

# Platt R. Spencer Historical Society

June 2015 Issue 1



**DUES ARE DUE:** Help fund the many Spencer projects by sending in your dues and donations by July. We hope we will be able to go ahead with the street banner project when this year's checks arrive. Master Penman Michael Sull (right) at a favorite Geneva eatery - Mary's Diner, shows his design to Phil Schmidt. It will feature the Spencer School colors of green and gold. Many thanks to Geneva Platt R. Spencer Elementary's PTO for donating a banner!

## PRSHS MEMBERSHIPS & DONATIONS

Single, \$10; Couple, \$15 \* Due July 1\*  
Payable to "P.R.Spencer Historical Society" c/o Treasurer Phillip Schmidt, 6297 N Ridge W, Geneva, OH 44041; Questions? Call 440-466-6414 or 440-466-8033. Please indicate which year or years dues are for, for our records.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Members receive a membership card, newsletters, memorabilia & special event invitations.

**PLEASING NEWS!** The PRSHS has been invited to give testimony in Columbus in support of a bill to restore the teaching of cursive writing in Ohio schools. We will do our best and invite any PRSHS members who would like to "swell the ranks" and attend the hearing to call Pres. Beth Stillwell, 440-466-8697 or Treas. Phil Schmidt at 440-466-6414.



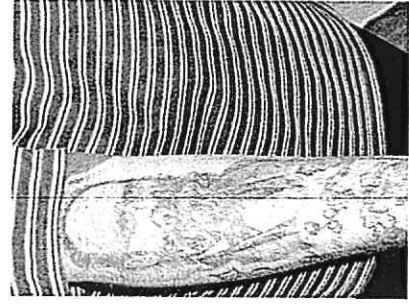
**Platt R. Spencer Historical Society Board Members**  
Board meetings are once a month. (From left front: Pres. Beth Stillwell, V.P. Vaughn Reese, Corresponding Sec'y Charlotte Hunt, Publicity Cathie Schmidt, Treas. Phil Schmidt. From left back: Donna Reese, Mary Lou Cheney, Richard and Barbara Pruden, Lucille Romeo, Barbara Rand; Not shown: Recording Sec'y Mary Schneider.)

## "SPENCERIAN SAGA" CONTINUES:



Carrying on the teaching of Spencerian Penmanship (and other styles, as well as engraving) at Geneva-on-the-Lake's Lakehouse Inn is Master Penman Harvest Crittenden (center). Harvest is posed with Ashtabula County artists invited to meet her and her students

from around the country and world by the PRSHS board last October. One student showed his admiration for Platt R. Spencer with a tattoo of him on his arm! Anyone interested in the classes can contact Harvest on her website [acornarts.org](http://acornarts.org) or by calling past student Charlotte Hunt, 440-466-8033.



## FREE SPENCERIAN PRACTICE SESSIONS:

Charlotte Hunt graciously volunteers her time on Tuesday afternoons to meet members at Geneva Library who would like to use Spencerian Penmanship practice books together. Call her at 440-466-8033. Books, pens, etc. can be purchased from Michael Sull's website [spencerian.com](http://spencerian.com). Please remember, when you mention the Society, Michael will send us a percentage of sales.

## Star Beacon features Spencer and the Historical Society:

Thank you to our area newspaper for inviting us to be a feature on the front page of a Sunday section (written by Dave DeLuca with photos by Warren Dillaway). Your copy is enclosed. Note that new member, Mary Schneider's photo is included with Platt R. Spencer (replica) in the background. Mary was welcomed on to the PRSHS board in June and has accepted the position of Recording Secretary.

Welcome Mary and thank you!

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!** (since our last listing): Pat Brunzman, Frank Cajhen, Terry & Ann Cobb, Richard Dana & Marianne Sezon, Norma Gersper, Carolyn Kless, Alan & Elissa Kroeger, Bill & Nina Redlin, Mary Schneider, William & Judith Stewart, Hiram Stokes, Cathy Takas and Honorary Member, retired Geneva City Manager, Jim Pearson.

**MASTER PENMAN SULL VISITS GENEVA**



Michael Sull peruses the Spencer files at the Jennie Munger Gregory Museum as Publicity Board Member Cathie Schmidt documents the visit. Other Spencer items are located in the museum (as well as Geneva Library and Geneva's Western County Courthouse).

We are so fortunate to have two Master Penmen coming to our county each year... Harvest Crittenden in October for the Spencer Saga classes and Michael Sull, founder and teacher of the Spencerian Saga (for 25 years) each November. Last November, Michael Sull spoke to a group of home-schooled children from Ashtabula and other counties in the basement community room of Geneva Library. Parents and children of all ages trudged through a heavy snow to hear history, see examples and go home with their name tag written in Spencerian Penmanship. Several parents became members of the Society and purchased the Spencerian teaching materials to share with their area groups.



Master Penman, Michael Sull, surrounded by home-schooled students, peeks out from around our Spencer replica made by Geneva H.S. art teacher Gina Monahan. The first name of the student next to Michael is Spencer and he has taken a keen interest in Spencerian writing.

**UPCOMING EVENTS: First Come, First Serve**

**VISIT WITH SPENCERIAN SAGA STUDENTS**

**PRSHS Members:** Let us know if you're interested in meeting on a Wed. night in October (date TBA) with Master Penman Harvest Crittenden and her students to see the fruits of their labors. Send a note with your membership dues and Oct. dates you are available.

**VISIT WITH MASTER PENMAN MICHAEL SULL**

**PRSHS Members:** Let us know if you're interested in meeting with Michael Sull in November (date TBA) at an event to be determined. We also enjoy a meal together at an area restaurant. Send a note with your membership dues and let us know which weekends in Nov. you are available.

**SPENCER TOURS:** Geneva area is full of fascinating sites to learn more about Platt R. Spencer and his legacy including stops where PRSHS bricks have been purchased for two walkways. The Society is thinking about setting these up, free for members, a charge for the general public. **WATCH** for news about special events around the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the township in 2016 including a Spencer tour.

**GRAPE JAMBOREE TABLE:** Members, can you help sit and distribute information? Call Beth Stillwell, 440-466-8697.



**"Christmas in July" Sale:** Spencer

Monument Holiday Cards (with red ribbon and snow) are on sale in plenty of time for buying, framing, etc. Inside text is appropriate for any of the holidays around Christmas time, "Wishing you all the Wonders and Blessings of this Holy Season". Donation, reg. \$3.50 per card, sale through August 2015, \$3.00, 10 for \$25, 25 for \$50. Includes large white envelope. Send order & checks to Treas. Phillip Schmidt (440-466-6414), made payable to the PR Spencer Historical Society, c/o 6297 N. Ridge W., Geneva, OH 44041

Remember to cut out your membership slip and include your interest in events, card order, donation for banners, questions, suggestions, etc.

**Note:** If dues are sent 6 mos or more after July 1, indicate if you want a membership for that current year, or are sending in advance for the following year. If more than the dues amount is sent in, let us know if you want additional years of membership to be prepaid or if it is a donation in the current year.