

Johnson-Humrickhouse Museum

NEWSLETTER

FOURTH QUARTER 2009

Gimme Shelter

Oct. 24, 2009—January 3, 2010



JHM's final exhibit of 2009 features artwork on the theme of shelter, interpreted broadly to include conceptions of cover, protection and refuge. Some of the works illustrate a dwelling or an act of caring and others explore a feeling of shelter. The show includes work from 12 adult and 7 young artists. There is also an installation structure built by the museum's young adult and teen groups. The structure will serve as an interactive art display as visitors are encouraged to embellish the structure during the exhibit's ten-week run.

Acrylic by Esther Marie Versch Much of the show is composed of two-dimensional works, with photography dominating the media. Photographer Janelle N. Cotterman from Oregon recreates the solace of the West through her work. Robert Studzinsky of Bexley presents intimate views of caring through his photographs of indigenous people in the Amazon. Dorothy Ehrenberg brings us back home with her photograph of a pregnant woman and a child's comfort in her thumb. Using digital photography, West Chester resident Caroline Tompkins produces humorous images. Who hasn't wanted to find cover under a fringed green lampshade?

Visitors will also enjoy the depth of Kelsey Schott's beautifully executed oils on canvas portraying the homemaker-mother working to provide care. Esther Marie Versch, another Coshocton resident, achieves a sense of plodding survival in her acrylic entitled *Rescue Mission*.

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Digital Photograph by Caroline Tompkins

Mechanical Music Machines Demonstration October 22, 7:00 P.M.

There'll be Swinging, Swaying and Record Playing

JHM presents Coshocton's own "Mister Music," Dick Hoover, demonstrating antique record players, music boxes and all sorts of musical contraptions currently displayed in the Golden Gallery in the *Play It Again, Sam* exhibit. From the fascinating vintage music boxes and hand-cranked organettes to the early Edison cylinder phonographs and record players that fold up into a camera case, over 200 music-related items may be viewed and many demonstrated.

The information is fascinating. The music is irresistible—it will have you swaying in your seats and humming along to both classical and crooners. Admission is \$3.00 for adults, \$2.00 for children, and free to members.

Play It Again, Sam will be closing soon so this is an opportune time to see the exhibit.

Habitat for the Holidays Festival December 3, 7:00—9:00 P.M.



Coshocton Habitat and the Museum are having a party to celebrate the gift of shelter. Enjoy tasty hor d'oeuvres, local wines and fabulous desserts in the Montgomery Gallery. (We have asked chefs and friends who know their way around a pastry cloth to prepare their favorite desserts for this party.) Then we'll have an auction to sell a number of very cool birdhouses and a few choice pieces of artwork from the exhibit. Birdhouses, constructed by students at CHS, were given to local artists and creative folks to embellish for the auction. You'll want to pick a favorite for yourself or as a gift for that special person. All proceeds will be split between Coshocton's Habitat Chapter and JHM.

Advanced tickets are \$10; at the door, \$12. For more information or to purchase your tickets contact the museum at 622-8710..

**Museum Encounter for Home Schoolers
Shelter October 27**

We will use the *Gimme Shelter* exhibit as a jumping off point. After looking into various means of housing/shelter using the American Indian, Historic Ohio and Asian Galleries, we'll discuss the role of Habitat for Humanity in the world and our own need of shelter. During the program's second hour we'll create a shelter-inspired art project. Students: \$5; Parents: \$2. Call for reservations: 622-8710.

☆☆☆ Fun Times Had by All ☆☆☆

Hot Wings Over Coshocton

Lots of delicious hot wings, great music, good beer, cool aircraft and lots of friends and neighbors—a great mix at Hot Wings Over Coshocton, a collaborative fundraising event for the museum and the Coshocton County Airport. We heard heaps of praise about the event and hope to have it again. Winners of the hot wing contest were Team Rine-O who was awarded People's Choice, Best Classic Hot Wing and Best Gourmet Hot Wing, and Sport Zone who was awarded Best *Hot* Hot Wing. Congratulations!



Team Rine-O at the grill during the festival.



Mark Brown, SportZone's Kitchen Manager, accepts their award certificate.

Antique Appraisal at the Museum

We saw the unusual, the family heirloom, the discarded treasure, the well crafted and the knock off. It was a fun and entertaining evening thanks to Steve Maag, Mike Jenkins, Tom Dupaski and Terry Stanford of Kaufman Auction in Sugarcreek and our resident advertising art expert, Joe Kreitzer. We appreciate their contribution to the museum. People left saying, "Let's do it again!"



