

## ***“Labor Saving Devices of the late 1800’s.”***

*Union County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society will be holding their first meeting of 2023 on Saturday, April 15 at 10 a.m. at the Marysville Public Library in Meeting Room A. The library is located at 231 South Plum Street, Marysville, Ohio. Our speaker will be John Lambert. All are welcome to attend!*



John Lambert grew up in Centerburg before graduating from Defiance College. He taught and coached for 10 years before becoming a financial advisor and retired in 2012. Early on, in his early 30s, he began collecting apple peelers. John had read an article in a magazine that there had been over 200 different patents just on apple peelers. He could not imagine this was accurate, but over the next 35 years, he would accumulate over 200 different models. Along the way, he saw other early, 1850-1885' cast iron kitchen labor-saving devices like eggbeaters, cherry pitters, raisin seeders, can openers, etc that caught his eye and so he added them to his collection.

John has traveled many miles to visit all of the flea markets, antique shops and shows to find rare items. However, after 2 decades he discovered the secret to building a top-notch collection was to network with other collectors and trade items. John once bought a collection of 112 apple peelers in Williamsburg, Va in order to add 6 to my collection. His wife was not happy when there was no room for her in their Jeep Cherokee to come home. With a little assistance from a relative who followed him with her aboard for 50 miles until he could rent a trailer, not only did they make it home safely, but his marriage survived.

John seldom adds to the collection now but still keeps his eyes "peeled" for something unusual. John has always loved watching the Vege-matic guy at the fair and he hopes his "show-and-tell" surpasses his demonstrations because he expects these 150 year-old items to work as flawlessly as they did when they were new. Even if you do not like antiques, you will be impressed by the work of these fascinating devices.

John assures all who attend, that will see some things you have never seen before and are unlikely to see again.