

# *Pathways: Morrow's Past, Today*

The Official Newsletter of the Morrow Area Historical Society

Spring 2014

VOLUME I, ISSUE 2

## **Meet Joey Hansted** Morrow Area Historical Society Liaison to Heritage Advisory Council

At their February 2014 meeting, the Morrow Area Historical Society Executive Board unanimously appointed Joey Hansted to serve as the Executive Board's Liaison to the Heritage Advisory Council. The Heritage Advisory Council is a cooperative effort of local historical societies and museums from Warren and Clinton Counties who work collaboratively to promote local history.

For those of you who may not know Joey, here is a brief introduction. "Joey (Everitt) Hansted - I grew up in an old house full of antiques outside of Butlerville - so many antiques that I often felt like I lived in a museum. I am a 1987 graduate of Little Miami and a 1991 graduate of Miami University with majors in Anthropology and History. After living out of the area for many years, I moved back to the Little Miami district in 2008 with my husband, Jon, and my kids, Caroline, a 7th grader, and Alex, a 5th grader. My family ties to the area go back to the 1800's. In fact, voting for the 1804 presidential election was held at an ancestor's house just outside of Morrow (the majority voted for Thomas Jefferson). I have taken several genealogy classes recently and am a volunteer for the Warren County Genealogical Society. I'm thrilled to combine my interest in history, my education, and my personal and family ties to the area to work with the Morrow Area Historical Society."

"Joey is a tremendous asset to the Morrow Area Historical Society and I am thrilled that she is willing to represent the Executive Board at Heritage Advisory Council meetings and events," said Rod Smith, founding MAHS Executive Board member. "Her knowledge and passion for local history are impressive. We are fortunate to have her on our team."

## **Morrow Union School Cornerstone**

### **Forgotten Relic Gets New Life By Marlene Schwartz-DeBoard**

The Morrow Union School, the second public school built in Morrow, was built in 1860 and on the same lot that the former Morrow School is on today. It was razed in 1914.

In May of 2006, the cornerstone was found by Donald Henderson, custodian at Morrow Elementary School. He said it was in back of a cabinet, facing a wall, in one of the storage rooms in the basement. It was broken in two pieces.



Photo from May 2006

In 2008, Donald Markesbery, a concrete contractor from Florence, Kentucky, whose wife attended Morrow School, was told of the stone and with several of his workers made a cement form to hold it. In August of 2008, Mr. Markesbery and his son brought their back hoe up from Florence, Kentucky, set the form, and placed the stone into it. This work was performed as gratis work and is greatly appreciated. The finished result is very nice and can be seen in the small garden in back of the now (sad to say) closed Morrow Elementary School.

Photo of restored cornerstone



### ***Did you know...?***

*Can you name any of the newspapers that were published in Morrow during the 1800's and early 1900's?*

*Answer: Morrow Telegram, Morrow Mirror, and Morrow Tribute*

## Chalk Dust

### A Quarterly Column by Marlene Schwartz-DeBoard Containing History of the Morrow School and its Alumni

I am continuing the story of "School History" by W. P. Harford, written in 1899. At first, I was going to condense the story, but too many things would be lost and I felt it better to continue on.

"The first school within the present limits of the Morrow Special School District was taught in a two story frame building known as the old Madison or Weaver property and was situated on the west side of Mill Street in East Morrow. This school taught by Daniel Mitchell, who was succeeded by Miss Fanny Madison. The next school was taught in a log dwelling, which stood a few rods south of Todd's Fork near



the present residence of Robt. S. Whitacre. Mrs. Dorcas Starbuck, grandmother of Mr. Whitacre, was the teacher in this building. The first schoolhouse in this district used exclusively for school purposes, was a log building, erected about the year 1821. It stood on the farm then owned by James Smith, father of Thomas Smith and was located about eight rods southwest of the latter's present residence. The next school house was likewise built of logs. It stood in the Mansfield Grove on the hill one fourth of a mile north of Bridgeport and near the head of the first ravine west of the

