

ARCANUM WAYNE TRAIL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SHARING THE SECRET

January 2007
Volume 3, Issue 1



Arcanum Wayne Trail Historical Society, Inc., 123 W. George St., Arcanum, OH 45304
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President's Report

By Richard Troutwine

Progress on the restoration of the building continues. The front porch ceiling light was installed and the railing is being made. Once it is ready and painted it will be set in place and attached to the post. In the restroom on the first floor a new toilet, sink and hand rails have been installed which meet the American Disabilities Act requirements. Also, the old vinyl flooring has been replaced with new. The west side of the north room (old kitchen) had to be raised about two inches to make it level.

The second floor remains to be a challenge. Completed is the woodwork. The cracks and holes in the walls have been filled and need sanded. New ceilings for the three west rooms need to be done. When readied, Richard Rinehart will plaster them. Then the painting can be done as well as the floors that need refinished. All in all things are looking very nice.

AWTHS debt has been reduced to \$12,000. Purchase of the building and renovation cost totals \$54,000, from November 2004 through September 2006.

If you haven't noticed the Adopt A Highway signs, AWTHS has adopted highways alternate 49 North and State Route 49, half mile east and west of Alt 49 North. Jim Deis is in charge of cleanup along these roadways.

Please note the Arcanum Area Business Association has given AWTHS the Arcanum Veterans Memorial Park. This land is adjacent to the Historical Society property. The deed will be transferred by Garbig and Blinn Law Office.

Lastly, I would like to thank all the people who made the Christmas bazaar a huge success.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Report, March Speaker, Landscaping	1
Marj Heyduck with Third and Main	2
AWTHS Open House & Christmas Bazaar	2
AWTHS Acquisitions	3
Local Books	4
Historic National Road	5
A Brief History of National Road	5 & 6
Acquisitions Lists	6
Ongoing Projects & Membership Renewal	7
Calendar of Events	8

Underground Railroad is Topic Of AWTHS March Program

Plan for an interesting evening as Rachel Ann (Sarver) Minnich tells us about the Underground Railroad. A member of DAR - Darke County for many years, Mrs. Minnich is now a member in Miami County. Her discovery of the Underground Railroad movement in Miami and Darke County evolved from her interest in the Quaker sympathizers who settled here from the Carolinas. Although most of her information is about the West Milton area, there is one known station (house) in Castine. Also Longtown is deep in slave history. Please join us March 8th at 7:00 p.m.

Landscaping

A generous gift of \$500 was recently received from the Arcanum Garden Club, to be used for landscaping. A Bay Magnolia tree was purchased and planted in the northeast corner of the back yard. The committee will be meeting to discuss how to best use the remaining monies. A sincere thanks to the ladies for the money and all they do for our community.

What Is On Your Mind?

Members having suggestions, ideas or stories to share, please contact the newsletter staff: Barb Deis 678-7832, Jeannie Miller 692-8425 or Deb Williams 692-5635. Do you have suggestions for programs to be held during membership meetings? Contact JoAnne Hill 692-8330. Do you have an idea for a fundraiser? Contact Jenny Quigney 692-5994. You may also send your ideas by email to AWTHS@woh.rr.com.

Marj Heyduck with Third and Main

by Jeannie Miller

Marj Heyduck's column "Third and Main" was often the first one read after the headlines of the Dayton Journal Herald. The column ran from 1944 until the time of her death in 1969. She was 56 years old. Marj was given the nod in '44 to start the column by the editors of the newspaper needing to fill space in a Sunday tabloid. They told her to write something funny and long. The sports editor said it should be called Third and Main because it is the center of town, the crossroads of the valley. A career was born for Marj Heyduck who hosted a feature program on Dayton radio station WING-AM in the 1940s.

Who was Marj Heyduck? She was born in Dayton, Ohio in 1913 and graduated from Stivers High School and majored in journalism at the Ohio State University. She lived in Wayne Lakes with her husband E.C. Heyduck, better known as "Duck" and his dog Buff. Both were featured often in her column.

Marj drove to Arcanum every morning to have breakfast at the corner restaurant before catching the bus to Dayton for her day at the newspaper. The local business men, known as the coffee club or uptown coaches in '56, loved to banter with Marj. Roland Karns was known for his joke on Marj when she needed a 26 1/2 inch table to be the same height as her card table at home. He gave her a yardstick for measuring that he had rigged to be 2 inches longer. Using his yardstick,

he insisted the card table from his furniture store was 26 1/2 inches as Marj needed. She didn't catch the difference until the two tables were pushed together and covered with a table cloth, causing her guests to spill the cream from the uneven heights. The story can be found on page 75 in the book, "The Anniversary Marj" by Marj Heyduck.

