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Music
& Arts Festival



August 24 & 25, 2018



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Welcome to the 7th Annual
**Clifton Gorge
Music & Arts Festival**

Friday, August 24th, 4-11 PM
Saturday, August 25th, 10 AM-11 PM



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**Free festival parking and restrooms
are conveniently located at the
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For more information look for us online at:
www.villageofclifton.com

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Clifton Gorge State Nature Preserve

This 268-acre preserve protects one of the most spectacular dolomite and limestone gorges in the state. Registered as a National Natural Landmark in 1968, Clifton Gorge encompasses a 2-mile stretch of the Little Miami State and National Scenic River, just east of John Bryan State Park.

Geologically, it is an outstanding example of interglacial and post-glacial canyon cutting. At one point, the river funnels through a deep, narrow channel, which was apparently formed by the enlarging

and connecting of a series of potholes in the resistant Silurian dolomite bedrock. In other sections of the gorge, cliff overhangs have broken off forming massive slump blocks scattered along the valley floor.

The shaded, north-facing slopes provide a cool, moist environment for northern species including hemlock, red baneberry, Canada yew, arbor-vitae and mountain maple. This is one of the most spectacular sites in the state for viewing spring wildflowers including the rare snow trillium.





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Ongoing

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- Story Time
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- Hula Hoops
- Putting Green
- Jump Ropes
- Bean Bags
- Contests
- Much more!

Special Saturday-Only Activities:

- Story Time on the Half Hour (10:30 AM-5:30 PM)

Friday, August 24th

Vendors Open 4 PM

Cruise-In 4-8 PM

Along Clay St. by the Opera House. Cars, trucks, or bikes – anything with wheels is welcome! Bring your ride or stop by for a look. For more information, see page left.

Blue Moon Soup 4-6 PM

This four piece group will entertain with original music and Americana, Celtic, folk and bluegrass. The band features fiddle, guitar, mandolin and bass.

Beer Tent Opens 5 PM

Clifton's Festival Beer Tent features craft brews and taster's favorites, as well as a wide selection of classic brand names. The tent is open as long as the music is playing, so come and kick back with a cold one – the entertainment's on us. *Bring your ID.*

Demonstration: Chainsaw Carver 6-6:30 PM

Behind the Teepee. Stop by behind the teepee to watch a live demonstration of the unique art of chainsaw carving!

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Sunday 12-8

Entertainment (Contd.)

The Hoppers 6:30-8:30 PM

Six guys from Yellow Springs playing tunes from the Beatles, Byrds, Beach Boys, Rolling Stones, McCoys, Chuck Berry, Buddy Holly, Johnny Rivers, Roy Orbison, Elvis, Del Shannon, & Ritchie Valens – just to name a few!

Eric Jerardi 9-11 PM

Blues rocker Eric Jerardi began his musical career by winning Ohio University's "Battle of the Bands" contest in 1989. Two years later, he was MTV's "Best Unsigned College Band" in the Midwest. His debut CD, released in 1995, highlights the use of riffs and melodic leads which have become his signature style. Jerardi has since released 6 more CDs featuring his provocative, and partially autobiographical, blues rock compositions, and has worked with some of the industry's best including Keith Urban and B.B. King.

Saturday, August 25th

Read about the festival's ongoing Kids' Activity Area back on page 9 – and don't forget to stop by!

Vendors Open 10 AM

Xenia Hospitality Chorus 10-11:30 AM

The Xenia Hospitality Chorus is an organization of men who promote the Barbershop Art Form by educating and entertaining the public with quality performances throughout Xenia and the surrounding communities. Established in 1953, the group sings both old standards and newer songs and works to support high school choral music programs and community efforts throughout the area.

Beer Tent Opens 11 AM

Clifton's Festival Beer Tent features craft brews and taster's favorites, as well as a wide selection of classic brand names. The tent is open as long as the music is playing, so come and kick back with a cold one –the entertainment's on us. *Bring your ID.*



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Entertainment (Contd.)

Demonstration: Behind the Curtain Dance Studio
11:30 AM-12 PM

At the intersection of Clay Street and SR 343. Behind the Curtain Dance Studio was founded in November of 2013 and currently serves roughly 200 students, including adults and children. Their goal is to create a fun, safe and nurturing environment in which children and adults of all ages are able to learn different kinds of dance – including jazz, ballet, tap, tumbling, cheerleading, hip hop, modern, belly dancing, Zumba, Mommy & Me, and more – all at affordable prices.

