



Mahoning Valley Historical Society Speaker's Bureau

Speaker's Bureau presentations are available to community groups, social and garden clubs, and other civic organizations. The presentation fee is \$50 (\$40 for MVHS Members). To schedule, please call 330-743-2589 and ask for the presenter you are interested in.

Jessica Trickett, *Anne Kilcawley Christman Memorial Collections Manager*

As Collections Manager, Jessica oversees the collections department and develops museum exhibits and public programs. She has also presented lectures to several local civic organizations, exploring themes in local history including ethnic traditions, social and gender roles, and local material culture. She holds a M.A. in History and a certificate in Historic Preservation from Youngstown State University.

Greystone... Through the Years

This 30-45 minute presentation with slides shows how the building that now houses the Arms Family Museum of Local History has evolved over the last century. From original drawings, photographs of the house over many decades and images of the historic house museum it is today, viewers will learn about the family that built Greystone in the Arts and Crafts architectural style, stories and quotes from the former owners, Olive F.A. Arms and Wilford P. Arms.

Form and Function: The Beauty of Glass

Vessels of glass have been used for everyday containers as well as beautiful works of art for at least 3,500 years. This presentation explores ancient and modern glass, glass making techniques and examples of glassware as works of art. It features practical tips for cleaning and maintaining pieces of glassware. (Slides and objects for view)

Tea & Polite Society, 1900-1920

This presentation covers high society manners as late Victorian strictures relaxed into Edwardian propriety. With pictures, graphics, and original artifacts, learn about the niceties of dress, calling cards and afternoon tea for the elite. Do you know the difference between a formal tea and high tea, what to serve at a tea dance, or how to invite your friends to meet a visiting dignitary? This talk will answer all the questions!

Who is the Fairest of Them All: Evolving Images of Beauty

Throughout history, men and women have attempted to achieve the ideal image, a concept that is constantly changing. This presentation explores some of the ways that men and women have attempted to transform themselves into the contemporary ideal form. It is a journey through a changing image of ideal beauty and the tools used to achieve that ideal. (Slides and objects for view)

Pamela Speis, *Archivist*

Pam has held the position of MVHS Archivist since July 1993. She is a native of western Pennsylvania, earning a Master's Degree in History from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 1991. Pam has been a genealogist for over thirty years and is a charter member of First Families of Western Pennsylvania.

Exploring your Roots at the Mahoning Valley Historical Society

This presentation is an introduction to the Mahoning Valley Historical Society's archives. It is meant as a

general overview of the types of records and resources we have available, including some of the more unusual resources, e.g. coverlets, portraits, daybooks.

Keeping your Family's Past

This presentation provides discussion and advice on the proper care and preservation of photographic formats, manuscripts and ephemera that make up a family's history. Talk covers how to listen to a family heirloom or item, what the item can tell you and how to care for the item for future generations.

Organizing a Small Archives Library

Geared toward organizations that have a need for their own archives, this presentation provides practical information and economic solutions to re-housing issues. Organization and establishment of an archive including archival theory and practice are discussed. Hands on activities are also possible with this presentation.

Care of Photographic Materials

This is an introduction and in-depth discussion of the types of photographic formats and the proper housing for each. The talk is tailored to the general public with economic and museum quality solutions recommended.

German-Americans in the Mahoning Valley

This program illustrates the German-American history through photographs, slides, manuscripts and other related artifacts from the collection, which help to relate the story of the German-Americans in the Mahoning Valley. Social, Religious, Economic, Political and Cultural elements discussed.

Traci Manning, *Curator of Education*

Traci holds a B.A. in Religion and Civil War Era Studies from Gettysburg College, a M.A. in Applied History from Shippensburg University, and studied secondary social studies education at Wilson College. She spent six years working for the National Park Service in various parks as an education park ranger before coming to MVHS in 2012.

19th Century Christmas

Explore the history of the Christmas season. Its modern day roots are grounded in the mid-19th Century with songs, images, and traditions.

All The World's A Stage: The Life and Legacy of John Wilkes Booth

History has painted John Wilkes Booth as a second rate actor who could never achieve the fame and fortune of his more famous family members. In truth, he achieved much in his short life on the stage, working at theatres across the country and earning the title of "Matinee Idol". As the Civil War raged on, his political beliefs pulled him in a different direction. How did his fame gain him access to commit the vicious crime for which he is remembered? How did his family retain their status after he marred the name? Learn about the lasting legacy of John Wilkes Booth and discuss the ways in which historical memory has blurred his life.

April 1865

The Civil War nears its end, the Confederate Capital of Richmond falls, the Army of Northern Virginia surrenders, President Lincoln is killed. Learn why April 1865 was one of the most important months in American history.

Civil War Headlines

How was the Civil War covered locally? What events made the front pages here in the Mahoning Valley? Travel back in time with historic local newspapers to discover how the Civil War shaped daily life in and around Youngstown.

