we can finally see everything, including what’s been hiding in the corners. The lights are not only functional, but attractive to look at. The lighting has been a long time problem there, so next time you visit the museum, look up and check them out.

Additionally, Ken Conklin donated a vintage Kodak camera, which will be housed in the library. The confirmation of the possible portrait of Harriet is still under investigation, but she is hanging in the foyer and is the subject of much discussion.



VOLUNTEER REPORT

By Marti Flint

As volunteer coordinator, I work with a wonderful group of people. These members are always willing to help with whatever projects come up during the year. Committees such as Harriet's Garden, the Women's Park or docents have a regular group of people that volunteer with these long term assignments and are always ready to welcome new members. As we approach our 30th anniversary, many new and exciting things are being planned. That means there will be more opportunities to find a special way to volunteer. Of course, the garage and holidays sales are great ways to be involved as well as helping decorate the house and assisting with the Mrs. Claus event. Thank you all for any part that you have played in making our organization stronger. The Upton is respected in the community because of the work its volunteers do. Consider being part of this dedicated group as you fill out your membership form or call Darlene or Marti to join us. Call Darlene Bennett at (330) 609-6108 or Marti Flint at (330) 772-5623.

EDUCATION REPORT

By Liz Clark

This is the second part of my story about Harriet that I started in the Fall Edition of the UPTON NEWSLETTER. (Remember, she had just met Susan B. Anthony). Harriet had a tremendous personality and could speak to large groups and gain their confidence and financial support. She was the treasurer of the Women's movement here in Warren, OH. As the women were working and their cause gaining in popularity, there were "Five Giants of Industry" that wanted to stop these suffragists. They were the Steel, Oil, Coal, Transportation (railroad), and the Liquor industries directed by the Carnegies, Vanderbilts, Rockefellers, etc., who fought the women because they wanted Child Labor Laws. The women wanted to stop the eight-year-old boys going into the coal mines, steel mills, etc., and keep the young girls from becoming scrubbing and cleaning maids. The women wanted the children in school. These giants hired the Pinkerton Detective Agency and they in turn hired thugs to stop these women. Their efforts were horrid. These "thugs" threw garbage, rotten eggs, tomatoes, horse and cow manure on the women as they marched or simply spoke in public. But, the worst thing these men could do to hurt these women was to use the name of the LORD in vain. (To be continued in the next edition)

Education was also a part of the Mrs. Claus Christmas program. As the children were listening to stories, doing crafts and eating, the adults gathered in the library where Liz Clark served tea and cookies and entertained them with a history of Martha Washington.

We were awarded a Neighborhood Success Program grant. This \$3,000 grant will be used to bus the 4th grade classes to historical sites in the community where docents will give them a tour and an explanation of the history. These docents have agreed to return for another year: Liz Clark, Marybeth Roman, Sue Smith, Ginnie Baran, Bonnie Williams, Vonnie Peterson, Kathy Majcher, Sandee Skovran, Pat Fuller, Rosemary Seibring, Gail Maurice, Jan Schweitzer and Sue Stoddart.

We are going to add more classes on the History of the Women's Movement so that others have the opportunity to learn more about this interesting topic.

ANSWERS TO HOUSE REPORT QUIZ FOUND ON PAGE 6

1. SUPPORT BRACKET ON BACK PORCH.
2. SUPPORT BRACKET ON BACK PORCH.
3. FRIEZE IN DINING ROOM.
4. STENCILING IN PARLOR
5. SUPPORT BRACKET ON LIBRARY PORCH.
6. FRONT PORCH RAILING
7. DETAIL AROUND FRONT DOOR.

Story Time with Mrs. Claus: Grateful for Volunteers

On December 8-10, 2017, Story Time with Mrs. Claus was held in the former home of Harriet Taylor Upton. Young children listened to winter and holiday stories, had their picture taken with Mrs. Claus in the parlor, decorated a picture frame, made a tree ornament in the kitchen and had a light child-friendly meal in the dining room. Their laughter, questions and smiles tell the whole story! While the children were engaged in their activities, the parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles were served refreshments in the Upton library and learned a bit of Upton history. The children left the event with lots of great memories, their craft projects, and in addition, they were given a decorated cookie and an activity book, and saying, 'See you next year, Mrs. Claus!'

