

History at a Glance

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Scholar to Speak at Annual Meeting November 6

The Auglaize County Historical Society will hold its annual meeting on Thursday, November 6, at 7 p.m., in the Parish Life Center of St. Joseph Catholic Church, Wapakoneta.

The church is located at the corner of Pearl and Blackhoof streets, with access to the parking lot from Blackhoof (behind the historic school). Items to be considered at the annual meeting include revisions to the by-laws as well as the election of new trustees.

Following the business portion of the meeting—at approximately 7:30 p.m.—Dr. Randall Buchman will make a presentation entitled “The Sorrowful Journey,” which will be open to the public. “The Sorrowful Journey” chronicles the forced removal of the Shawnee from Ohio, especially from the area that now includes Auglaize County.

Randall Buchman is Professor Emeritus of History and Archaeology at Defiance College. He specializes in Ohio Valley American Indians studies, and has worked at prehistoric sites in

Ohio and Indiana. He recently taught Native American history at Bacone College and Indiana College in Oklahoma.

Dr. Buchman’s appearance is made possible because of support of the Ohio Humanities Council. Since 1972, the OHC has provided leadership, resources, and financial support for the humanities in Ohio.



The September bus trip included a surprise for Elaine Altstaetter. At the Allen Memorial Art Museum, she spotted a painting by her ancestor, Francois Boucher. According to *Wikipedia*, **François Boucher** (1703-1770) was a French painter known for his idyllic and voluptuous paintings on classical themes, decorative allegories representing the arts or pastoral occupations, intended as two-dimensional furniture. He also painted several portraits of his illustrious patroness, Madame de Pompadour. Boucher is an ancestor of this area's Bowsher family.

Historical Society Enjoys Fall Bus Trip

The Historical Society's Fall Bus Trip took participants to northeast Ohio, for a visit to the historic Lorain County communities of Wellington and Oberlin, which is also celebrating its 175th anniversary. The day included museum tours, a hearty lunch and Taste of Lorain County, as well as historic architecture. See you in the spring!



Top left: Vi Hardin and Barb Wibeler stand next to a Wapakoneta-made Standard Churn, on exhibit in Wellington.



Top right: Wellington historian Tim Simonson explains the fascinating story of the creation of the inspirational "Spirit of '76."



Right: Tripgoers enjoy an unexpected organ recital while visiting the 1842 First Church of Oberlin.

