

Greetings from Malta from President John Bing



Tiffin Historic Trust President, John Bing, will be abroad this year. He

sends his greetings.

"Hello from Malta to all. So far I'm settled and in a very old section of town. The apartment I'm in is just 400 years old or so, I'm told. Might it be among the more youthful buildings? There are also new apartments, of course, and newer sections of town."

We expect to hear more from John during his time in Malta.

Nevin Martin Agrees to Serve as Interim President

At its August meeting, the Historic Trust board elected Nevin Martin, Jr., to serve as interim president. Jackie Fletcher will remain as vice president.

Remarks from Interim President, Nevin Martin



I would like to say thank you to the board for giving me the opportunity to be interim president in John Bing's absence. I have a lot of good ideas and I look forward to sharing them with the board. I have been on the

board of the Trust for a little over a year now and an active member for some time. I grew up in an old historic home and have always found preservation to be a real passion and a hobby of mine. I want to be able to fulfill the duties as president and also get back to our roots and focus on what needs to be done to help our members by implementing the Mission Statement of the Tiffin Historic Trust:

"To promote historic preservation in Tiffin by meetings, publications, tours, or other means. To act as a nonprofit 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."

I hope to implement this mission statement by helping our downtown leaders and organizations collaborate with the Tiffin Historic Trust to promote preservation and educate residents on opportunities in Tiffin, Ohio. I hope to increase membership and active participation as well as to keep the board involved and motivated. Together as a team we can work to continue to make Tiffin Historic Trust an asset to Tiffin, Ohio.

Behind the Façade Tour:

Lady Justice and Downtown Discoveries

Sunday, September 16, 2018, 2:00-5:00 p.m.

On Heritage Festival Sunday, tour the now completed Seneca County Justice Center and explore additional nearby historic residential and community sites. Although the Behind the Façade series normally visits businesses or residences in newly renovated or repurposed structures, the Tiffin Historic Trust has also chosen to feature the new Seneca County Justice Center on this weekend that we are celebrating our heritage and our future. Included in the \$10 donation fee for adults and \$5 for children are tickets to exchange for refreshments at The Renaissance, Put-n-Pita, The LAB Brewery, Reino's Pizza, and FroZone between 2:00-5:00 that afternoon. Stroll at your leisure, and visit the following sites offered by our engaged and entrepreneurial citizens!

Madison Street



Second United Church of Christ, 156 Jefferson St.--Don't miss the stunning stained glass windows, Schantz organ, and beautiful woodwork in this lovely sanctuary. Established as a congregation of the German Reformed Church, the building was erected in 1888. Portraits of Rev. Jeremiah Good, co-founder of Heidelberg College, and Rev. Herman Rust are embedded in two of the windows.



The Chandelier, 151 S. Washington St.--This 1960s structure, which housed the J.C. Penney Store and the Community Civic Center, is now available for rental as a wedding reception site, offering all related services.



St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 46 Madison St. Visit the first public building in the world to be wired for electricity while it was being built. Although the exterior of the church was erected and basement rooms of the church were dedicated in 1875, the interior of the second floor was delayed by an economic depression. By 1883, the Edison Electric Illuminating Company building was being built on Monroe Street, and contractors decided to wire the church as they finished it. To commemorate this occasion, Thomas Edison presented an electric light chandelier to the church, which is still in use today. (<http://tiffinstpauls.org>)

South Washington Street/East Market Street/Court Street



The Renaissance, 129 S. Washington St.--The former D.P.'s has been transformed into a prohibition era speak-easy. Stop in for a mocktail (sorry--still Prohibition on Sundays!) served by their flappers and gangsters.



Reclaim It! 127 S. Washington St.--Formerly the home of Tiny and Teens Children's Clothes and Larry's Juvenile Shoes, this business offers "curated refurbished vintage furniture and accessories" as well as art

by regional and local artists. Established as a charitable organization, its profits will support and empower the youth of our community.



Seneca County Justice Center--Tour the new Justice Center now serving the citizens of Tiffin and Seneca County. Local historian John Huss will be available to sell and sign his most recent

volume, Temple of Justice, which also describes several other earlier courthouses.



33 Court Street--See this attractive Victorian structure across from the Justice Center as it is undergoing renovation.



Simply Susan's, 70 S. Washington St.--Some people will recall former occupants, Sayger's Camera and Glory Bee, as shops that sold camera supplies and unusual gift items. Simply Susan's continues that tradition while

also offering homemade candy and scrapbooking supplies. You may purchase Behind the Façade tickets there in advance or on Sunday, Sept. 16.



Reino's Pizza and Pasta, 73 E. Market St.--Visit Tiffin's earliest pizza parlor and trade your Reino's ticket for a slice of pizza. In the early 1900s this building was the Royal Theatre cinema.



