



A PIONEER FAMILY:
**GAYLORDS OF
MUNROE FALLS**

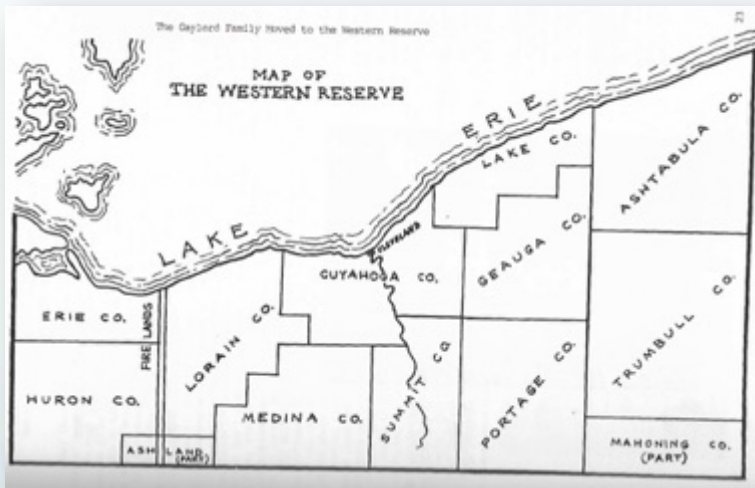
Presented by Munroe Falls Historical Society
Summer 2022



Eli Gaylord Home, Aurora Road, Stow Township

The name Gaylord dates back to 1809 within the Munroe Falls community.

That's the year early settlers migrated to Stow Township, specifically Munroe Falls, from Middletown, Connecticut.

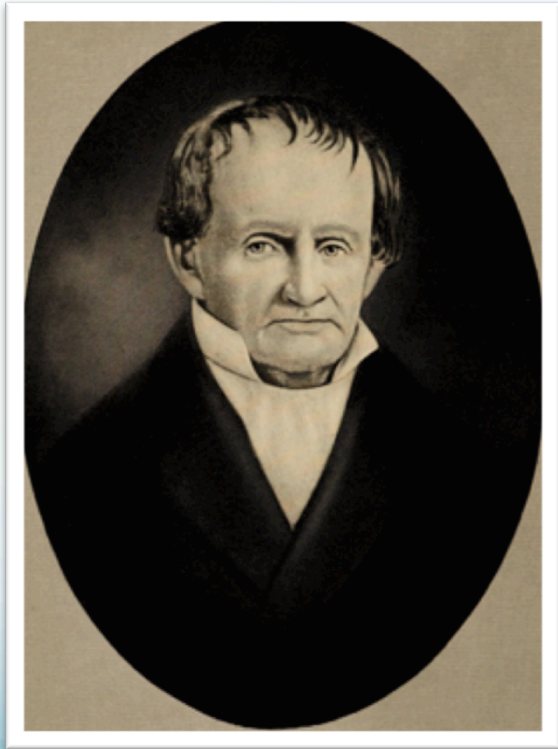


STOW TOWNSHIP

Stow Township, now Stow City, was initially a small part of the State of Connecticut's Western Reserve.

The Western Reserve (today known as Northeast Ohio) was held, sold and distributed by the State of Connecticut in the years after the American Revolution.

Much of the land was sold to a group of speculators who operated as the Connecticut Land Company. They, in turn, sold it in portions for development by new settlers.



JOSHUA STOW

Joshua Stow of Middletown, Connecticut – a surveyor and among the first exploring party to the Western Reserve – was a member of the Connecticut Land Company.

Stow purchased the 25 square miles of wilderness that came to be known as Stow Township for \$14,154 in 1797.

Although the township is named for Stow, he never lived in the area – he continued to reside in Connecticut until his death in 1842.

