

Remarks from President, Nevin Martin

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all of our members and board members



Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all of our members and board

members.

2021 has been an interesting year. We still had to deal with the pandemic and all the hassles associated with it. We have been meeting in person including our successful Annual Meeting on June 29 during which John Huss gave a fascinating talk on local architect George Netcher and we presented our Annual Preservation Awards. We are working with John Huss to help promote his new book(s) focusing on Tiffin architecture and Netcher.

We have begun to bring back our other events including a successful tea with overflow onto the front porch. Our Mystery Bourbon Tasting took place at the end of October in the carriage house and the Holiday House Tour is back the first weekend of December. This fall, our organization joined The Seneca Regional Chamber of Commerce and anticipates it being mutually beneficial.

At the Chamber's annual meeting, Historic Trust founding member Mary Lewis was honored with the Chamber's Women's Career Excellence Award.

Board member Robb Mack has been more than generous to The Trust, announcing that the Mack Funeral Home will match any new membership through 2021. We have also received many kind donations from members and board members. For those looking to make year-end gifts, consider donating to the Tiffin Historic Trust. It would be much appreciated.

Stay up to date with our events and what is happening with the Trust at our website www.tiffinhistorictrust.org and follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/tiffinhistoric.trust>.

Thank you all for your support. Volunteers and members are always welcome to join our meetings on the first Monday of every month. If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or any of our board members.

Tiffin Historic Trust Annual Holiday House Tour

Sunday, December 5, 2021
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Tickets Available Now at
Great Lakes Ace Hardware, 1550 W. Market St., Tiffin

Dec. 5th day-of-tour tickets available at the Grammes-Brown House, 172 Jefferson St., Tiffin, Ohio

For more information phone: 419-618-0698
Ticket Donation \$20.00. Proceeds benefit Tiffin historic preservation projects.

Tiffin Historic Trust 2021 Holiday House Tour Locations

Sunday, December 5, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.



172 Jefferson St.
The Grammes-Brown House
Tiffin Historic Trust Headquarters



The Empire Block Lofts
140 South Washington St.
144 South Washington St.



**498 South Washington St.
The Mack Home**



**95 Sycamore St.
The Focht House**



**370 Sycamore St.
The Atkin Home**



**85 South Sandusky St.
St. Mary Rectory**

Tickets (\$20)

**Available at Great Lakes Ace
Hardware, 1550 W. Market
Street, Tiffin**

The Traditional Holiday House Tour Returns after One-Year Hiatus

The Tiffin Historic Trust embraces the beauty of older homes. This year's Holiday House Tour on December 5, from 1:00-5:00 p.m., includes a variety of residences from modest to grand single family homes, a church rectory, a repurposed home and downtown loft apartments. If you do not have your tour ticket by Sunday, December 5, begin with a stop at the Grammes-Brown House, 172 Jefferson Street, to purchase your ticket and tour the main floor of the lovingly restored home of the Tiffin Historic Trust. The ornate interior wallpapers and numerous collectibles are typical of Victorian interiors, and the slate-sided mansard roof is representative of Second-

Empire style architecture. While there, enjoy the refreshments provided by Karin Brown and other board members.

The recently renovated largest home on the tour is on South Washington Street and is just one of a few Spanish Style stuccos in Tiffin. Two homes on Sycamore Street represent more popular styles of architecture. The American Bungalow home built in 1900 has undergone renovation while retaining its character, as has the Colonial style home closer to downtown that was also built in the early 1900s. The St. Mary Church Rectory on South Sandusky Street is stone to blend with the façade of the main church. The high-ceiling, exposed brick and

industrial finished loft-style condos above the Empire Block building on South Washington Street provide downtown living within close proximity to shops and dining.

Admire the architecture and the holiday decorations of these beautifully maintained residences.