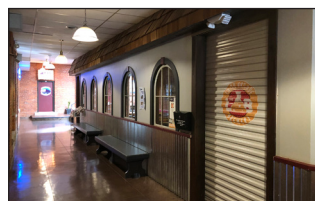
Red Raven Tattoo Parlor, 20 E. Market St.--The structure was built as the First Methodist Church and dedicated in 1828. It was also used as the first county courthouse. It is now a tattoo parlor and art gallery.



Washington St. Outfitters, Laird Arcade interior--Two floors of what was the rear and storage area of Good's Office Supply, this boutique offers trendy clothing and accessories for men and women.



Put-n-Pita, Laird Arcade--This restaurant, which previously housed the Tiffin Bake Shop and The Beehive, now features Greek gyros and salads. Exchange your Pita tab for a taste of a gyro.



The LAB Brewery, Laird Arcade--For your LAB tab, Tiffin's own brewery is offering a sample of their IPA (pale ale). (Or use it for a soda at Put-n-Pita)



FroZone, Laird Arcade--Your FroZone tab will entitle you to a small frozen yogurt.

Tickets are available in advance at Simply Susan's, 70 S. Washington Street, Tiffin, and include refreshments with the \$10 donation (\$5 for children age 10 and under). Tickets will also be available on the day of the tour there and at the Laird Arcade.

The tour is sponsored by the Tiffin Historic Trust. For further information contact Vicki Ohl at 419-448-8588.

Summer Repair Projects at the Grammes-Brown House

Mansard Window Roof Repairs Complete Thanks to Block Grant Money

The Tiffin Historic Trust is fortunate to have finished an important project in June, thanks to the efficient work of Cornerstone Historical Building Restoration, LLC, owned by Adam Obenour. The task of repairing the eleven mansard windows in the upper floor was bid at \$7,142.02 of which 50% was grant money and 50% Historic Trust money. Our organization was ably guided by Amy Reinhart, representing the city of Tiffin Downtown Façade Enhancement Program.



Before



After

We are glad to have accomplished this overdue maintenance. Adam and his crew worked incredibly hard in the attic, enduring extreme June heat. Before we knew the cost, one of our Tiffin Historic Board members donated \$3,000 to jump-start a fund raiser. The project could have cost as much as \$15,000. As the owner of a beautiful historic property, we feel compelled to take care of many other projects and be good stewards.



Grammes-Brown House Front Doors

In early August Ed Goshe spent numerous hours sanding and staining our magnificent double front doors. Thanks to Ed's endeavors, the restored mahogany doors look beautiful once again!

Outside Work done by Heidelberg First-Year Students



Seven Heidelberg first-year students, assisted by other volunteers, donated their Community Service hours to the Historic Trust on Saturday, August 18. Their exertions went toward improving the outside of the property as they worked with the plantings along the alley.

More Help Needed!

On Saturday, September 8th, we have several projects to complete. They involve painting, planting shrubs and paving. Please call Jackie Fletcher 419-585-2075 for more information.

Rosina's Birthday Hat Tea Winners Announced

Guests wore their favorite hat to the Birthday Hat Tea Party on August 11, celebrating Rosina Brown's birthday. The party began with the guests being served a hat-shaped raspberry-filled scone with fresh lemon curd. The three-tiered tea trays at each table included cucumber sandwiches, fruit spears, cheese gougères, lemon poppy seed bread, spinach baskets, raspberry tarts, chocolate strawberries and birthday cupcakes.

Following the meal, Jackie Fletcher portrayed Julia Grammes Brown, mother of Rosina Brown, who gave her family home to the Tiffin Historic Trust. Ms. Brown assisted Christine Pattee with her presentation of a brief history of hats and ladies millinery. Pulling hats from her collection of hat boxes, Pattee demonstrated how both men's and women's hats were worn over the centuries. Rosina Brown's hats and hat pin collection were also displayed.

1976 Antique Club member Nancy Tschanen and Tiffin Historic Trust board member Mary Lewis selected the winners of the most notable hats worn by the tea guests. Susan Mason from Toledo, wearing a mid-twentieth century navy straw hat with antique hat pin, was the winner of the "Vintage Hat" prize, a one-year membership in the Tiffin Historic Trust. Donna Randell of Tiffin won the "Most Grandiose Hat" award, a ticket to the Holiday House Tour, for her self-decorated straw tea hat with silver ribbon, feathers and flowers. The "Most Entertaining Hat" was worn by Bloomville resident Paula Crum, who decorated her straw hat with bold orange sunflowers, sprigs of lavender and a chartreuse ribbon, earning her a Behind the Façade Tour ticket.



Under the watchful eye of Rosina Brown, Jackie Fletcher as Julia Brown assisted Christine Pattee as she described the period hats and hat boxes.

