

Hubbells Rock Cleveland 2015

Over a span of nearly 400 years, from the parish of Rock, England, to the Rock & Roll city of Cleveland, Ohio, the descendents of Richard Hubball have certainly made their mark in North America. We invite you to gather with your cousins to celebrate all things Hubbell at the 17th Biennial Reunion of The Hubbell Family Historical Society.

As part of the Connecticut Western Reserve during Colonial America, the counties of Northeastern Ohio grew up around a town founded by surveyor Moses Cleaveland in 1796, where the Cuyahoga River meets Lake Erie. Two centuries later, the Cleveland metropolitan area has become a home for business, recreation, culture, and the arts.

Two members of the Hubbell family have made their mark in the history of Cleveland, architect Benjamin S. Hubbell and artist Charles H. Hubbell. As part of your visit, you will see how these two cousins left a lasting impression on our city.

Our Monday tour will include the West Side Market, a century-old public indoor/outdoor market building designed by the architects Benjamin Hubbell and W. Dominick Benes. The grand 241' x 124' structure has a 44-foot high tile vaulted ceiling, and the Benjamin S. Hubbell clock tower, which stands 137' tall. It is home to 100 vendors offering meats, seafood, fruits, vegetables, baked goods, dairy, flowers, ready-to-eat foods, spices and nuts.

We will then travel to the Great Lakes Science Center on the shores of Lake Erie. Many of the exhibits here document the features of the natural environment in the Great Lakes region. The Science Center is home to the NASA Glenn Visitor Center, one of only 11 such Visitor Centers in the country. In the harbor next to the Science Center is the Steamship William G. Mather, a restored 618-foot historic Great Lakes freighter.

Our Tuesday tour takes us to University Circle, where we will visit the internationally renowned Cleveland Museum of Art. Built in 1916, the original neoclassical white marble building was also designed by the architects Hubbell & Benes. The 1916 building is the “jewel in the crown” of several later additions that together house a diverse permanent collection of more than 45,000 works of art from around the world. After a box lunch in a private dining room, we will take our group photo at this iconic building.

We will then move on to the Cleveland Botanical Garden, located next door, with beautifully themed formal and informal outdoor gardens. It includes The Eleanor Armstrong Smith Glasshouse, an 18,000 square foot conservatory home to plant and animal life from two separate biomes: the spiny desert of Madagascar and the cloud forest of Costa Rica. They feature over 350 species of plants and 50 species of animals, including hundreds of butterflies.

Our Tuesday tour will conclude with a visit to the Crawford Auto-Aviation Museum of the Western Reserve Historical Society. The Crawford is home to an eclectic collection of classic vehicles dating from the 1890's to concept cars of recent years. It is here where we will view paintings of Charles Herman Hubbell, one of the most recognized commercial aviation artists in the country. In 1934, he was commissioned to paint past winners of the Thompson Trophy Air Races. Charles started his own free-lance commercial studio in 1935 and created a calendar series of aircraft artwork published by Thompson/TRW from 1937-1972.

On Wednesday, we will enjoy a ride on the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad, which will take us through the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, which preserves and reclaims the rural landscape along the “crooked river” valley. We will stop at the village of Peninsula, a well-preserved mid-19th-century town that grew with the establishment of the Ohio and Erie Canal and the Valley Railroad. In Peninsula, you can explore the village's galleries and shops on Main Street before making the return trip on the train back to Rockside station, near our hotel.

Apart from our planned tours, family meetings, and Thursday evening's Reunion Banquet, we invite you to enjoy any of the other attractions that Cleveland and Northeast Ohio have to offer. Our host hotel, the Holiday Inn Cleveland South in Independence is centrally located near the intersection of two major highways, I-480 and I-77, in the center of Cuyahoga County. Many restaurants and amenities are right nearby, and the hotel includes an Olympic-sized swimming pool, fitness center, nightclub, complimentary wireless internet, and complimentary airport shuttle.

Plan now to join us on the first day of summer— Sunday, June 21st through Thursday, June 25th at “The Best Location in the Nation”— Cleveland, Ohio!