Demonstration: Chainsaw Carver 11:30 AM-12 PM

Behind the Teepee. Stop by behind the teepee to watch a live demonstration of the unique art of chainsaw carving!

Lord Kimbo 12-1:30 PM

Lord Kimbo is a jazz-funk group with local members from Clifton and Yellow Springs.

Demonstration: Dayton Celtic Academy 1:30-2 PM

At the intersection of Clay Street and SR 343. Under the direction of Mary and Lauren Laffey, the Celtic Academy of Irish Dance is Dayton's premier Irish dance school. Voted Best of Dayton by both *Dayton Magazine* and *Dayton.com*, the Celtic Academy is always in high demand to perform at events throughout the Midwest. Certified instructors instill the values of excellence and determination in both the competitive and non-competitive arenas. Dancers and instructors alike live up to the school's motto: Dance like champions, love like family!

Demonstration: Chainsaw Carver 1:30-2 PM

Behind the Teepee Stop by behind the teepee to watch a live demonstration of the unique art of chainsaw carving!

Cardinal Squares



Cardinal Squares dance from 7:30-10:00 on the second Friday of every month at Clark Technical Career Center, 1901 Selma Rd., Springfield, Oh. Our Dance Leader and instructor of many years is Ray Beavers. Dance class begins the second Tuesday of September. Classes are held every Tuesday from 7-9 graduating in spring. Square dancing is VERY easy to learn and is great physical and mental exercise. Our square dance family enjoys many terrific activities! We celebrate special occasions and local and national events year round! Come join in the fun!!

Our guest caller for this year's Festival is Jason Raleigh. Jason has been calling for many years, has a wonderful voice and unique calling style including a remarkable talent for yodeling in his singing calls. We enjoy dancing to Jason and you will too! Come give it a try! Jason will have you dancin' in the street with us in no time!

Contacts:

(937) 325-8411 • (937) 233-6788

banksdr77@sbcglobal.net

Entertainment (Contd.)

Sawmill Ridge Bluegrass 2-3:30 PM

Sawmill Ridge is a band that's infused with years of proven talent and music entertainment experience. The band's members have resumes that include an impressive list of credits, having opened for some of the best in the industry: Ernest Tubb, Seldom Scene, Joe Mullins, Rhonda Vincent, and the Grascals just to name a few. Whether they are entertaining on live stage, teaching music, or enjoying picking sessions with friends and family, Sawmill Ridge plays with excellence and entertains in an energetic, friendly manner that will leave you wanting more.

Demonstration: Troupe Roja 3:30-4 PM

At the intersection of Clay Street and SR 343. Troupe Roja is an award-winning Middle Eastern dance troupe from Dayton, OH. They study and perform many styles – from folkloric to fusion. Their dances often feature props like veil, cane, sword, and finger cymbals. They dance at many events and festivals in the area, including Dayton's A World A'fair and the Lebanese Festival, and for their first time, the Clifton Gorge Music & Arts Festival!

Demonstration: Chainsaw Carver 3:30-4 PM

Behind the Teepee. Stop by behind the teepee to watch a live demonstration of the unique art of chainsaw carving!

Lower London Street Dixieland Band 4-6 PM

The Lower London Street Dixieland Jazz Band plays authentic West Coast Style Dixieland Jazz. The band plays the last Tuesday night of each month at the famous Red Brick Tavern in Lafayette, Ohio, and regularly performs at the Clifton Opera House.

Demonstration: Cardinal Squares 6-6:30 PM

At the intersection of Clay Street and SR 343. Cardinal Squares dance from 7:30-10PM on the second Friday of every month and offer weekly dance class with dance leader and instructor Ray Beavers. Their guest caller for the Festival is the talented Jason Raleigh, who has been calling for many years and will have you dancin' in the street in no time! For more information, see their ad on page left.



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Entertainment (Contd.)

Demonstration: Chainsaw Carver 6-6:30 PM

Behind the Teepee. Stop by behind the teepee to watch a live demonstration of the unique art of chainsaw carving!

One Hot Minute 6:30-8:30 PM.

One Hot Minute is a cover rock band playing all the favorite hits from the 1980's to 2000's with some additional country and hip hop. The lead singer has been performing for over 15 years. The guitarist, bass, and drummer have performed for over 20 years and have played in many other bands around the Dayton area. One Hot Minute got started 8 years ago and has performed for many venues and private events.