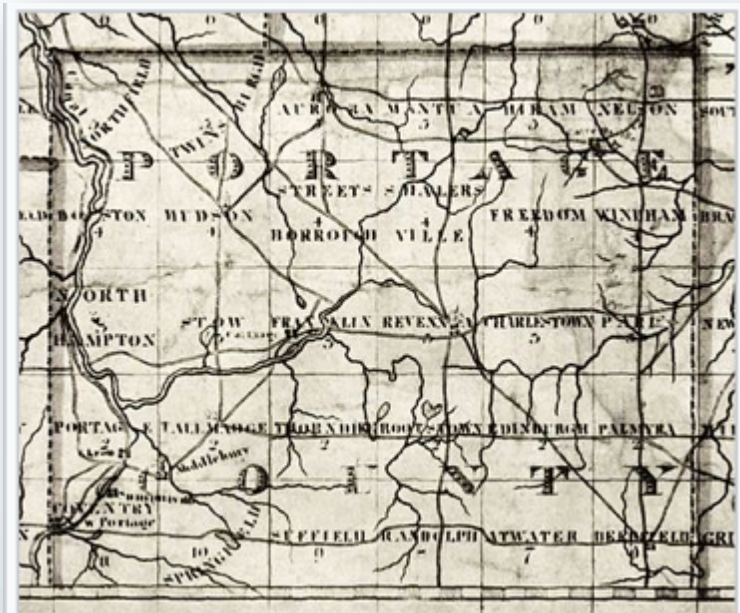
GAYLORD FAMILY

In 1809, Jonathan Gaylord, Jr. – also of Middletown, Connecticut – purchased land in Stow Township from Joshua Stow.

Gaylord and his family left Middletown, Connecticut, on June 1, 1809.

Travel in those days was always arduous and frequently dangerous. Roads were bad – settlers had to cut through woods and sleep in wagons.

The family made the trip to Stow Township within 41 days, reportedly with Jonathan Jr. walking most of the way.



1826 map of Portage County showing Stow Township (left of center) as it was originally laid out.

Jonathan was accompanied to Stow Township by 40 friends and family, including his parents, seven children, uncles and aunts, and sister Margaret “Peggy” Stow and brother-in-law William Stow (a distant cousin of Joshua Stow).

The Gaylord family was among the very first to settle in southern part of Stow Township, now known as Munroe Falls.



THE GAYLORD COAT OF ARMS HEREBY ILLUSTRATED IS OFFICIALLY DOCUMENTED IN BURKE'S GENERAL ARMORY. THE ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION OF THE ARMS (SHIELD) IS AS FOLLOWS:
"AR. A CHEV. BETW. THREE COCKS GU."
WHEN TRANSLATED THE PLAÇON ALSO DESCRIBES THE ORIGINAL COLORS OF THE GAYLORD ARMS AS:
"SILVER; A CHEVRON BETWEEN THREE COOKS ALL RED."

GAYLORD FAMILY HISTORY

The Gaylord family descended from the English Puritans who were founders of Connecticut.

Gaylords traditionally raised big families, so there are thousands throughout the U.S.

For the purpose of this presentation, we have followed a specific family line, which we traced from the first generation in America to the family's last living resident of Munroe Falls.



Presumably the ancestor of all the Gaylords now living in the Stow/Munroe Falls area is **William Gaylord, Sr.**, born circa 1585 in Somerset, England.

William left Plymouth, England, on May 20, 1630, and was among 140 passengers on the legendary ship "Mary & John" that arrived in Dorchester, MA, on May 30, 1630.

Deacon William Gallow

Five years later, William traveled to the State of Connecticut Valley (now Windsor) as a member of a church party. The deacon moved his family there in 1638, where he later passed on July 20, 1673, at 88 years old.