This annual Upton event would not happen without all the wonderful volunteers! Mrs. Claus's 'elves' do everything – prepare the crafting activities, assist the children in making their craft items, bake and serve food, and teach a bit of local and national women's history.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU goes to: Ginnie Baran, Denise Chapman, Elizabeth Clark, Linda Davis, Tina Ellsworth, Esther Gartland, Linda Green, Roz Jackson, Jo Massaro, Peggy Paidas, Koreen Palm, Sue Smith, Sue & Ken Stoddart, Sandra Thorndike, Eddie Wolcott and Jennifer Wyndham.



Mrs. Claus was honored this year to have four young ladies, all former Story Time attendees when they were younger, return as "elfettes" to assist the children. I extend a SPECIAL THANK YOU to Isabelle Wyndham, Caleigh and Coleen Palm, Emma Hawkins and Abbey Chapman.

Love, Mrs. Claus

Where's the Beef?



By Kay Fisher

Susan B. Anthony's last public appearance was on the occasion of her 86th birthday in February 1906. She delivered a rousing oration that became known as her famed "Failure Is Impossible" speech.

Current President, Theodore Roosevelt, was impressed. He sent his own birthday greetings to Susan B. via telegram. What a compliment! Her response? "I wish the

men would do something besides extend congratulations. I have asked President Roosevelt to push the matter of a constitutional amendment allowing suffrage to women by a recommendation to Congress. I would rather have him say a word to Congress for the cause than to praise me endlessly."

It took 14 more years for Congress to finally pass a constitutional amendment giving suffrage to women.

WOMEN'S PARK: *Park beginning to wake up!*

By Marti Flint

As winter ends, a walk in the park is a great way to get some exercise and shake the blues away. Spending some time enjoying the lovely spring bulbs and watching as the park wakes up will put you in a festive mood.

Soon the Keepers of the Park will begin raking, pruning and planting to get ready for all the proms, weddings and special events that are held each year. This past fall new plants were added to enhance the beautiful area. A Nine Bark was placed behind the bench and several lavender plants were added near the pond. The committee will be removing the net and waking up the fish to start entertaining us with their antics.

We hope you will take some time to stop and enjoy the tranquil beauty and says hello to the ladies in pink shirts who will be "digging the dirt." Join us any Wednesday morning.

Garden Report: Getting Ready for Spring!

By Carol Olson

Here we go again.....
spring is coming and soon we will see Harriet's spring flowers pushing through the soil anxious to reveal their beauty to us.



Last fall wonderful garden volunteers continued to show up in the gardens until the very end of the growing season and helped put the gardens to bed: pruning, removing annuals and putting them into the compost bin for recycling, raking leaves, removing weed and mint, and emptying the stone pots. We left the Dusty Miller, Salvia and Sweet Peas hoping they would return in 2018. Ken raked all the leaves on the lawn. Our total volunteer gardening hours were 198. THANK YOU to: Hank Angelo, Darlene Bennett, Elaine and Ken Conklin, Kay Fisher, Larry and Marti Flint, Ann Miller, Carol Olson, Pat Proctor, Sandy and Paul Sarsany, their daughter Lesley Austin and her daughter Hannah, Phyllis Savakis, Kathy Seemann and Marilyn Thomas. Also, thanks to Kathy Ferris who helped pick up the flowers.

The 2018 season's plan includes teaching gardening to a Girl Scout Troop from Cortland. The Master Gardener volunteer instructors will be Barbara Beach, Marilyn Thomas and Carol Olson. There will be five

sessions. Session three will be a tour of Harriet's Gardens and the Women's Park. Session four will be held in Harriet's Gardens joining the garden committee volunteers in preparing the garden for our later flower planting. Session five the Girl Scouts will join the garden committee volunteers with the actual planting of flowers... what, where, when, why?

Harriet loved being outdoors and tending to her garden. I am sure if Harriet was here, she would be

delighted that young girls were learning how to garden in "her garden." Gardening was Harriet's favorite past time and it is also a favorite past time in America.

Kay and I invite anyone who is committed to gardening to join us for the kick-off luncheon on May 1st at 11:30 a.m. at Harriet's home. Let's bond together, have fun in the garden and improve our health. It is reported that you can reduce your risk of heart disease and stroke by 27% if you work in a garden. Gardeners are 11 pounds lighter than those who don't dig. You can cut your risk of Alzheimer's disease in half (50%) if you garden regularly. So, with all those benefits how can you afford to stay away?