Tickets for the December 5, 2021 Tiffin Historic Trust Holiday House Tour are available to purchase at Great Lakes Ace Hardware, 1550 W. Market Street. On the Sunday of the tour the tickets will only be sold at the Grammes-Brown House, 172 Jefferson Street, beginning at 12:30 p.m. The ticket donation is \$20 per person. Contact Joan at 419-618-0698 for further information.

Annual Holiday Chili Supper for Tour Hosts, Members and Friends

**Monday, December 6, 2021
starting at 6:30 p.m.**

The Tiffin Historic Trust Board is thrilled to invite you once again to join us in celebrating the upcoming holiday season. Come to the Grammes-Brown House at 6:30 p.m. on Monday December 6, for an evening of conversation over a casual supper of chili, appetizers, and desserts provided by the Trust board members in appreciation of your opening your homes to tour-goers, attending the tour, believing in historic preservation and supporting our organization.

RSVP to Jackie Fletcher at 419-618-9728 – but if you forget to respond, come anyway!



Founding Board Member Honored with Women's Career Excellence Award

In 1976 Mary Lewis was one of a small group of people who gathered to establish an organization dedicated to promoting historic preservation in Tiffin - hence the founding of Tiffin Historic Trust. But the Historic Trust was not the only endeavor that Lewis took on. For many years she promoted tourism for the city, belonging to service and other community-minded organizations and serving on their boards. Always looking for ways to promote Tiffin and Seneca County, Lewis suggested new undertakings including such activities as a summer street and art fair that became the Annual Heritage Festival, a Zombie Walk, and the St. Patrick's Day Parade. She even participated in a washboard band. She currently serves on Tiffin's Bicentennial Commission planning for the celebration of the founding of the city. Lewis continues to come up with even more ways to support the community, quietly persisting until action is taken.



On October 26, 2021 the Seneca Regional Chamber of Commerce recognized Lewis with the Women's Career Excellence Award for her many years of service to the Tiffin-Seneca County community. The award honors "individuals who strive toward the highest levels of professional accomplishment, who excel in their chosen field, have devoted time and energy to their community in a meaningful way, and who also open paths so that others may follow." Long-time friend Mark Levans accepted the award on Lewis' behalf, as she was unable to attend that evening. In the video that accompanied the award presentation Jackie Fletcher, Mark Levans and Mayor Montz spoke about the great influence Mary Lewis has had on Tiffin and Seneca County. View the video of the presentation at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qw7Bh-D4GXQ>.

Mary Lewis continues her efforts to improve our community. Even now she serves on the Bicentennial Commission to celebrate the founding of Tiffin. As the longest serving member of the board of the Tiffin Historic Trust, Lewis is an inspiration to the organization she helped found 45 years ago. Congratulations Mary!

Past Events

2021 Annual Membership and Awards Meeting



After the previous year's virtual Annual Meeting, Tiffin Historic Trust members were pleased to gather in person for the 2021 Annual Membership and Awards Dinner on June 29 at the Ironwood Steakhouse. Following the delicious dinner, architectural historian John Huss presented *Netcherized, The Architecture of George Netcher: Prominent Early 20th Century Architect, Tiffin, Ohio*, a fascinating program on the works of the local architect. Netcher's buildings will be featured in Huss' forthcoming book on Tiffin architecture.



The Residential Award Historic Preservation Plaque went to 176 Jefferson Street, owned by Herb and Paula Crum.

During the Annual Business Meeting the membership accepted the minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting; the proposed budget for July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022; and the proposed slate of officers and trustees. Elected to a three-year term expiring in 2024 were Karin Brown, Vicki Ohl, George Sherwood and Ashley Woodruff. Nevin Martin was re-elected as president, Jackie Fletcher as vice president, Mike Pinkston as treasurer, and Nancy Rubenstein as secretary.