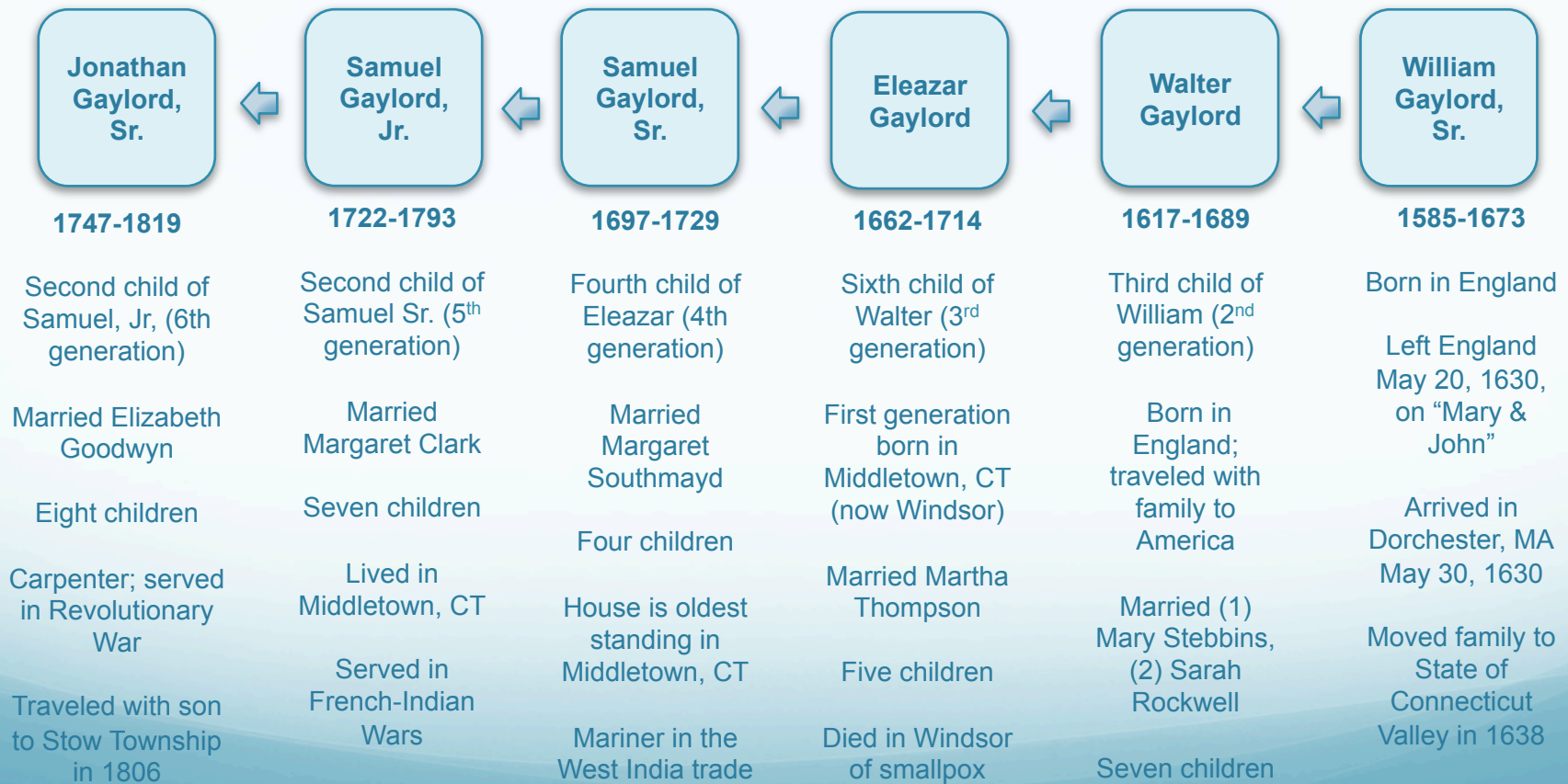


Along this specific family line, there were six generations of Gaylords from the time William Gaylord, Sr., arrived in America until the first Gaylord settled in Stow Township.

From 1673 until early 1800s, the family primarily lived in the Middletown Upper Houses area, located in Middlesex County, Connecticut, along the Connecticut River, south of Hartford.

Today, the historic Middletown Upper Houses district is visually dominated by residential structures built before 1810.

SIX GENERATIONS OF GAYLORDS IN AMERICA BEFORE SETTLING IN STOW TOWNSHIP



FIRST OF THIS LINE TO SETTLE IN STOW TOWNSHIP:

JONATHAN GAYLORD, JR. 1776-1826 (7TH GENERATION)

Jonathan Gaylord, Jr., was born in Upper Middletown, Connecticut, as one of Jonathan Gaylord, Sr., and Elizabeth Goodwyn's eight children.

In 1798, he married Martha Thomas in Connecticut. They had seven children: Isaac, Elizabeth, Mary Ann, Joshua, **Sylvester**, Eli and Martha.

Jonathan Jr. moved the family to Stow Township in Western Reserve, Ohio, in 1809. They settled in southern part of Stow Township among 200 acres now known as Munroe Falls.



JONATHAN GAYLORD, JR. (continued)

Upon arrival in Stow Township, the family claimed their land, which was covered with timber. After clearing it with the help of his sons, Jonathan established the Gaylord Farm.

Their first home was a log cabin, which was eventually replaced by a frame house. The oldest son Isaac lived for awhile on his father's land, but then sold his interest to brother Joshua and moved to Tallmadge. Joshua's farm was located on the north side of River Road.

