

Auglaize County Historical Society

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!
AUGLAIZECOUNTYHISTORY.ORG

Be sure and check out the website's brand new look! Thanks to outgoing president Karen Dietz for spearheading this effort.

The Auglaize County Historical Society was founded in 1963. Its mission is to collect, preserve, interpret and share the history of Auglaize County and its people through exhibits, programs and publications.

The next issue of the newsletter will highlight some great memories from 2008

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Historian Studies Local Schoolhouses

Thanks to the efforts of a recent university graduate, Auglaize County residents will have a better understanding of a quickly vanishing part of local history: the one-room schoolhouse.

Wapakoneta native Melissa Luthman is currently recording and photographing the more than one-hundred-thirty one-room schoolhouses that were constructed across the county.

The foundation for Luthman's work is a map created by Dan Bennett, an engineer for Auglaize County. In 1991 Bennett painstakingly mapped the one-room schoolhouses known to have existed in the county, even document-

ing those that had closed before 1900.

Using Bennett's map, Luthman is now traveling to each of the sites to determine whether the original school (or any of its components) still exist. She gathers what information is available from the site, photographing any buildings from the road, and interviewing any residents or neighbors.

The information will be provided to all village historical societies and archived with the Auglaize County Historical Society. Luthman is a 2004 graduate of Wapakoneta High School and a 2008 graduate of Ohio University with a degree in



history. In June she will begin work at the National Women's History Museum in Washington, D.C.

States Historical Society administrator Rachel Barber, "We are very grateful that Melissa has taken on this important project. One-room school houses were vital to the education of

countless Auglaize County children, yet they are rapidly vanishing from the local landscape."

NOTE TO MEMBERS:
The Society can order more copies of Randall Buchman's *A Sorrowful Journey* from the publisher for \$25 each. Contact the office by January 31 if you wish to obtain a copy.

The Auglaize County Historical Society Newsletter

History at a Glance

Volume 4, Issue 1 Midwinter 2009

Executive Connections: American Presidents & Auglaize County

In honor of the upcoming inauguration of Barack Obama and in honor of Presidents Day 2009, the Auglaize County Historical Society is organizing an exhibit called *Executive Connections: American Presidents and Auglaize County*.

The Auglaize County Historical Society plans to include photographs and/or artifacts that reflect visits by presidents, vice presidents or presidential/vice-presidential candidates through the years. The Society is also interested in telling the stories of Auglaize County folk who went on to work at the highest levels of government (for example, Daniel Mooney was ambassador to Paraguay, appointed by President Woodrow Wilson).

If you have any photographs that we could scan for use in the exhibit, please contact the office by January 24.

Check out your local newspaper for exhibit dates and times in your area.

Historical Society Elects Officers for 2009

At the annual meeting in November, the members in attendance elected the following persons as officers of the Auglaize County Historical Society:

President:	Kimberli Rompilla
Vice-president:	Kelly Kill
Treasurer:	Tom Pfenning
Secretary:	Julie McCullough

The terms of the officers run from January 1 through December 31.

The following persons were also elected trustees at the same meeting: Kimberli Rompilla, Kelly Kill, and Doug Sorensen. Dale Alstaetter was re-elected as a trustee.

At prescribed in the by-laws, the board appointed Chad Doll and Doug Brookhart to complete the unfinished terms of departing trustees.

Returning trustees include: Betty Bulp, Becky MacWhinney, Laura Paulus, and Gayl Ray.

AUGLAIZE COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
DANIEL F. MOONEY
MUSEUM

The Mooney Museum, St. Marys, is sporting a new sign, thanks to the efforts of the 2008 board, which worked with Unique Awards & Signs for several months to create the appropriate signage.

