



# EVE Notes



## “Grandma” Gatewood Kickstarter Campaign A Success! A BIG THANK YOU to all our Donors!

It was only 60 days but a BIG step in our “Grandma” Gatewood project! We began our Kickstarter Campaign to raise \$3,500 in seed money for our planned documentary about Emma Gatewood and we **exceeded** our goal by **\$300!**

As you know we began this project over a year ago with grants from the National Storytelling Network, The Buckeye Trail Association and the Ohio Humanities Council to do some preliminary research and create a storytelling program about this Ohioan who became the first woman to solo thru-hike the Appalachian Trail in 1955 at the age of 67. Our storytelling program, GRANDMA GATEWOOD: OHIO'S LEGENDARY HIKER premiered at the Westlake Community Center on November 1, 2011. The capacity crowd was amazed at the story of this remarkable woman who hiked more than 10,000 miles before she died.

We are working with Peter Huston of FilmAffects to create a documentary about Emma's life and are in the process of raising money to fund this project and this Kickstarter Campaign was the beginning of our fundraising efforts. The campaign successfully closed on January 19 with **49 donors** and **\$3,800** to help us as we approach other foundations and donors to meet our larger goal to create a documentary to be aired on WGTE PBS, Toledo. You can see the complete list of backers at: <http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/2100362239/meet-emma-gatewood-the-appalachian-trails-legendar/backers> — **Thank you to all our backers!**

Emma believed that “Most people are pantywaists. Exercise is good for you!”

So, as we move into this next phase, let's roll credits on the work that has been put in so far:

**Donors** who contributed directly to Eden Valley: Mr. Stephen Adams, Mr. Matthew Collings, Ms. Karen Farmer, Ms. Diana Gott, Ms. Linda Heiden, Jennifer Rooney, Ms. Nancy Sager, Ms. Pat Thomas, Mr. Al Weigl and Mr. Richard Yelenik.

### Board, Staff and Volunteers:

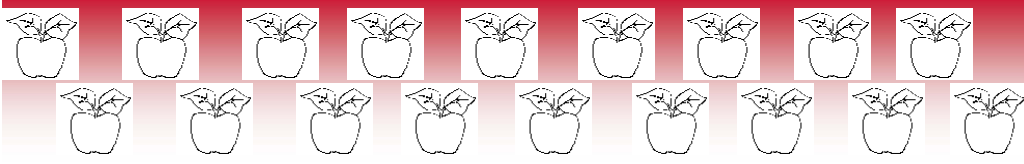
Jo Davis, Bette Lou & Michael Higgins, Margy Huntley, Peter Huston, Carolyn Jack, Rod Knight, Kelly Lawrence, Bill O'Brien, Kelly Boyer Sagert, Jeff Saterfield, and Holly Tomasch.

You can keep track of our progress on our *Grandma Gatewood* page at: <http://edenvallejenterprises.org/progdesc/gatewood/gtwdinf.htm> and on our blog at: <http://grandmagatewood.wordpress.com/>

It's **not too late** to get involved! Donations are always gratefully accepted and are tax-deductible — simply use the form on page 2. Would your company like to be a corporate sponsor? Contact us at 440-284-4828 or e-mail [blhiggins@edenvallejenterprises.org](mailto:blhiggins@edenvallejenterprises.org)



Inside This issue:	Page 2: Donation Form	Page 3: Upcoming EVEnts	Page 4: What's Been Happening?
<b>Eden Valley Enterprises   <a href="http://www.edenvallejenterprises.org">www.edenvallejenterprises.org</a>   Winter, 2012</b>			



**Yes! I want to let the rest of Emma Gatewood's story be told!**

**Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift for \$\_\_\_\_\_**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

I wish my gift to be ANONYMOUS (*my name should not be listed in any materials listing EVE supporters*)

My employer has a MATCHING GIFT PROGRAM, please contact me for information.

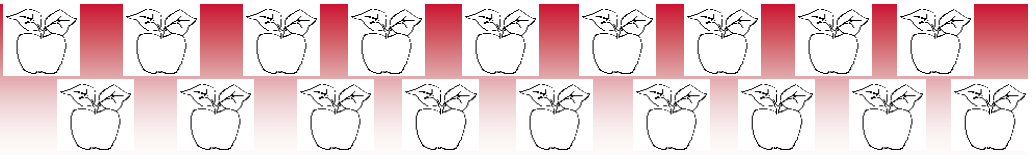
***Mail this form with your check to:  
EDEN VALLEY ENTERPRISES; 1250 EAST RIVER ST.; ELYRIA, OHIO 44035.***

***Thank you for your support!***



*Eden Valley is a non-profit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code. All gifts are tax deductible.*

*As this newsletter was going to print we began working on arrangements to bring the Grandma Gatewood story to the Buckeye Trail Fest in April and a series of programs to be presented by Foster Brown & Bette Lou Higgins at the Brecksville Nature Center in May. Check our website for complete schedule information.*



## Mark your calendar and Join Us!

**\*February 15, 22, 29, March 7, 2012**

Cuyahoga Community College Encore Classes Spring 2012: Join us for a new class, "**U.S. Historic Trails and Tales**" and hear stories about Presidents and their wives, the Appalachian Trail, the Civil War and the songs of the Great White Way. Classes will be held at the Brunswick Campus on Wednesday, 2/15 & 2/22 and at the Westlake Campus on Wednesday, 2/29 & 3/7. For complete information, call the college at 216-987-2274.

This series of classes will feature four new programs!