Jonathan and Martha were members of the Presbyterian Church. They are buried in the Stow cemetery.

SYLVESTER G. GAYLORD, SR. 1808-1889 (8TH GENERATION)

Sylvester G. Gaylord, Sr., was the third son of Jonathan, Jr. Born in Middleton, he arrived in Stow Township at a mere 9 months old.

Sylvester grew up on the Gaylord Farm and, in 1831, married Ruth Nickerson, whose parents were also pioneers of Stow Township. (Her father kept a hotel at Stow Corners.) They had two children: Helen and Sylvester. Ruth died in 1838 at 25 years old.

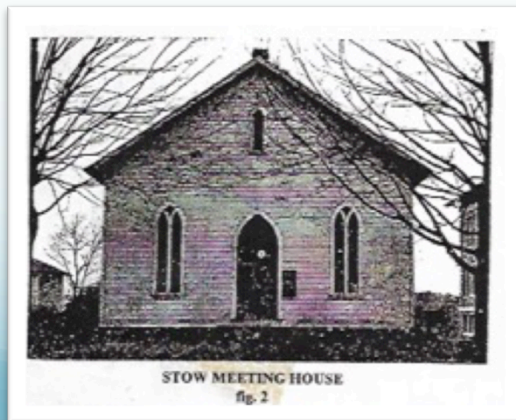
Sylvester's second wife was Julia Ann North, married in 1839. Together, they had five children: Lucy, William, Julia, Charlotte and **Charles**.



SYLVESTER G. GAYLORD (continued)

Sylvester settled on a farm in Stow Township, but later sold it and bought part of his father's original homestead at the corner of Munroe Falls Road (now Route 91) and River Road.

Sylvester was a carpenter, mechanic and builder. He served as a township trustee and trustee of the Disciplines Church. In 1876, Sylvester built a pulpit and the white-framed Stow Meeting House in which it was housed.



The meeting house faced the road where today stands the parking lot of The First Christian Church of Stow.



SYLVESTER G. GAYLORD (continued)

According to grandson Howard, Sylvester was a ship builder and went to Sandusky for work. He also built many fine homes in the area, as well as helped build the St. Johns Episcopal Church in Cuyahoga Falls in 1835.

According to granddaughter Ruth, Sylvester also helped build the Munroe Falls river dam and planted many of the mature trees there.

Sylvester died at 80 years old and is buried with Julia in Stow Cemetery.



**CHARLES NEWELL GAYLORD 1852-1942
(9TH GENERATION)**

Charles N. Gaylord was the first of this Gaylord line to be born in Stow Township. He attended academy in Tallmadge, was reared in farming and paper finishing, and worked at the Munroe Falls paper mill for 15 years.

Charles married Lucy Southmayd in Stow Township on June 3, 1874. She was known to the community as Aunt Lucy and for being a fine musician.

They had two boys: **Howard** and Stanley.



Brothers Howard and Stanley Gaylord at the Gaylord farm in Munroe Falls, Ohio

This Week In Akron History

100 Years Ago — In 1865

More than \$10,000 in counterfeit money was seized by Sheriff Burleson when he arrested three men, including the notorious Jim Brown, who had started making counterfeit money at various places in the Cuyahoga Valley before the Civil War.

Burleson picked up Leonard Hall at the railroad depot on a tip that he was passing counterfeit bills. Then the sheriff went to Brown's home, on Yellow Creek. Later the sheriff arrested Thaddeus Nighman in Canton.

★

Item in the news columns:

"It is a burning disgrace to the intelligent, enterprising and wealthy county of Summit that the dome of its splendid Courthouse has remained so long unsupplied with a bell and that during the 20 years of its existence the people of the county have been indebted to the generosity of a neighboring church for the means of calling them to court and the various other public meetings for which it has been used."

The item wound up with a demand that the County Commissioners put up "a first class bell" before the next term of court began in September.

50 Years Ago — In 1915

Although the story was vague as to some of the mechanical details, the Beacon Journal gave a big play to the arrest of 21 motorists for speeding "on the nice, new paved road between Stow Corners and Kent" on Sunday afternoon.

Deputy Howard Gaylord, of Cuyahoga Falls, and two assistants made the arrests. The story said they used stop watches and "a handy telephone," but did not say just how the operation worked. The assistants were stationed behind "trees and a woodshed" about a mile apart. Gaylord was several hundred yards east of the second assistant.