Paula Crum was Most Entertaining in her hat.



Donna Randell modeled her Most Grandiose Hat.



Susan Mason wore a Vintage Hat with antique hat pin.



Guest Speaker Christine Pattee describes her hats.



The kitchen and serving staff: Verna Jean Fruth, Jackie Fletcher, Christine Pattee, Nancy Rubenstein, Ruth Wahlstrom, and Martha Roberts (not pictured).





P.O. Box 333
Tiffin, OH 44883-0333

Save The Date!
Sunday, September 16, 2018, 2:00-5:00 p.m.
**Behind The Façade Tour: Lady Justice
and Downtown Discoveries**

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 _____



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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 (Interim President)
Jackie Fletcher (Vice-President)
Mark Levans (Treasurer)
Nancy Rubenstein (Secretary)

Term Expiring 2019	Term Expiring 2020	Term Expiring 2021
John Bing	Jackie Fletcher	Karin Brown
Doug Collar	Mark Levans	Vicki Ohl
Mary Lewis	Nevin Martin	Fred Shelt
Joan Martin	David/Christa Selnick	Lisa Swickard
Nancy Rubenstein	Phyllis Watts	Ashley Woodruff

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Upcoming Events, Fall 2018

Upcoming Tiffin Historic Trust events include the ***Lady Justice and Downtown Discoveries: Behind the Façade Tour*** on **September 16 from 2:00-5:00 p.m.** featuring the new Seneca County Justice Center, nearby buildings, and businesses in the downtown area. Tickets (\$10 donation per adult, \$5 per child) which include taste samplings at area restaurants, will be available in advance at Simply Susan's, 70 South Washington Street, and on the day of the tour at the Laird Arcade. For further information contact V. Ohl at 419-448-8588.

Herbal Workshop, Outdoors

September 29, Saturday at 12:30 p.m., the Grammes-Brown House garden and Carriage House will be the setting for an Herbal Workshop, Outdoors. Christine Pattee, assisted by members of the Sandusky Valley Herb Society, will demonstrate how to make infused vinegars and oils and other useful products from herbs provided from our and other local gardens. Guests may take home a vinegar sample that they have assembled. Materials will be provided. Refreshments will include cold infused beverages and cookies. Reservations are required, as spaces are limited. The donation cost for Tiffin Historic Trust members is \$10 and \$12 for non-members. Contact C. Pattee at 614-332-5020 or weinc4@gmail.com for further information and to place reservations.

Halloween Tea

October 13, Saturday at 12:30 p.m., during the Halloween Tea, local historian and spiritual explorer Lisa Swickard will reveal the true story of Tiffin's Ketchup Murderer. Enjoy Halloween-themed treats with tea in our Victorian-era home, The Grammes-Brown House, 172 Jefferson Street. Guests should allow time to take a self-guided tour of the home and garden. The donation cost for each Tiffin Historic Trust member is \$18 and \$20 for non-members. Pre-paid reservations are required, as seating is limited. For reservations phone Mary at 419-448-0370.

Stein Way Afternoon and Craft Beer Tasting at the Grammes-Brown House

October 21, Sunday from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., join us for a Stein Way Afternoon and Craft Beer Tasting at the Grammes-Brown House. Taste-test a selection of craft beers from LAB, the Laird Arcade Brewery. Learn about the art of making craft beers from a LAB brewer and be entertained by Doug McConnell on his piano accordion. Donation cost TBA. For further information and reservations, contact Mary at 419-448-0370.

Tiffin Glass History, Evaluation, and Discussion

November 3, Saturday from 1:00-3:00 p.m., participate in a session on Tiffin Glass History, Evaluation, and Discussion led by Tiffin Glass expert and author Ed Goshe, who will describe what determines the value of Tiffin and other Elegant Glass pieces. Guests are invited to bring a favorite Tiffin or Early American Pattern Glass piece. Following his comments, Goshe will provide an evaluation of those pieces. The \$5 donation includes the program and one evaluation; additional glass pieces will be evaluated at \$1 each. Reservations are required, as seating is limited. For reservations, phone Mary at 419-448-0370.

Tiffin Holiday House Tour

December 2, Sunday from 1:00-5:00 p.m., go on the Tiffin Holiday House Tour. Over several decades, the Tiffin Historic Trust annual tour has offered a variety of historic and modern homes that exemplify interesting architectural details along with creative holiday decorations. The homeowners graciously open their residences for the public to enjoy. Information on the specific homes included in this year's tour will appear in the Holiday edition of the Preservation Post. Tickets (\$10 donation per person) will be available in advance at Great Lakes Ace Hardware, 1550 West Market Street, and on the day of the tour at the Grammes-Brown House, 172 Jefferson Street, Tiffin. For further information contact J. Martin at 419-618-0698.