Marj was famous for her love of hats, she wore a different hat for the head shot of each column. It was a nightmare for the photographer who drew the assignment to shoot her pictures with 25 different hats at a time. When the 25 columns were up, she was back again with 25 new hats.

AWTHS is pleased to receive the Marj Heyduck Collection and glass case given by the Arcanum Public Library where it has been housed for many years. One of Marj's famous hats is displayed among various items belonging to her. Proudly displayed is Marj's Honorary Membership to the Arcanum Alumni Association in August of 1968 for all her help and dedication to the organization. There are other items too numerous to mention. The display is a wonderful part of the history of a well known Miami Valley journalist. Marj helped put Arcanum on the map through the Third and Main column. She developed many friendships in the community.

If you have a story to share involving Marj, contact Jeannie Miller, 692-8425 or spcoupe28@aol.com. Jeannie has been in touch with Dale Huffman, Marj's co-worker. He is also interested in new stories about Marj.

AWTHS Open House And Christmas Bazaar

The 3rd annual bazaar was a huge success. Chairpersons Jenny Quigney, Carolyn Furlong and Carolyn Troutwine did a wonderful job. They were busy for weeks using their artistic talents embellishing wreaths, swags and garlands. Many people donated decorative items and baked goods. AWTHS has a number of artists in our group. Shoppers came for their unique creations. Mrs. Claus (Marie Wogoman) was there to read to the children.

Raffles winners were:

Christmas Tree - Jeannie Brumbaugh

Photo donated by

Jack and Marlene Creech - Ken Blackburn

Santa Gourd

donated by Jenny Clark - Sandy Workman.

Approximate profits for this major fundraiser were \$2000. Sincere thanks to all who donated items and who helped with the bazaar. Each of you are appreciated.



LIST of ACQUISITIONS

- 5166 Wooden rocking chair----Keith and Carolyn Furlong
 5167 Four wooden folding chairs from Arcanum Trinity Methodist Church----Pat and Tom Jones
 5168 Special centennial edition of Arcanum Times-July 6,1950----Dick Hunt

ITEMS DONATED BY GENE AND JOAN RENCH

- 601 Sellars kitchen cabinet on loan
 602 Pedestal sink in downstairs bathroom
 603 Sewing machine base used as table in downstairs bathroom
 604 Wooden shelf in kitchen
 605 Decorative old spice tins in kitchen
 606 Flag holder in patio
 607 Oriental type rug
 608 Wooden base rocker
 609 2 ceiling light fixtures
 610 Curved front desk
 611 Wooden cupboard base-2 doors
 612 Medicine cabinet
 613 Picket fence around patio
 614 3 rag rugs in kitchen
 615 Curtains made of ticking in kitchen
 616 Curtains in upstairs bathroom
 617 Wooden shelves in storage room
 618 Wooden counter tops in kitchen

ITEMS DONATED BY DICK HUNT

- 619 Continuous calendar-Hamiltons garage, Ithaca
 620 North West Radio TV Ruler
 621 Coin purse-Arcanum National Bank
 622 1st National bank ruler
 623 Dick Patterson advertising coin purse
 624 Insert from phone book-West Milton,Ohio 1957
 625 Advertising coin purse Don Eller Meat Market-Pittsburg

ITEMS DONATED BY JO DUNLAP, COLLECTED BY VICTOR DUNLAP—APPROXIMATELY 75UTILITARIAN KITCHEN WARE—IRON AND METAL

TO NAME A FEW:

- 626 Early iron coffee grinder
 627 2 iron cherry seeders
 628 Copper ladle with iron handle
 629 Wire pie holder
 630 Wire jar lifter
 631 Tin toaster
 632 Blue Granite dipper
 633 Dark blue granite pitcher
 634 Metal pot scrapers
 635 Apple peeler
 636 Sausage press

- 637 2 Indian Maiden pictures and framed picture of flags----Joan and Duane Reynolds
 638 Anna Shepherd Family Bible----Dean Pitzer
 639 Acqu-Bend mini blind slat bender (invented and designed by Frank Barberine and Dave Flora)----Donated by Dave Flora

AWTHS Shirts

You will have the opportunity to buy a polo shirt embroidered with the AWTHS building and historical society name. The shirts will be nice for volunteers to wear when working at our various fundraisers such as Old Fashioned Days, Darke County Fair Gate and Christmas Bazaar. Orders will be taken at the January meeting or by contacting Dick Troutwine, (937) 692-5128. Cost is approximately \$21, but will depend on the total number of shirts ordered.