Apparently the first assistant clicked his watch and phoned the time and a description of the car to the second man, who made a swift calculation when the car passed him, and signaled Gaylord, who stopped the car and made the arrest.

The speed limit was 20 miles an hour. The speeders who appeared promptly before Justice of the Peace Lodge at Silver Lake were fined the costs. Those who had to be brought in later had a fine added to the costs.

★

John Misere, 48, of 188 Jewett st., a collector for the Renner Brewery, was driving his buggy down E. Market st. near Main st., when a team of horses on a Klages & Ice Co. dray ran away. The dray hit the buggy, demolishing it. Misere and the buggy seat were thrown out at the same time and he landed on the seat, escaping injury.

25 Years Ago — In 1940

Other city employees rose up in wrath after Council President Edward Flowers proposed annual pay raises for policemen and firemen.

CHARLES NEWELL GAYLORD (continued)

Charles was widely recognized in local business, politics and church. He made ice cream for many years for the Silver Lake Park.

Charles also served as an elder in the Stow Church of Christ, was active in the Stow Branch of the Ohio Farm Bureau and named president of the Munroe Falls School Board.

He also served two terms as a Summit County Commissioner.



CHARLES NEWELL GAYLORD (continued)

After Lucy's death in 1908, Charles married Mary Irene Brewster (1874-1947) in 1910. The couple had no children.

Charles died in 1942 at 90 years old in Cuyahoga Falls. (He lived on Broad Street in later years.) Charles is buried next to Lucy in the Stow Cemetery.

Mary Brewster Gaylord died in 1947, also in Cuyahoga Falls. She is buried in the Brewster family plot at Akron's Glendale Cemetery.



Howard and Florence Gaylord Wedding Photo, 1902

**HOWARD SOUTHMAYD GAYLORD
1879-1954 (10TH GENERATION)**

Howard S. Gaylord married Florence Rosina Earl on May 4, 1902, in Holloway, Michigan.

Together, they moved to Munroe Falls where they had seven children: Luvern (who later become an attorney), Robert, Richard (Dick), Lucy, Olive, Blanche and **Raymond**.

The family lived on the corner of the Gaylord Farm on Munroe Falls Road (now Route 91), according to the 1940 census. Howard was an electrical engineer at Elea Power Company.



On the old Gaylord farm – North River Road and Munroe Falls Road (now Route 91) in Munroe Falls, Ohio (1905)

Left to Right: Charles N. Gaylord, Florence Gaylord, Baby Luverne Gaylord, a hired hand, Lucy Gaylord (Charles's wife)

Florence Gaylord with Baby Luverne
(oldest son) at the old Gaylord farm
in Munroe Falls, Ohio (1905)





HOWARD SOUTHMAYD GAYLORD
(continued)

Howard died in Akron, Ohio, in 1954.
Florence died in 1969.

Both are supposedly buried in Stow
Cemetery.

PROBATE COURT
SUMMIT COUNTY

180 - 63440 - 83

Last Will of

Howard S. Gaylord, deceased.

VINCENT ZURZ
Judge

BARRETT BUILDING, FORTHOVEN, SPRINGFIELD, OHIO
44-5-3

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT
OF
HOWARD S. GAYLORD

I, HOWARD S. GAYLORD, of Maroon Falls, Ohio, being of full age and of sound mind and memory, do make, publish and declare this to be my Last Will and Testament, hereby revoking all wills by me heretofore made.

ARTICLE I

I direct that all my just debts and funeral expenses be paid out of my estate as soon as practicable after the time of my decease.

ARTICLE II

I give and bequeath the sum of Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) to the Stow Church of Christ.

ARTICLE III

I give, devise and bequeath all the rest, residue and remainder of my estate of every kind, nature and description, and wherever situated, to my wife, Florence E. Gaylord, to be hers absolutely and in fee simple.

ARTICLE IV

I make, nominate and appoint my wife, Florence E. Gaylord, to be the Executrix of this my last Will and Testament, hereby authorizing and empowering my said Executrix to compound, compromise, settle and adjust all claims and demands in favor of or against my estate, and to sell at private or public sale at such prices and upon such terms of credit or otherwise as she may deem best, the whole or any part of my real or personal property, and to execute, acknowledge and deliver deeds and other proper instruments of conveyance thereof to the purchaser or purchasers. I request that no bond be required of my said Executrix.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand at Maroon Falls, Ohio, this 9th day of January, 1952.