President Nevin Martin presented the Nevin E. B. Martin Award, named for his father, to the Atkin-Kahler Apartment Building, owned by Justin and Lydia Atkin.

continued on next page

Past Events

continued from previous page

Mystery Bourbon Tasting, by Nevin Martin

Our mystery bourbon tasting took place on October 24th in the carriage house at The Grammes-Brown House. The weather was not ideal, but the event went better than planned. We had over 30 people sign up and we raised over \$1,000.00 for the Tiffin Historic Trust. I owe a very special thank you to Ty Cooper at Jeffrey Jewelry in Tiffin for the glassware, David Spridgeon at The Renaissance of Tiffin for his presentation, Reineke Family Dealerships and Greg Dell for the tables, chairs and help with set-up and publicity. Thank you for your support and generosity, it is greatly appreciated.

The afternoon included a tasting of 5 different flavors of bourbons accompanied by light snacks. David Spridgeon gave great presentations on each taste with just enough information for participants to guess which bourbon he was talking about. Once the tasting was finished, Mike Pinkston prepared some heavy hors d'oeuvres that complimented the bourbon. All participants received a whisky tumbler with an engraved THT on the side. We continued to indulge with good food and new glasses until all the tastings were bottoms up! We look forward to doing this event in the future and hope to accommodate more people. Thank you again to all who helped to make this event such a great success.



Converting the Carriage House to a Bourbon Tasting Venue

August Herb Tea a Success

The August 21 tea, "Herbs, Herbs, Herbs" with speaker Dr. Susan Carty, was a huge success with more attending than usual. Indoor seating was limited to three or four people per table, and the tables were spaced generously to help keep the guests safe during the pandemic. The few unvaccinated guests and their friends were seated at tables on the front porch, and they graciously tolerated the sultry outdoor temperatures.



Jackie Fletcher introduces Dr. Susan Carty as guests admire the table of herbs



Al fresco porch dining during the August Tea



Tiffin Historic Trust Membership Benefits

- Preservation Post Newsletter
- 10% Discount on member's ticket to Victorian Teas
- Discount at Sherwin Williams Paint Store, Tiffin (proof of membership required)
- Heritage Ohio Webinars
- Heritage Ohio www.heritageohio.org

As Ohio's official historic preservation and Main Street organization, Heritage Ohio "fosters economic development and sustainability through preservation of historic buildings, revitalization of downtowns and neighborhood commercial districts, and promotion of cultural tourism."

As a non-profit member of Heritage Ohio, Tiffin Historic Trust and its members can take advantage of the many events and educational opportunities Heritage Ohio offers, including conferences, webinars, consultant lists, and historic funding guides, among many other benefits.

Recent Webinars included:

- "Historic Rehabilitation and Windows: When to Repair and When to Replace"
- "Preservation Shorts" interviews with people doing preservation projects.

If you miss the original broadcast, most of their webinars are posted on the Heritage Ohio YouTube channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/user/HeritageOhio>

Upcoming Events



Valentine Tea

Saturday, February 12, 12:30 p.m.

The Grammes-Brown House,
172 Jefferson St., Tiffin

Seating is limited and reservations are required.

Contact Mary at 419-448-0370.

Donation \$20 per person.

Each member is entitled to a 10% discount on his/her ticket.

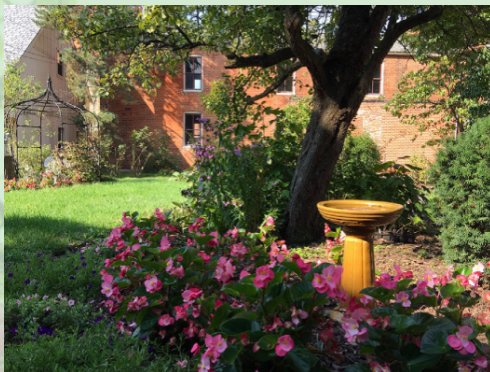
For the safety of all, attendees must be vaccinated against Covid-19.
(Outdoor seating is not available in February!)

