

# THE AUGLAIZE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## HISTORY AT A GLANCE

ISSUE 4 NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2006

### HISTORICAL SOCIETY SETS PROGRAMS FOR 2007

The Auglaize County Historical Society has planned a full schedule for the upcoming year. Lectures, workshops, even concerts are part of the Historical Society's 2007 offerings.

Here's a sneak peek at what's in store:

The Historical Society teams up with the folks at Glynnwood to celebrate the 150th anniversary of St. Patrick's Catholic Church. Join us at 2 p.m., March 25, for a concert of Irish music with the Columbus-based band known as the Ladies of Longford.

In another successful collaboration, the Historical Society and the Downtown Wapakoneta Partnership successfully applied for a spot on the Ohio Historic Preservation Office's 2007 Building Doctor program (date: TBA). The event will include an evening lecture about how to take care of your historic home, store, church, or other building. (In this case, historic means 50 years or older, so that includes lots of Auglaize County building owners!) The visiting Building Doctors will also tour local buildings to help their owners solve specific problems. Look for more information in

the next newsletter.

On May 18 and 19 the Historical Society will host a gravestone restoration workshop. Presenters will include the Gravestone Groomer himself, John Walters, who assists the Indiana Historical Society with all of its cemetery preservation seminars.

Participants at the May event will learn how to clean tombstones, locate missing pieces of stones, level stone bases, build new bases, etc. If you're interested, please contact the Historical Society for a registration form (available after January 1).

### Thank you!

The Historical Society thanks all those who have made 2006 such a positive, productive year.

We thank our outgoing trustees Ruth Eschleman, Barbara Harrod, and Todd Spieles.

We also thank docents Jim Webb and Dave Stoll at Wapakoneta, Ken Cattarin and Walter Horner at St. Marys, and Mary Lou Barber, who recently assisted with the tours of nine second grade classes at Wapakoneta.

Finally, we thank Lawrence Dietz, ever-faithful and helpful husband of president Karen Dietz.

Volunteers make the Auglaize County Historical Society the success that it is!

### BUS TRIP A FALL SUCCESS

The Auglaize County Historical Society's 2nd Annual Bus Trip took more than 40 members and friends on an October visit to Sandusky County. The group visited the Postal Research Center, Historic Lyme Village, and the Hayes Presidential Center, which included the mu-

seum, home, and grave of Rutherford B. Hayes. The day also included lunch at DaVinci's, a local eatery and art gallery, a guided tour of Fremont, and a last stop for some renowned Toft's Ice Cream. A great time was had by all.

Plan on joining us in 2007!



## THE NATIONAL REGISTER IN AUGLAIZE COUNTY

The National Register of Historic Places is the nation's official list of cultural resources worthy of preservation. Properties listed in the Register include districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, archaeology, engineering, and culture. The National Register is admin-

istered by the National Park Service. Did you know that almost 90 Auglaize County buildings are included in the 80,000 listings of the National Register of Historic Places? Inclusion in the National Register contributes to preserving historic properties in a number of ways:

Recognition that a prop-

erty is of significance to the Nation, the State, or the community.

Consideration in the planning for Federal or federally-assisted projects.

Eligibility for Federal tax benefits.

Qualification for Federal assistance for historic preservation, when funds are available.

*INTERPRETATION SHOULD BE ENJOYABLE, RELEVANT, ORGANIZED, THEMATIC, AND PURPOSEFUL—*  
OBERLIN HERITAGE CENTER

The Historical Society has trained a number of new docents (tour guides) for the Mooney (St. Marys) and Wapakoneta Museums. States Barber, "Being a successful tour guide involves much more than simply reciting a hundred dates or identifying obscure tools. It's about what is called interpretation, helping

visitors to our museums make meaningful connections with the items on exhibit. We want them to understand how different people's lives have been over the years, but how much we've had in common as well." New docents include: Diana Fast, Wallace Hirschfeld, Michelle Huebner, Rose Johnston, Julie McCul-

lough, Kathy Sampson, Anna Mae Saum, Barb Vogel, and Fred Zint. Several other volunteers are awaiting training. If you are interested in helping the Historical Society's museums operate on a more extended schedule by serving as a docent, please contact Rachel Barber, 738-9328.



Historic Exterior of the Mooney Museum

## OHS DESIGNER PRESENTS WORKSHOP FOR ACHS

Bill Mahon, Director of Exhibits for the Ohio Historical Society, Columbus, presented a workshop entitled "Creating a Visual Hierarchy" on October 19. Audience members included representatives of the Auglaize County Historical Society, which hosted the event, as well as volunteers from the Cridersville, Minster, New Knoxville, and Van Wert

historical societies.

Mahon, who has worked for the Ohio Historical Society for 16 years, and designed the updated exhibit space at the Neil Armstrong Air and Space Museum, spoke about the need to reach out to visitors at all interest levels.

He advised those present to create exhibits that are direct, simple, and uncluttered,

that develop a consistent theme or message, and that answer the basic questions of who, what, when, where, why, and how. "Too much information turns people away." Mahon also visited the Wapakoneta Museum and provided specific suggestions for improving the exhibit space at the site.