Howard S. Gaylord

Signed and acknowledged by the said HOWARD S. GAYLORD as and for his last Will and Testament in our presence and by us subscribed as attesting witnesses in his presence and in the presence of each other, this 9th day of January, 1952.

Attest at Stow, Ohio
Florence E. Gaylord residing at Stow, Ohio

CERTIFICATE OF COPIES

The State of Ohio, Summit County, ss.

I, VINCENT ZURZ Judge and Ex-officio Clerk of the Probate Court within and for said County, said Court being a Court of Record, having a Seal, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full and correct copy of the Last Will and Testament of Howard S. Gaylord, deceased.

I further Certify that by the laws of the State of Ohio, I am Ex-Officio Clerk of said Court, having sole custody of the Records, Archives, and Seal of said Court; that I have been duly commissioned and qualified as Judge of said Court; and that this attestation is in due form of law.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court at Akron, Ohio, this

20th day of FEBRUARY A. D. 1956

VINCENT ZURZ
Probate Judge and ex-officio Clerk of said Court

By Margaret Garcia Deputy Clerk



RAYMOND GAYLORD 1921-2012
(11TH GENERATION)

Raymond Gaylord is the last of this Gaylord line to live in Munroe Falls. He was born in October 1921, the youngest of Howard's seven children.

Raymond grew up at 320 North Main (at the corner of Gaylord Drive).

Raymond graduated from Stow High School, Heidelberg University, Oberlin Graduate School of Theology and Vanderbilt Divinity School among others.



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

3001 WOLFLIN AVENUE • AMARILLO, TEXAS 79109 • 806-355-6526

Jan. 27, 1993

Raymond Gaylord, Interim Pastor

Mrs. Marilyn Lown
Munroe Falls Historical Society
96 Pinehurst Ed.
Munroe Falls, Ohio 44262

Dear Mrs. Lown:

It was so extremely good getting your letter and invitation to the forthcoming Founders' Day celebration on May 13th. I am presently serving an interim pastorate in a huge church here in the Panhandle area of Texas, and will not be returning to my Grand Rapids' home, 3526 Eagle Bluff NE, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49505 until June 1st.

Yes, I am very much a part of the Gaylords that settled in 1808 in Munroe Falls. My great, great grandfather, Johnathan (sp. O. K.) bought 400 acres on either side of the Cuyahoga River at the cost of one dollar an acre from the Connecticut Land Company. It took the family 14 days by ox cart to come to Munroe Falls, and the first burial in Stow Cemetery was a Gaylord. The Gaylords, Stows, Wetmores, etc. had been neighbors in Middletown and all came at virtually the same time.

The first Gaylord home, as I was told was a log cabin located where the Stow Talmsde Road now intersects with Marsh Rd. In 1852, Sylvester Gaylord built the rambling home at that corner where a high-rise apartment building now stands.

I grew up at 320 N. Main (at the corner of Gaylord Dr.) where my mother and father, Howard and Florence raised a family of seven. Only two sisters and I remain in that family.

We know so well the old Yarger home, as my brother, Dick was such a good friend of that family. In years past, our family gave many priceless heirlooms to the Stow Historical Society, but I shall check with my sisters and see if we might have some things for you. We commend you in what you are doing. I shall appreciate you keeping in touch with me at the address in Grand Rapids listed above. Thanks to all the responsible people that are working on this historical project. Munroe Falls was once the center of the universe for me. Unfortunately, our family is mostly all dead and living across the country now; but again, thanks for what you are doing.

Most sincerely,

P. S. Most all my Gaylord memorabilia is at our Grand Rapids' home and I do not have access to it here.

RAYMOND GAYLORD (continued)

Raymond married Jeannette Green and served as Pastor and Pastor Emeritus of Cascade Christian Church in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

They had three children – Jonathan, Sara and Peter – who never lived in the Munroe Falls area.



RAYMOND GAYLORD (continued)
Raymond died at age 90 on Friday,
June 15, 2012.



He and Jeannette are buried in Cascade
Cemetery, Grand Rapids.



Gaylord plot at Stow Cemetery

STOW CEMETERY

More than 100 names in the Stow Cemetery, located at 3162 Kent Road, are associated with the Gaylord family, either by birth or marriage.