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Shiloh turnpike and about forty rods northwest of the old Toll-gate. One James Bailey taught here in 1824. From 1825 to 1829 the children residing in the vicinity of the present village, for lack of other opportunities, were compelled to attend school in Roachester. Among those who wielded the birch with impressive vigor during those early years, the names of Jas. Stowe and Heber Hodge are not forgotten by the few now gray in the recollection of inflicted miseries. About 1829 Sub Districts were permanently established, and the first sub-district school house was a log structure which stood on the hill about one hundred feet west of the Catholic Cemetery. In 1844 it burned down. After the destruction of this school house an old log dwelling was rented for school purposes. It stood near the east end of the iron bridge across First Creek north of the brewery. Abney Whitacre was the master of ceremonies at this time. The next district school was taught in an old dwelling on the farm now owned by John Allison about thirty rods south of the latter's present residence. Prior to 1847 and while the village of Morrow was yet in its infancy the only educational advantages then offered were such as could be obtained from the rural districts in the immediate vicinity. Many of the children in the new and growing village attended school at Beech Grove on the Muskingum Valley Railroad, about two miles east of Morrow. This school was under the management of Robert Way." To be continued...

If any of our readers would like to see either of these books, please contact Marlene DeBoard at 937.289.3533 or marlene.deboard@yahoo.com. Look for more *Chalk Dust* in the next Pathways.

### ***Did you know...?***

*How many members does the Morrow Area Historical Society currently have?*

*Answer: 70*

## The House Car

By Donna Craig Jordan & Russell Craig,  
Sister and Brother, born and raised in  
Morrow, Ohio



In this photo of the "House Car" you can see Russell Craig, grandson of Clinton S. Craig, looking through the windshield.

By Russell Craig

My Granddad was Clinton S. Craig, a farmer, tinsmith, blacksmith and shoe repair man in his later years. I guess you could call him a jack of all trades. In fact, he was good at all the things he attempted, at least all of the things that I know of.

As I recall the year was 1936 when my Dad, Arthur, took me along to pick up a 1935 Chevrolet pickup chassis with no cab over the front seats. It was a rainy night and we had to travel from Morrow to Blanchester, Ohio to pick up the truck. I probably remember this because of the

weather; it was frightening to a 6 year old. My Dad and Grandpa attached a tarpaulin over the front windshield and covered the seats to keep my Dad and me out of the rain. I remember having to sit on a box of some sort because there was only one seat on the driver's side. The ride was exciting to me as I remember the windshield wipers and how they would stop when my Dad pressed on the gas pedal. In those days the windshield wipers were driven by a vacuum system and when the accelerator was mashed down the wipers would just stop. We took the truck back to my grandpa's farm, which was about four miles south of

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Morrow, but it seemed like a long trip at the time. My Grandpa Craig had a blacksmith shop on his farm and that is where he built the "House Car" virtually from scratch. I think it took him about a year to complete the project.



The reason he wanted the "House Car" was so that he and my Grandmother could travel to Florida in the winter, much for the same reasons that people have RV's today.

By Donna (Craig) Jordan

I remember this "House Car," also. It was fabricated from sheet metal, was two shades of blue, and you could enter via a door in the back. It had built in sleeping palettes and the storage cabinets had latches so that they would not swing open when the truck was moving. The cabinet shelves had "lipped" edges on the front to keep things from sliding out accidentally. My favorite part was the "arm and hand" that could be operated by the driver by moving a handle from the inside. It swung out from the left side to signal left turns, much like the school bus "Stop" signs do today.

There was a row of clerestory windows that ran along the popped up top of the "House Car." Our Grandpa would let us play inside sometimes and we thought it was the most wonderful thing.

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### Spring Ice Cream Social

Make plans to join us for the  
Morrow Area Historical Society  
Spring 2014 Ice Cream Social  
to be held at

5:00 pm Saturday, May 10, 2014, at  
Miranda's Old Time Ice Cream Shop  
205 Main Street, Morrow, Ohio 45152.

Thank you to Miranda's owners,  
John & Janet Poe,  
for graciously hosting this event.

### Did you know...?

What was the "Morrow Honor Roll?" Answer: A sign erected in front of the Morrow Municipal Building listing the names of those serving in the armed forces during World War II. At the time of its dedication, November 11, 1942, it contained the names of 122 men, though many more would serve.

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## New Members & Donors

Thank you to the following new members and donors!

### New Members

Thomas K. Shoemaker, Alexandria, Virginia · Cindy Flora Verville, Winchester, Ohio

### New Donors

Lora Apking · Ron Boyston · Gene & Margie Bustle · Esther Isaacs  
Lee LaFollette · Elaine Markesbery · Jean Rayl · Joyce Lay Wirth

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Please visit us on the web at  
[www.MorrowHistory.org](http://www.MorrowHistory.org)

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