THT Annual Chili Supper for Members and Friends

December 3, Monday at 6:30 p.m., come to the Tiffin Historic Trust Annual Chili Supper for Members and Friends, hosted by the board. House tour hosts, volunteers, members and friends of Tiffin Historic Trust are invited to join the board members for a casual supper and conversation the evening following the Holiday House Tour. RSVPs appreciated, but not required, to J. Fletcher at 419-585-2075. No cost.



Book the Grammes-Brown House for Your Special Event

Members: \$60 the first hour and \$20 each additional hour
Non-Members: \$75 the first hour and \$25 each additional hour
Non-profits (such as clubs): \$35 suggested donation.

For More Information Or To Book An Event Contact:

Jackie Fletcher
419-585-2075



The annual meeting on May 31 at Empire 138 was a great success with over eighty people attending. Mark Levans introduced members of the Tiffin Community Reinvestment Group that took on the revitalization of the historic Laird Arcade Building. Originally built in the mid-1800s by Rezin Shawhan and converted to an interior shopping area by Robert Bollinger in the late 1970s and into the early 1980s, the building had fallen on hard times.

While showing before and after photographs, investors Rich Zeis, Mitch Felton and Tyler Shuff described their successful investment in the downtown South Washington Street building. When they took it over in 2012, there were only twelve tenants, and now it has reached full capacity with nearly forty tenants on the restored first and second floors. They noted that there is strength in numbers: where there was just too much maintenance required for one owner to undertake, a group of investors is able to share the financial risk, prioritize and make the necessary repairs. The speakers stated that, as shareholders, they have not taken any money out of the investment; all income has gone back into funding the next improvement. They have already invested \$310,000 in improvements, including eight heating and cooling units, boiler repair, and \$250,000 in repairs to the roof and skylights. In the immediate future are plans to repair fifty of the two hundred windows. In addition to taking out bank loans, they have also taken advantage of façade grants. With just one apartment rented on the third floor, they have not determined whether they will begin renovating the top floor.

Downtown Main Street Manager Amy Reinhart reported that the Laird Arcade is just one of many buildings undergoing renovation in Tiffin. There were fifty-six façade grants allocated, resulting in investments of \$2.2 million.

Historic Preservation Awards

Following the panel discussion, Doug Collar introduced the 2018 Historic Preservation Awards.



Nevin Martin, Jr., presented the Nevin E. B. Martin Award plaque in memory of his father. **Allen**

Schultz accepted the award for his home at 241 Melmore Street built in 1928. In his thank you, Schultz commented on Nevin E. B. Martin's tireless energy for preservation and the impact he made on the preservation of historic buildings and homes in the Tiffin community.

Collar then presented the 2018 Historic Preservation plaque awards to:



Erin and Bryce Riggs for their home at 154 Coe Street, a 1922 craftsman style home with original

woodwork, walnut floors, and beamed ceilings. Once a duplex, it has been returned to a single family home.



Karl and Amy Kerschner for their 1850 red brick home at 486 South Washington Street. In

accepting the award, they spoke of the help they had with the renovations from architectural consultant John Huss, contractor Rich Zeis, and interior designer Joe Dandurand from Herman's Furniture and Design of Sandusky.



Andrew and Cindy Kalnow for their restoration of 99-101 Miami Street as a rental property.

Kalnow described his ambition to purchase buildings that were in the worst shape along Miami Street and Frost Parkway and

renovate them, being historically sensitive while providing all the modern conveniences. This building was actually two structures; the back and front connected by a wrap-around porch. It took two years to complete the renovation. Kalnow credited contractor Fred Shelt for his TLC and John Kerschner for his assistance acquiring historic tax credits. In addition to his work to improve the neighborhood properties, Kalnow has undertaken the establishment of a community park in the center of downtown. Situated just east of the new Seneca County Justice Center and adjacent to the Tiffin-Seneca Public Library, The East Green Amphitheater with its summer concert series has already become an important aspect of summer programming.

Election of Trustees and Officers

The annual meeting included the election of trustees: Karin Brown, Vicki Ohl, Fred Shelt, Lisa Swickard and Ashley Woodruff for terms expiring in 2021. For 2018-2019, John Bing was elected president; Jackie Fletcher, vice-president; Mark Levans, treasurer; and Nancy Rubenstein, secretary.

President Bing introduced Lisa Swickard, the newest member of the board of trustees.

The membership approved the minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting. The Finance Committee presented its budget for fiscal year 2018-2019. Mary Lewis noted that there will be an effort to increase the number of event rentals of the Grammes-Brown House and announced the new fee structure for such events.

Concluding the meeting, President Bing acknowledged all of the Tiffin Historic Trust board members. He also thanked our Empire 138 Restaurant host, Michael Pinkston, for his expert accommodation of our large group turnout.