Soul Fire Tribe (Fire Dancers) 8:40-9:15 PM

By the Shelter House on Clay Street. Soul Fire Tribe is a fire dance performance group from Yellow Springs. The show is captivating and fun for all ages.

Scarecrow Sideshow 9:30-11 PM

Scarecrow Sideshow is a rock and roll band formed in South Charleston, Ohio. The band consists of Daniel Black providing lead vocals and guitar, Michael Elliot on lead guitar, Kyle VanHoose on bass and Keith Dillow on drums. Scarecrow Sideshow has performed all over the state of Ohio from Canton to Cincinnati and everywhere in between at venues such as Blind Bob's in Dayton, The Southgate House Revival in Cincinnati and even the historic Madison Theater in Covington, KY. The band has been featured on several radio shows and podcasts locally and nationally including WYSO Public Radio in Dayton, OH. Scarecrow Sideshow released their debut, full length, self titled album in August 2016 and is currently recording their second full-length album which will be released in the fall of 2018.



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The History of Our Small Village – Clifton

The Greenville Treaty of 1797 opened up the Ohio Territory for permanent settlements. As Ohio became the 17th State in the Union, Owen Davis, his son Lewis, and son-in-law General Benjamin Whiteman first ventured into the Clifton area from Alpha Ohio which is southwest of present day Clifton.

Recognizing the natural power of the waters of the Little Miami River, they built a sawmill. They then built the first grist mill out of the lumber cut at the sawmill giving the settlement its first name of “Davis Mills”. Nearly all of the areas activity revolved around the mills which were built and owned by Owen Davis and Gen. Whiteman. The Settlement grew with the building of a distillery, a tavern, and a barrel stave factory.

Colonel Robert Patterson (forebearer of the National Cash Register founder) traveled to “Davis Mills Settlement” in 1806 and bought Owen Davis’s grist mill around 1810. He then proceeded to build a woolen mill. Patterson’s woolen mill was built over the “narrows” of the gorge. It was 4 stories high and had a water wheel

that was 22 ft in diameter making it the largest mill to be built on the frontier for many years.

During the War of 1812, Gen. William Henry Harrison appointed Col Patterson as quartermaster of his army. Patterson’s woolen mill worked day and night to produce and send 1800 garments to General Harrison’s Army. In 1840 when Gen. Harrison became the 9th President of the United States, he commissioned the Clifton Woolen Mill to produce the cloth for his inaugural suits.

The landscape was characterized by the surrounding beautiful cliffs that were forged by the running of the water through the limestone that lies beneath the land. The breathtaking panorama of these cliffs was so closely associated with the area, that in 1817, Davis Mills was renamed “Clifton.”

Patterson engaged surveyors to lay out the village of Clifton in 1817, and it was incorporated in 1833. Clifton’s population grew with the promising industry that was happening in the village, and between 1830-1860 the population grew to 300 residents. The town boasted of having 2 groceries, 2 blacksmiths, 1 wagon shop, 2 shoe

The History of Our Small Village – Clifton

shops, 1 sawmill, 1 flour mill, and 1 paper mill and several others. All of these businesses were run by steam, generated by the water moving through the mills. The foot prints of many of these mills can still be seen if hiking through the Clifton Gorge.

1834 brought word of the pending arrival of a railroad. Clifton was in competition with Yellow Springs, the other village in the Miami Township at this time. News articles from around this time indicate that Judge William Mills, a commercial entrepreneur, had likely also met with the board of directors of the Little Miami Railroad and convinced them to run the rails

through Yellow Springs instead of its original route through Clifton. The MR (Little Miami Railroad) and LE (Lake Erie) railroad opened in the late summer of 1846 in Yellow Springs.

According to a Xenia Women's Club paper written in 1942 by Lila Reed Jones, the village of Clifton was "then the largest and most prosperous community in the Miami Township. The loss of the railroad ruined a town with promising water power, enough for paper, wool, cotton, flour mills and a distillery, all running full force."

The water of the mill dam became the source of the Cholera epidemic

The History of Our Small Village – Clifton

in 1849. The disease was confined to the lower part of the village in which the use of a common well was attributed to the cause. The Village of Clifton suffered severely in proportion to its population from the Cholera epidemic.

Over time, the effect of losing the railroad bid, the relocation of some of the most enterprising citizens to Yellow Springs, and the severity of the Cholera epidemic loss of souls, took its toll. Clifton never recovered as a business center, and many of the mills were either burned or destroyed. Today, only The Clifton Mill remains along the cliffs of the Little Miami River.