The first burial at the Stow Cemetery was Elizabeth Goodwin Gaylord, wife of Jonathan, Sr. She died in 1809 at age 61.

ARTIFACTS FROM OTHER AREA GAYLORDS



Unidentified



"Stow High School"

ARTIFACTS FROM OTHER AREA GAYLORDS

**SUMMIT COUNTY
HIGH SCHOOLS**
C. A. FLICKINGER, Superintendent

Name Richard Gaylord 11
 School Stow High School 4
 Year 1924-1925

Promoted in One Nick, Con. Lines, Biol.
 Retained in Eng. II.

Principal
M. B. Kimpson
Sept.

The Deason-Lewis Co., Columbus, O., Publishers

RECORD

	1st Mo.	2d Mo.	3d Mo.	4th Mo.	5th Mo.	6th Mo.	7th Mo.	8th Mo.	9th Mo.	10th Mo.	1st Ex.	2d Ex.	Gen. Ave.
Half Days Absent		2	2	3	6	6	4	2					
Minutes Tardy													
Department	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E					
English III	F	65	65	50	Dn.						53		
Latin													
Writing													
French													
History	77	70	65	99	99	99	99	99			77	78	77
Civics						F	F	F	F				65
Agriculture													
Household Arts													
Algebra													
Geometry													
General Science													
Physics													
Music													
Biology	F	65	F	F	F	66	F	99	99		83	89	70
English II	F	F	F	F	F	66	F	F	F		53	69	69
Age													



"Papa", Unidentified

School Report Card, Richard Gaylord

ARTIFACTS FROM OTHER AREA GAYLORDS

GRAVES REGISTRATION CARD

Name Gaylord, Samuel
Address Summit Co.
Date of Death 9/7/1813 Place Summit Co.
Cause --- Date of Burial 9/12/1813
Date of Birth 9/20/1784 Place Middletown, Conn.
Name of Cemetery Stow Paradise Park Location Stow Twp. C.
Lot No. 18 A Section No. --- Block No. A Grave No. 15
Markers: Flat --- Upright --- None Yes
Next of Kin: --- (Name) --- (Address)

SERVICE RECORD

War Served In: Revolutionary War
Date Enlisted --- Date Discharged --- Social No. ---
Branch of Service ARMY Rank Pvt.
Company, Outfit or Ship 9th Regt. Capt. Ebenezer Miller's Co.
P. 1010 Register Page 154

Grave Card of Samuel Gaylord

Townsend Club
CERTIFICATE OF MEMBERSHIP

THIS CERTIFIES THAT George T. Gaylord
IS A MEMBER IN TOWNSEND OLD AGE PENSION CLUB No. 1
CITY Stow STATE Ohio
THIS MEMBERSHIP IS GOOD IN AND TRANSFERABLE TO ANY OFFICIAL
TOWNSEND CLUB IN THE UNITED STATES
(VOID UNLESS PROPERLY SIGNED BY OLD AGE REVOLVING PENSIONS, LTD.
THE LOCAL CLUB SECRETARY)

Edith Horvath SECRETARY LOCAL CLUB
R. B. Bennett 1941-1942
SIGNATURE OF MEMBER

Townsend Card for George T. Gaylord

ARTIFACTS FROM OTHER AREA GAYLORDS



Unidentified



Myrtle Thacker,
daughter of Lily
Gaylord and
Melvin Thacker of
Akron



For more information on the Gaylord Family of Munroe Falls collection, contact the Munroe Falls Historical Society.

**MUNROE FALLS HISTORICAL
SOCIETY AND MUSEUM**
historicalsocietymunroefalls.weebly.com

Presentation compiled by Jen Snider, member of Munroe Falls Historical Society (June 2022)

SOURCES

Portrait and Biographical Record of Portage and Summit Counties, p 756

“The Gaylord Family”, Cuyahoga Falls Reporter, Friday, February 2, 1940, p 32-43

The Pioneer Gaylord Family, 1630-1989 by Nancy Allen Gaylord, Copyright 1989

The Amazing Story of the Gaylords in America by Sharon Taylor, Copyright 1984

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[Middletown_Upper_Houses_Historic_District.html](http://www.livingplaces.com/CT/Middlesex_County/Cromwell_Town/Middletown_Upper_Houses_Historic_District.html)

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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joshua_Stow <http://www.usgwarchives.net/oh/tombpics/summit/stow/stowcem/stowcem.htm>

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