**PLEASE WELCOME MR. & MRS. AMERICA** will feature some little known stories about the White House Residents from Washington to Eisenhower. Based on our newest book of the same name, you'll hear why Thomas Jefferson was a really a big cheese, how Andrew and Rachel Jackson weathered their scandal and how Alexander Graham Bell worked to try to save President Grant. *(To order the book go to our PUBLICATIONS page on our website)*

**BATTLE SCARS: STORIES OF THE CIVIL WAR** is our new program commemorating the anniversary of the Civil War. No big battle tales here — the stories of some of the lesser known conflicts are spotlighted during this session. If you can't join us for the class, you can join us for the program at the North Ridgeville Library on February 26 — see listing below.

**GRANDMA GATEWOOD: OHIO'S LEGENDARY HIKER** will be the subject of our next "trail" in this series. Hear this new storytelling program and find out what it's like to hike 10,000 miles!

**THE BEST SONGS I NEVER SANG ON BROADWAY** is the last Trail in this session. Find out the story and history of Broadway and songs from the Great American Songbook with this unique take on Musical Stories.

**\*Wednesday, February 22, 2012; 7p.m.:** **NEXT STOP, FREEDOM!** will be presented at the Maple Hts. Library; 5525 Library Lane in Maple Hts. in commemoration of Black History Month. During this Anniversary of the Civil War, the stories leading up to the conflict are particularly meaningful and that includes tales of the Underground Railroad in Ohio and across the Great Lakes. Find out how one Ohio city earned the title "the town that started the Civil War" and meet some of men and women who helped the runaways to freedom. The presentation is FREE and open to the public. For more information, call the library at 216-475-5000.

**\*Sunday, February 26, 2012; 3p.m.:** Hear about the Great Escape of Libby Prison, the failed "escape" at Johnson's Island prison and other stories of the War Between The States when **BATTLE SCARS: STORIES OF THE CIVIL WAR** is presented at the North Ridgeville Library; 35700 Bainbridge Rd in North Ridgeville. This program is part of their Sunday Series and commemorates the Anniversary of the Civil War. It is FREE and open to the public. For more information, call the library at 440-327-8326.

**\*Saturday, March 3, 2012; 1p.m.:** Find out about some **GREAT LAKES LADIES** at the Maritime Museum of Sandusky; 125 Meigs St; Sandusky, Ohio. So much of the history of the Inland Seas concentrates on the captains and their boats, but women have always been involved! Did you know that a woman operated the first lighthouse on the Great Lakes? Find out who she was and which beacon she tended. Hear about 14 year old Maebelle Mason who saved a man from drowning. Meet Abigail Becker who was called "the Savior Of Long Point" because she saved about as many lives as she had children — warning: hers was NOT a small family! Bette Lou Higgins presents this storytelling program which is included with museum admission (\$4/adult; \$3/seniors and children; \$8/family). For more information call the museum at 419-624-0274.

**\*Saturday, July 14, 2012:** Members of the Cleveland Hiking Club will hear the story of Emma "Grandma" Gatewood.





1250 East River St.  
Elyria, Ohio 44035

Eden Valley programs are **MORE** than  
entertainment!

[WWW.EDENVALLEYENTERPRISES.ORG](http://WWW.EDENVALLEYENTERPRISES.ORG)



On September 20 Ritter Library invited EVE to premier a new program, **BATTLE SCARS: STORIES OF THE CIVIL WAR**, as part of their series for the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War. A large group gathered to hear the stories of the Great Escape of Libby Prison and the failed "escape" at Johnson's Island prison plus other stories of the War. If you didn't get a chance to be a part of that first audience, the program will be repeated on February 26, 2012 at the North Ridgeville Library — see listing on page 3.

Another premier of sorts took place on September 24 when a storytelling version of **YOU CAN'T PLAY BALL IN A SKIRT** was presented at the Cleveland Baseball Heritage Museum. This story of Alta Weiss, who put herself through medical school playing professional baseball on a men's team in the early 1900s, never fails to amaze. This new version brings the story to groups unable to afford our bigger first-person character program of the same name.

In October, Sarah Comstock (played by Bette Lou Higgins) was at the Huron Library in **NEXT STOP, FREEDOM!** Telling the story of the Underground Railroad in Ohio, Sarah presented an inside look of both the runaway slaves and the conductors who helped them get to freedom.

What's October without ghost stories? Elyria Li-

## What's Been Happening?

brary West River Branch made sure they had plenty with **I THOUGHT I SAW A GHOST** which provided the group with an evening of other-worldly stories.

Members of Phi Mu Fraternity enjoyed **THE BEST SONGS I NEVER SANG** as they prepared for their 90th anniversary year. The program gave them a moment to look over their lives as they prepared to take a broader look at the history of their organization.

**STORIES FROM A CHRISTMAS PAST** was presented at Pleasant Lake Villa on November 16 as the group began its holiday celebrations. These stories were told by the Christmas tree and brought the residents fond memories that they shared after the program.

The Christmas Tree Ship docked in Vermilion on December 3 and Dave Childers told the story and sang Christmas songs to the 200 + people who came to greet the boat on its arrival. Michael Higgins made sure that Dave could be heard and Rod Knight provided set-up assistance for this special tradition to open the holiday season.

The story of the *Rouse Simmons* was told in a more "traditional" manner by Bette Lou Higgins at the Maritime Museum of Sandusky on December 17. After the story, a movie about the history of the ship and the Schuenemann family was shown.