Hope to see you soon with your gloves on and garden tools in hand!

Membership Report

By E. Carol Maxwell

As of March 1, 2018, the Membership drive has grown to 101 Members. This includes: 1 Benefactor, 2 Corporate, 16 Donors, 11 Friends, and 71 Single memberships. As a result, we received \$4,875 from Membership Dues and \$610 for our Endowment Fund.

We extend a BIG WELCOME to nine individuals who were gifted by Upton members with a Complimentary one-year Upton Association membership. They are Suzanne Ciferno by Judi Sheridan; Joyce Fleisher by Marti & Larry Flint; Marge George by Carolyn Price; Melissa Karman by Carol Olson; Jessica Lev by Harry Raptis; Peggy Paidas by Linda Davis; Debi Patchin by Terri Crabbs; Rebecca Patterson by Kay Fisher; and Judy Preston by Sue & Ken Stoddart. We look forward to including you in our Upton events and keeping this historical house as a place people want to visit.

Endowment Fund Receives Memorial Donations in 2018

By Judith Sheridan

Memorials for former board member Marguerite Bottorff have been received from the Warren City Professional Firefighters, the Monday Afternoon Club, Carol Olson, Ken and Elaine Conklin, Kay Fisher and Judi and Terry Sheridan. A memorial in memory of longtime members Janice Bland and Helen Zofko has also been received from Ken and Elaine Conklin. These donations were added to the Endowment Fund. The income from the Endowment fund will provide for the long term future financial stability of the Upton House.

HOUSE REPORT

By Ken Conklin

Improvements continue to be made to Harriet's House. Track lighting has been installed in the museum, which allows lights to be focused on various displays.

The display kitchen has been given a fresh coat of paint and again is crisp and clean. Windows have been washed and a thank you to Elaine for washing and ironing the curtains. Also, thanks to Roslyn Hahn for washing the window treatments in the dining room.

Harriet's House has many architectural features. The following pictures were taken inside and outside. Can you guess the location of each image? (Answers on page 3). I hope you enjoyed this little quiz.

Please visit Harriet's Home soon and often!



News & Notes

Check out the website www.uptonhouse.org calendar for the latest information on events.

SPRING LUNCHEON SET FOR CINCO DE MAYO

By Judith Sheridan

Sean Posey, author from Canfield, OH, will be the speaker at the Upton Spring Luncheon on May 5 at 12:30 p.m. Mr. Posey has written a book on the movie theaters of Mahoning and Trumbull counties that were built in the golden age of the silver screen. He will concentrate on the Trumbull County treaters and also include drive-in theaters in his presentation. There will be copies of 1930's movie magazines to remind us of the glamorous stars of that era and the movies in which they starred. Invitations will be sent in early April.



UPTON SALES REPORT

By Susan Stoddart

Christmas/Holiday Sale: Last November, we had another amazing sale even without any big ticket items and made more than \$1,700. We had lots of volunteers help but can always use more, especially when unforeseen things happen. At our last sale, our faithful cashier (Dotti Sabey) broke her wrist right before the sale and was unable to help.

Already, we have donations coming in for 2018 sales. The dates for those are: Summer Sale on July 13-14 and the Christmas/Holiday Sale on November 16-17. We appreciate both your donations and your time helping at the sales.

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSES

By Judith Sheridan

The open house for the public on the first Friday in December was well attended. There was an exhibit of vintage Christmas crèches from several board members and the usual fine cookie table. Sandy Mahaffey was the resident elf and handed out packaged cookies to children on the front porch. This was part of the annual downtown Warren promotion to bring people downtown. There was a parade that passed right in front of the Upton House and the local trolley was also doing a circuit to help move people around the core of the city.



CLAMBAKE ENJOYED BY ALL

By Judith Sheridan

More than 60 people filled the Upton Garden on a beautiful summer afternoon to enjoy a New England Clambake that was prepared on the west side of Cleveland at the Sachsenheim Club and delivered to Warren. Starting with wine, beer, and soft drinks, a table of snacks and munchies prepared by Upton board members led to a sumptuous meal of clam chowder, clams, baked potatoes, corn on the cob and homemade pies. Everyone was well fed by the end of the evening and it was a time of fellowship and camaraderie in Harriet's Garden. Music from the 40s, 50s, and 60s, was played by the Wendy Rose Duo.

Visit the Upton Association Website:
www.uptonhouse.org



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