The Civil War in the Valley: Explore the impact of the Civil War on Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley

How did the region respond to the outbreak of war? What was the political atmosphere like as the country split apart? How were communities affected by the conflict? These questions, and many more, will be answered in a presentation that includes primary sources, photographs, and artifacts for an introductory look at this tumultuous time period in local, regional, and national history.

David Tod and the Civil War

David Tod was the Governor of Ohio during the Civil War. Learn about the man who helped to raise troops from the Mahoning Valley and lead Ohio through this country's most difficult years. His early life, Valley roots, and political influence are set against the background of national disunion and war

Founding Mothers: Great Women in Mahoning Valley History

Catherine Dougherty Hillman, Margaret Van Horn Dwight, Dora Schwebel, and Mary Ann Campana... The lives of these women are woven into the history of the Mahoning Valley. Learn about the women who lived, worked, and learned here – and how their stories and struggles helped to shape and change the Mahoning Valley.

Founding Mothers: Great Women in Mahoning Valley History, Part 2

From religious organizations to charitable groups, educators to business leaders; the history of the Mahoning Valley is full of remarkable women who defied the odds and left indelible marks on our daily lives. This second part of Founding Mothers further explores the influence of women in Valley history with a focus on women's groups.

Immigration History of the Mahoning Valley

An overview of our Valley's local immigration history: Why did people immigrate to the Mahoning Valley? When did immigration start? What countries were they from? What were the largest immigrant groups to settle here? Where did they work? How did our local population grow? Included are interesting pictures, charts, statistics and a map of ethnic neighborhoods to help us appreciate our diverse ethnic heritage.

The Lincoln Assassination

A single gunshot changed the face of the Civil War: President Abraham Lincoln was dead in a conspiracy to overthrow the United States Government. Discover the people involved, their legacy, and how the event forever changed the nation.

Native Americans of the Valley

Explore the culture, life and lore of the Eastern Woodland Indians, the earliest occupants of the Mahoning Valley. Using original and replicated hands-on artifacts, this presentation will examine the daily activities, philosophy and legacy of the Valley's earliest residents.

Oak Hill Cemetery, A Virtual Tour

Learn about the history of Oak Hill Cemetery with this image guided virtual tour. The program explores several families and individuals interred at the Cemetery, like David Tod, P. Ross Berry, the Wick Family, James and Catherine Hillman, Warren P. Williamson Jr., Harry Burt, and Oscar Boggess. This program also features a guide to cemetery and funerary symbols, artwork, monuments, and statues.

Oh, That Can't Be Comfortable! A Look at the History of Fashion of the Mid-19th Century

Ever think about lacing yourself into a corset? Or slipping into a set of wide circular hoops? This presentation takes a look at how women dressed, highlighting both the fashion and function of every piece worn. More than just pretty frills, we seek to learn why women dressed the way they did. Was there a deeper meaning behind

those yards of fabric? What was she telling the world when we stepped out each morning? Original garments, reproductions pieces, accessories, and more give colorful insight to a time when the unmentionables were just that – unmentionable!

Pioneers of the Valley

Explore the lives of the earliest settlers to the Mahoning Valley through original and replicated hands-on artifacts, maps, historical information and stories. This presentation examines what pioneer life was like for settlers living in the Valley between 1796 and 1830.

The Pivotal Right – A History of the Women’s Suffrage Movement

Learn about the brave and outspoken women who fought to gain voting rights in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Their struggle, persecution, and prosecution are set against the backdrop of national history and the greater Civil Rights movement. Women of note include Lucretia Mott, Lucy Stone, and Carrie Chapman Catt.

UnCaged – Extraordinary Women of the American Civil War

This presentation highlights the courageous and bold women who shattered social norms and busted traditional gender spheres during this nation’s darkest hours. Case studies will highlight such women as Dr. Mary Edwards Walker, Elizabeth Keckley, and Laura Keene. These women felt compelled to transform their lives for the betterment of both themselves and their nation. Their lives centered on The Cult of Domesticity, or True Womanhood, and was defined by four pillars – purity, piety, submissiveness, and domesticity. Women were seemingly bound by these laws, but the political turmoil of the era began to open doors previously locked.

The Underground Railroad

The story of the Underground Railroad is a history filled with myth, intrigue, and legend. Beyond those tales, though, lies truth about of the most trying times in our nation’s history. Learn about the local impact of this network of people and locations, and discover the Mahoning Valley’s role in helping people find freedom.

The War Within: Mary Todd Lincoln’s Triumph and Tragedy as First Lady

Mad? Miserable? Misunderstood? Mary Todd Lincoln was a remarkable woman who faced unspeakable tragedy, learn about her life and impact as First Lady.

Youngstown and the Titanic

Learn about several area residents who were aboard the ill-fated RMS Titanic in both First and Third class – their stories, struggles, and sacrifices are set against the backdrop of the history of the ship. Explore their legacy and memories as the local area learned of the news and the survivors returned home.