From the wilderness of the Ohio frontier, a thriving settlement was built to notably become one of the first and largest manufacturing centers in the area. Clifton has come full circle... Clifton is now again, a small self-governing village that sits upon the beautiful cliffs of the Clifton Gorge.

In 1968 the 2 mile stretch of the Clifton Gorge and Little Miami River was registered as a National Natural Landmark. The Department of Natural Resources maintains the scenic trails and viewing platforms that within the gorge that give a birds-eye view of the Little Miami River as it moves between the

narrow stone walls. The year round beauty of the Clifton Gorge is one of the states hidden treasures to be enjoyed by all.

Clifton today is also known for:

- The Clifton Mill Christmas Light Display during the month of December.
- Clifton Opera House Performing Arts Center – weekly performances
- The Clifton Gorge Music and Arts Festival
- Community Easter Egg Hunt
- Community Independence Day hog roast/picnic
- Community Halloween Hayride and Hot dogs
- Birthplace of Woody Hayes (1913-1987)

Historical Population (Census Population):

- 1850 - 258
- 1880 - 310
- 1930 - 190
- 1960 - 230
- 2010 - 152





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The Clifton Opera House

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Clifton Opera house is a beautifully preserved concert hall that was built in 1893. Originally known as the town hall, it has been a venue for minstrel shows, medicine shows, school plays, church activities, style shows, dinners, dances, weddings, meetings, all variety of concerts, theatrical productions, and even basketball games. The tower was taken down in the 1920s and the building was not used for many years. Then, in 1978, part of the north wall fell in. Howard Printz, then President of the Clifton Historical Society, began raising funds to save the historic building. Thanks to his dedicated work and the generosity of the donors who cared so much for the Opera House, it is restored and continues to be a valuable part of the Clifton community. The Opera House is owned by the Village and managed with the help of Christin Zerbe-Leckey, the Opera House Event Coordinator. See our upcoming shows listed in the summer/fall event schedule (pp. 32-33). The Opera House can also be rented for private events. For more information, call (937) 342-2175.



The Clifton Opera House

SUMMER & FALL SCHEDULE

Shows start at 7:30 PM unless otherwise noted; suggested donation for most shows is \$10. For more information, visit cliftonoperahouse.com

JULY

Saturday, July 7
Kettering Banjo Society

Saturday, July 14
German Sauerkraut Band

Schmidt's German Food Truck will sell their famous German sausages and other foods from 5pm until the show!

Saturday, July 21
Keith Lykins
(Percussive Guitarist)

Saturday, July 28
Ohio Brass and Electric
(Horn & Electric Band)

AUGUST

Saturday, August 4
Finton and Collins
(Guitar, Sax, & Vocals)

Saturday, August 11
The Hamiltons (Bluegrass)

Sunday, August 12
2PM Matinee – From TN:
Cannon Creek
(Bluegrass/Gospel)

Saturday, August 18
Raggedy Edge
(Country/Folk/Pop/Rock/Blues)

SEPTEMBER

Saturday, September 1
The Corndrinkers String Band
(Bluegrass)

Saturday, September 8
The American Landscape with Daniel Dye (Bluegrass)

Saturday, September 15
Ohio River Minstrels
Celebrate American heritage with story and song.

Saturday, September 22
Nine Mile Creek
(String & Dulcimer Band)

Saturday, September 29
Lower London Street Dixieland Band

OCTOBER

Saturday, October 6
Hal Harris Orchestra
(Swing/Dance)

The Clifton Opera House

SUMMER & FALL SCHEDULE

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Saturday, October 13
Blue Heron Trio (Jazz)

Saturday, October 20
Mark Snow (Vocalist –
Decades of the 20th Century)

Saturday, October 27
The Hoppers
Dress up in the style of the 50s & 60s for a discount at the door!

NOVEMBER

Saturday, November 3
The Pandini Brothers
(Plucked String Quartet –
Italian/Pan-Mediterranean)

Saturday, November 10
One More Time Swing Band

Saturday, November 17
Joe Mullins and the Radio Ramblers
Tickets \$15

DECEMBER

Saturday, December 8
7-9PM – Christmas Special:
Kettering Banjo Society

Schmidt's German Food Truck will sell their famous German sausages and other foods from 5pm until the show!



SPECIAL THANKS

to those who turned the idea of a vibrant music and arts festival into a reality.

Clifton Village Council & Special Projects Committee

Southgate Baptist Church

Robert Baldwin, Jr.



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