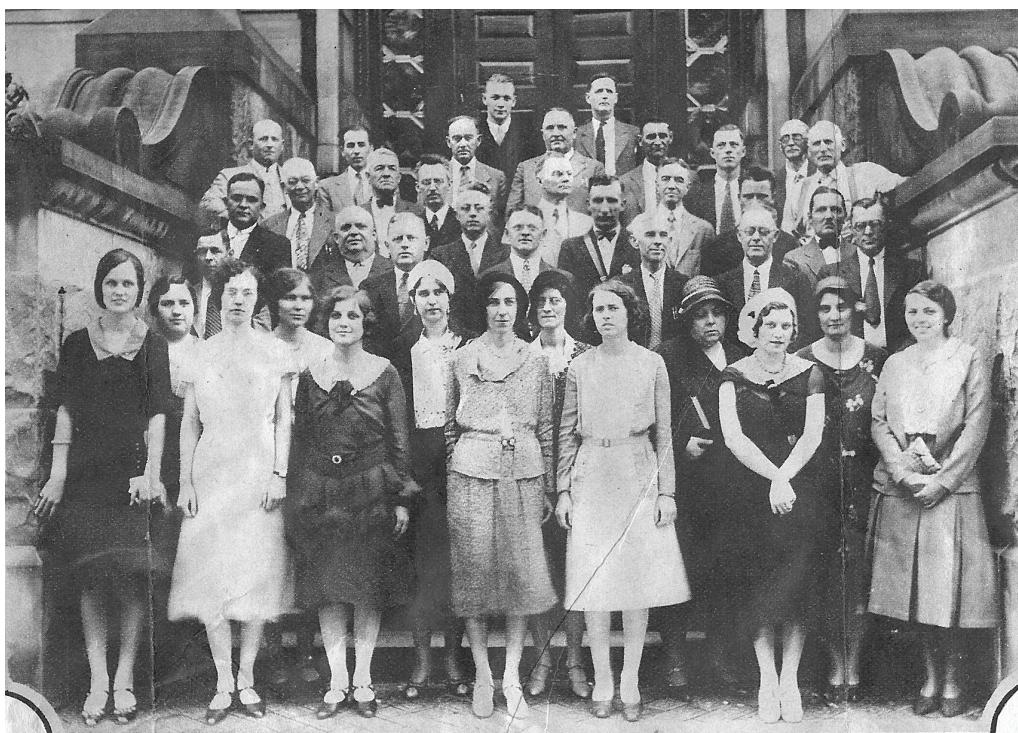
A Milestone in Auglaize County History

Helen L. Jacobs was born in Dayton in 1900, but her family moved to Wapakoneta during her childhood. She graduated from Blume High School in 1918.

Miss Jacobs worked for the county school superintendent and county auditor before becoming deputy clerk of courts for Auglaize County. After serving in this capacity for six years, she was named Clerk of Courts in 1931 upon the death of then-clerk R.C. Howell.

Miss Jacobs thus became the first woman to hold county office in Auglaize County. The *Daily News* article about her appointment explains that "county commissioners concurred unanimously in the election of Miss Jacobs, the board being composed of George Sheipline and Emil Thieman, Democrats, and Frank Springer, Republican. The new clerk... is familiar with every detail of the office and her accommodating manner and efficient service have met with a greater measure of approval from the attorneys of the county...than those of any deputy for many years. The attorneys of the county had endorsed her application and members of the Democratic county executive committee also favored her advancement to this office."

After serving out Howell's unfinished term, Miss Jacobs was twice re-elected to the office of Clerk of Courts. From 1942 through 1970 Miss Jacobs was a secretary at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton. She died in 1982.



This photograph depicts elected officials of Auglaize County in 1932. Miss Jacobs is in the center of the second row, wearing glasses.

The Historical Society welcomes its New Members Thank you for your interest in preserving Auglaize County history!

Kay Ault, Cridersville
Doug Brookhart, St. Marys
Stan Davis, St. Marys
Betty Ferrand, St. Marys
John Glynn, Modesto, California
Ron Langsdon, St. Marys
Mary Moeller, New Bremen

Dorla Rempe, St. Marys
Kathy Sampson, St. Marys
Thomas and Norma Tompkins,
Minster
Rollie and Kay Wellington,
Wapakoneta
Jean Woehler, Wapakoneta

DID YOU KNOW?

Sandblasting is harmful to historic buildings. But high-pressure water can damage buildings as well, destroying the face of old brick, "chewing up" wood siding, and forcing water into historic construction. For information about abrasive cleaning and historic buildings, created by the National Park Service, call the Society office today.

Auglaize County Historical Society

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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.”

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

AUGLAIZECOUNTYHISTORY.ORG

*There's never been a better time
to be part of the Auglaize
County Historical Society!*

HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO HOST CEMETERY WALK OCTOBER 25 AND 26

The Auglaize County Historical Society will host a cemetery walk at Evergreen Cemetery, Silver Street, Wapakoneta, on Saturday, October 25 (7:30 p.m.), and Sunday, October 26 (3 p.m.)



Costumed interpreters will share the stories of Wapakoneta's pioneer settlers, many of whom are buried in Evergreen Cemetery, the city's oldest public cemetery (established in 1837).

Performers include students from the Wapakoneta High School Musical Theatre class: Siera Brugeman, Gregg Denig, Taylor Frame, Allison McCarthy, Katelyn Miller, Erica Poynter, Elliot Schuler, Cyndal Streets, and instructor Todd Christopher.

The event will be held rain or shine, with timed tours beginning every fifteen minutes. At the actors' request, donations will be accepted to benefit the United Way of Auglaize County. (Suggested minimum donation: \$3 per person.) Tickets are available weekdays from Closet Systems, 22 East Auglaize Street, Downtown Wapakoneta. The cemetery walk is being hosted in conjunction with Wapakoneta's 175th birthday. The Historical Society hopes to host the event at other cemeteries in the future. For more information, call 738-9328.