



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 \$75 (\$65 for MVHS Members). To schedule, please call 330-743-2589 or email education@mahoninghistory.org.

Speakers

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.

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.

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.

Topics

Jessica Trickett, *Anne Kilcawley Christman Memorial Collections Manager*

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*

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*

100 Years at 325

April 1922 marked the opening of Harry Burt's landmark Youngstown location at 325 West Federal Street. This expansion offered his confectionary business the needed space to become an anchor building downtown with unprecedented growth. The building itself featured a long list of innovative and unique settings for retail, casual and fine dining, and manufacturing. The story of Burt's life, business empire, and legacy will be told through historic images, sketches, newspaper articles, and personal accounts from Burt's memoirs.

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. 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

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

Downtown Youngstown Through the Years

Explore more than 200 years of Downtown Youngstown through historic images, maps, and stories which show its growth from a frontier village to a thriving industrial community.

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.

George B. Moyer, Youngstown's First Chief Detective

In 1895, George B. Moyer was appointed the first Detective in the Youngstown Police Department, a position he served with distinction. Through the use of original police registers, this presentation will explore the early history of YPD, several landmark crimes, and Moyer's legacy.

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.

Life in the Connecticut Western Reserve

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 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.

Mahoning River Exploration

Learn about the history and use of the Mahoning River from the Valley's early days to the height of its industrial era. Historic images, maps, and stories highlight the importance of this vital water and power source.

The Mahoning Valley's Roaring 20s

Explore a decade of change and growth as Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley solidified its place as a leading city of industry, business, and entertainment. As steel helped buildings reach towards the sky, society was rapidly changing on the streets below. But as they say, what goes up must come down as the decade ended with a major blow.

Native Americans of the Valley

Learn about 15,000 years of local human history beginning in the Paleolithic era with the Valley's first inhabitants. This presentation explores Native American history through pioneer settlement with a focus on key changes over time, treaties, and events.

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!

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.

Testing Our Strength: The Steel Valley in the 1940s

The economic recovery of the late 1930s gave way to global conflict in the 1940s as fascism rose throughout Europe. American involvement in World War Two changed the scope of local industries as factories turned their attention to war production. Thousands of local men and women enlisted as Soldiers, Airmen, Marines, Nurses, WACS, WASPS, and WAVES. From war bond drives and blood drives, to letter writing campaigns and stories of furloughs, the early 1940s was a turning point in local, national, and international history. Following the war, society was never the same.

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 Keane. 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 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 Ohio at Gettysburg

Burial of the dead at Gettysburg happened immediately after the battle in July, 1863, and plans for a cemetery soon followed. Politicians, business leaders, and regular citizens descended on Gettysburg that November for the cemetery dedication, including a large contingent from Ohio led by Ohio Governor and Youngstown native, David Tod. The event's highlighted speaker was famous orator Edward Everett though most remember the words spoken by President Abraham Lincoln.

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.

Youngstown Police Registers

Explore the early history of the Youngstown Police Department through its yearly registers. Learn about key government and police figures, landmark cases, and infamous crimes from the 1880s through 1906.

Youngstown and the Spanish American War

Explore the role that local soldiers played in the Spanish-American War and the Philippine-American War through correspondence in local newspapers and letters. Included is a special focus on John A. Logan, Jr., Medal of Honor recipient, and William Freed, a local soldier who served as a newspaper correspondent.