### NATIONAL REGISTER INCLUDES MANY AUGLAIZE LANDMARKS

In addition to a number of private homes, the following public and commercial buildings are listed in the National Register of Historic Places:

Fort Amanda, Auglaize County Courthouse, Blume High School (Wapakoneta), First Presbyterian Church (the Wapakoneta Museum), H.E. Fledderjoh-

ann House, Doctor's Office, and Summer Kitchen (the New Knoxville Historical Society), Fountain Hotel (the Fort Barbee Apartments, St. Marys), Minster Elementary School, John H. Nichols House (now Spencer Real Estate, Wapakoneta), and Uniopolis Town Hall. St. Augustine Church (Minster), St. John's

Church and Parish Hall (Freyburg), St. Joseph's Church (Egypt), St. Joseph's Church and School (Wapakoneta), and St. Patrick's Church (Glynnwood) are listed as part of the Land of the Cross-Tipped Churches. And 65 downtown buildings form the Wapakoneta Commercial Historic District.

The Historical Society welcomes several new members:

Lima  
Paul and Ruby Kreher

New Bremen  
Wallace Hirschfeld

Spencerville  
Ruth Burnfield

St. Marys  
Ron and Joanne Ginter

Wapakoneta  
Don and Nancy Ainsworth  
La Rose Roediger  
Darlene Wallace  
Ned and Barbara Wibbeler

We appreciate your support!

### CENTURY FARMS RETURN TO AUGLAIZE COUNTY

Thanks to Barbara Harrod, the Century Farms program will again honor local farms, businesses, and homes that have remained in the same family for 100 years or more. For the fourth time, Mrs. Harrod has coordinated a committee to organize the effort for the coming year. Mrs. Harrod and her volunteers will assist

local property owners in documenting the history of their farms or other properties. Those achieving the Century Farm designation will be honored at a ceremony in the spring of 2007.

For more information, please contact any of the following:

Barbara Harrod—738-9606

Betty Bubp—394-8839

Jim McCullough—753-2030

Julie McCullough—  
753-2993

Barb Vogel—394-5233

George & Janet Gibson—  
394-2909

Holly Turner—568-5748

Don & Linda Regula—  
937/596-6967

"THE CENTURY FARM PROGRAM HONORS FARMERS AND OTHERS WHO HAVE KEPT THEIR BUILDINGS IN THE FAMILY ALL THESE YEARS."  
—BARBARA HARROD

### GLYNNWOOD PHOTOS SOUGHT

St. Patrick's Church, Glynnwood, will celebrate its sesquicentennial in 2007. One of the projects being developed for the milestone is the creation of a new parish history. Organizers are searching for pre-1970 photographs of the community, especially photographs that depict such important church events as the Glynnwood Picnic and the

parish Turkey Party. If you have any photographs that you are willing to lend to the parish (all will be scanned and returned), please contact Ellen Brown, 738-8855.

If your church is celebrating an anniversary in 2007, please let us know so that we may honor the occasion in this newsletter.

### MUSEUMS OPEN IN NOVEMBER

Bring your family, friends, and neighbors to the Mooney and Wapakoneta museums in November. It will be your last chance to visit until Spring 2007.

Mooney Museum 223 South Main, St. Marys:  
November 5, 12, & 19

Wapakoneta Museum, 206 West Main:  
November 4, 5, & 19

Hours: 1-4 p.m.  
Admission free; donations welcome.

**THE AUGLAIZE COUNTY  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

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419/738-9328

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The Auglaize County Historical Society was founded in 1963. Its mission is the "discovery, preservation, and dissemination of knowledge about the history of Auglaize County and the State of Ohio."

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

AUGLAIZECOUNTYHISTORY.ORG

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THERE'S NEVER BEEN A BETTER TIME  
TO BE PART OF THE AUGLAIZE COUNTY  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY!

**NOVEMBER 2 LECTURE HIGHLIGHTS HISTORIC COINS**

The Historical Society will host the last event in its 2006 lecture series, "Collecting Old Coins," on Thursday, November 2, 7:30 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, Moulton, 33A. The event is free and open to the public.

The lecture will be presented by John Brownell, who has collected and appraised coins for more

than a quarter century. Brownell is also the owner of A to Z Coin and Jewelry Exchange, Lima.

Audience members are welcome to bring old coins with them for Mr. Brownell's review.



***Business Meeting to  
Precede Lecture***

At 7 p.m., prior to Mr. Brownell's remarks, the Historical Society will host a business meeting. Members will be provided with a financial statement for the year, a slate of new trustees will be presented, and other business will be conducted.

**2007 Lectures**

May 3—Bluffton College professor Jeff Gundy will present "A Community of Memory," about the personal experiences of Ohio's pioneers and early inhabitants.

October 4—Columbus-based historian and musician Hank Arbaugh will present a program and concert entitled "Ghost Ballads: Apparitions and Other Paranormal Phenomena."