Night at the Museum

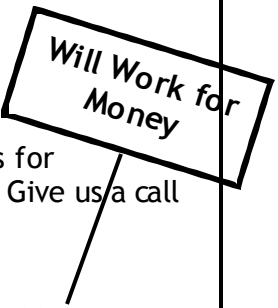
Who's that pioneer come to life in the Historic Ohio Gallery or that Ninja stealing the magical Chinese artifact? (ans: David Walters and Mike Cichon). And there was that Indian too (David Wickham). Night at the Museum was a tremendous success. Looks like we'll have to do it again soon.



Progress Made but Job Sponsors Still Needed

We have got into the habit of listing jobs that had been put on hold until we could find sponsors for them. A big *thank you* to Sam and Susan Guilliams and Rex and Janice Emler for donating the money to purchase a laser printer and wrapping and polishing cloths for silver. The list is getting smaller... but we can still use your help for the following projects. Give us a call if you can—622-8710.

- ☆Conservation Work: Acid-free paper for textiles – \$80.00
- ☆Kitchen Repair (Tear out built-in range and finish electrical work for new stove) \$400



Past Tense

Past Tense, written by museum registrar, Sharon Buxton, offers historical background for displayed artifacts

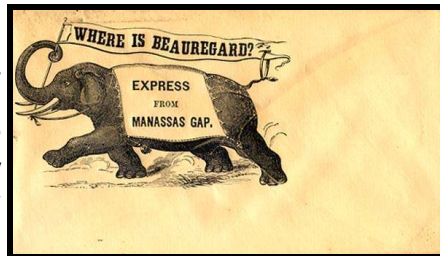
A War By Any Name

War of the Insurrection, War for Southern Independence, Slaveholders War, War Between the States, Great Rebellion, War to Save the Union, War of Northern Aggression, War in Defense of Virginia, Civil War, Mr. Lincoln's War, War of the Rebellion, War of Secession... More than a century has passed since the fighting between the Union and Confederacy was formally ended, but it remains by any name a tragic segment of our history.

Some (over 50,000!) enthusiasts choose to gain a historical perspective of the era by reenacting the events. Here at JHM, we have chosen to illustrate those times by preparing a display of Civil War memorabilia revealing direct involvement of area populace. Some will recognize family names on an 1863 draft notice for eligible Linton Township residents, or in a handwritten letter from a trouper camped in Chattanooga that wistfully requests news from home.

Answering correspondence might have been enclosed in a pictorial envelope. Patriotic support was expressed by the use of envelopes decorated with colorful caricatures, slogans and poetry evoking ridicule or sentiment. Over 1000 different designs were employed.

To gain an overall view of war news one could also resort to the periodicals of the times. Both *New York Illustrated News* and *Harper's Weekly* carried detailed coverage. The newspaper on display features a meticulously drawn illustration of *Hauling sugar and cotton from their hiding places in Memphis for shipment North.*



On the frontlines some of the 2500 that enlisted from Coshocton County employed military equipment like the canvas-covered tin canteen, one side a faded blue, the opposite, red. Hand-to-hand combat might involve a *wristbreaker* sword—so-named because of the weight of the weapon. Observers will note that the tip is broken off... as it was when discovered in Coshocton County near a fence row. Staff here like to speculate that on return from the war it might have been used as a farm tool, *turning swords into plowshares.*

Not all participants were involved in combat, although often facing the same risks. At one point, Sheridan directed the musicians, "Play them loud and keep on playing, and never mind if a bullet goes through a trombone or even a trombonist now and then." No trombones on display, but there is a Civil War rosewood fife.

With more than 200 fatalities in Coshocton County alone (as reported in *Hill's History of Coshocton County*), mourning dresses were common attire. The one displayed is of black taffeta and was worn by Mrs. Rachel Bordenkirker Hartman. Since a somber black fringe adorns the bodice and sleeves, the wearer was most likely in the second stage or mourning, when limited decoration would not be considered unseemly.

No matter which title the 19th c. conflict is given, perhaps more insight can be gained by viewing items from the time of the dark eras of U.S. past. As with all the artifacts in JHM, it is always our goal to use the collection to encourage learning and enjoyment.

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Visitors will also find a more nonrepresentational approach in the art quilt, *Wooded Sanctuary*, by June McFarland (Columbus), and the steel and carved stone sculptures by Todd Malenke (Fresno).

A small selection of children's artwork is also displayed in the show. On the whole, their work uses house, apartment and barn images to convey the idea of shelter. These elementary and middle-school aged artists have chosen a variety of media—colored pencil, clay, crayon and paper folding—for their work.

Gimme Shelter will also highlight the work of Habitat for Humanity in Coshocton County using photos, floor plans and interpretative materials. Most of the show's artwork is for sale and all profits from sales will be split between the museum and Coshocton's Habitat chapter. Exhibit sponsors are McCourt Insurance Restoration, DJ & Woodie's Vinyl Frontier and Raven's Glenn Winery.