Garden Tour to Bloom in 2022

by Jackie Fletcher
Sunday, June 19, 2022

The Tiffin Historic Trust is proposing to hold a Community Garden Tour next June. The tour will start with the Tiffin Historic Trust's backyard at 172-174 Jefferson Street.

Hidden behind the beautiful Grammes-Brown House is an informal cottage garden tended with care entirely by volunteers. The garden features shady plants under an ancient pear tree as well as many varieties of shrubs, perennials and annuals, creating lovely conversation niches. It is easy to imagine a time when gardens were a place of solace, enjoyment, and charm.





P.O. Box 333
172 Jefferson Street
Tiffin, OH 44883-0333



LOVELY HANDMADE OLD-FASHIONED DOLLS

For Sale
Grammes-Brown House
December 5th, during the
Holiday House Tour

Give The Gift of a Membership To Someone You Know!

I want to help preserve our architectural heritage. Please enroll my friend/relative as a member in the following category:

Annual Memberships: New Member

- Individual \$15
- Family \$30
- Sponsor \$50
- Patron \$75
- Business \$100

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY and RECEIVE A 10% DISCOUNT ON TEA EVENTS, and RECEIVE OUR QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER PLUS ATTEND OUR ANNUAL CELEBRATION DINNER.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____



P.O. Box 333
Tiffin, OH 44883

www.tiffinhistorictrust.org
tiffinhistoric@att.net
419-447-4789

Our Mission

"To promote historic preservation in Tiffin by meetings, publications, tours, or other means. To act as a non-profit organization to apply for and accept any grants that may be appropriate to further the cause of historic preservation. To promote and develop any plan for the preservation and restoration of Tiffin and to work with all interested groups and individuals to put this plan into effect."

Tiffin Historic Trust Board of Trustees Officers

Nevin Martin (President)
Jackie Fletcher (Vice-President)
Mike Pinkston (Treasurer)
Nancy Rubenstein (Secretary)

Term Expiring 2022	Term Expiring 2023	Term Expiring 2024
Doug Collar	Jan Betz	Karin Brown
Mary Lewis	Brook Edwards	Vicki Ohl
Joan Martin	Jackie Fletcher	George Sherwood
Mike Pinkston	Robb Mack	Ashley Woodruff
Nancy Rubenstein	Nevin Martin	Vacancy

FOLLOW US
ON FACEBOOK



<https://www.facebook.com/tiffinhistoric.trust>

We Need Your Help!

For the last two years Tiffin Historic Trust has lost income due to the coronavirus pandemic. We could not hold teas, house and garden tours, or other events that in the past provided the funds to support our organization, programs, the Grammes-Brown House, and to fulfill our mission of promoting historic preservation.

Please assist us by making a year-end tax deductible contribution to the Tiffin Historic Trust to help preserve the architectural heritage of our community.

If you are over 70½ years old and have IRAs, you can save on taxes by designating the Tiffin Historic Trust to receive all or a portion of your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) with a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). If you wish to take the gift as a deduction on your 2021 taxes, make the arrangements before January 1, 2022. Contact your retirement plan administrator to set up a distribution to Tiffin Historic Trust. Donations of stock holdings are also acceptable. Please let us know if you are helping us in this way.

You can contact us by email at tiffinhistoric@att.net for instructions on how to proceed and to notify us of any incoming gifts.

Online contributions of \$25 to \$500 may be made from the **Tiffin Historic Trust Web Site Donate Button**: <https://tiffinhistorictrust.org/product/donate-to-the-tiffin-historic-trust/>

Checks are always welcome as well.

Thank You!



Donor's Name _____

Street Address _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code _____

E-Mail: _____ Phone Number: _____

Amount of Gift: \$ _____ Check Number: _____

Write checks to **Tiffin Historic Trust** and mail to **P.O. Box 333, Tiffin, Ohio 44883**

Tiffin Historic Trust, Inc. is a non-profit organization under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3).