Local Books

Through the years accounts of life in Arcanum and southern Darke County have been told in story and prose forms, documented in research resources, and told in newspaper columns. Listed below are books written about the Arcanum area and its people.

May Allread Baker			
<i>The Gift of the Year</i>	1964		
<i>The Willowtree</i>			
Jeanette Burke	1971	+	
<i>Down Memory Lane 1901-1971</i>			
Life in Ithaca during these years.			
Darrell D. Delk	2005	* ^	
<i>Fourmans Of Darke County</i>			
William Gunder			
<i>The Secret Town -</i>			
<i>The Story of the Founding of Arcanum, Ohio</i>	1999	^	
<i>Arcanum Public Library & Ivester House</i>	2000	^	
Theodore W. Houk	1968	*	
<i>Houk Family Bulletin - Henry Houk and James Houk</i>			
Abraham Lincoln			
<i>Kids From Gordon</i>	1994	^	
<i>Families From Gordon 1849-1998</i>	1998	^	
Elsie (Denlinger) McNelly	*		
<i>Denlinger - The John Denlinger Family Tree 1809-1959</i>			
JoKay Miltenberger and JoAnne Hill			
<i>Arcanum...a secret place</i>	1999	*	
<i>Arcanum...a secret place - The Sequel</i>	2000	*	
<i>Arcanum Sesquicentennial</i>			
JoKay Miltenberger			
<i>Fields and Flowers - By Request</i>	1988	*	
A collection of columns appearing in			
The Daily Advocate and The Early Bird			
<i>Calling Hollansburg Home 1838 - 1988</i>	1987	*	
<i>Celebrating 150 Years</i>			
<i>Calling Hollansburg Home - The Sequel</i>	1989	*	
W. H. Beers & Co.	1880		
<i>History of Darke County, Ohio</i>			
Jack Rhodehamel		*	
<i>John and Jacob Rhodehamel Family History</i>			
Anita Short and Ruth Bowers			
<i>Gateway to the West-Ohio Two Volumn Set 1967-1978</i>	*		
Originally published as a periodical,			
contains source records from 76 of Ohio's 88 counties.			
<i>Darke and Preble County source records books - 1808-1900</i>	*		
(See a complete list in the July 2006 newsletter)			
Anita Short			
<i>Arcanum, Ohio Business History 1852-1968</i>	2003	^ *	
Olive Smith			
<i>History of Trinity United Methodist Church</i>	1984	*	
Betty Mehaffie Hissong Sutton			
<i>Life - Here, There and After</i>	1993		
<i>Life - What I forgot to Remember</i>			
Joseph H. Vance			
<i>The Vance Family Scrapbook</i>	1970	*	
<i>The Rich Heritage</i>	1957	*	
Being the Story of Harry and Annie Vance,			
Their Children, Families and Ancestors			
Lew Williams			
<i>Arcanum - Winds of Change</i>	1993	+	
<i>Natural Disasters</i>			

The books can be accessed as follows:

- * Reference - Arcanum Library
- # Check out - Arcanum Library
- + Purchase - Arcanum Printing Center
- ^ Purchase - Author

Historic National Road

During the September meeting Ed Kemper, President of the National Road Association, gave a brief history of National Road. The more we learned about National Road the more interested we became. We have asked our friend from Randolph Township Historical Society to continue the story. Sue Cummings and her husband Glynn Marsh did extensive work creating a pictorial exhibit telling of National Road as it made its way through our neighboring counties. National Road had a lasting affect on the founding and development of Darke County.

A Brief History of the National Road

By Sue Cummings, Randolph Township Historical Society, P.O. Box 355, Clayton, OH 45315-0355

In 1806, during the term of President Thomas Jefferson, the Federal Congress passed legislation authorizing the building of a federal road from Cumberland, MD to Vandalia, IL. The idea of an east-west corridor to facilitate movement of goods and people was championed by then Secretary of Treasury, Albert Gallatin, and monies were set aside to extend further west, the road that already existed from Baltimore to Cumberland, MD. Construction began in 1811 and the new road reached Wheeling, VA (now WV) in 1818. Building stopped until 1824, when President James Monroe signed another appropriations bill that provided funds to restart work on the road.

Construction began in Ohio in 1825. The new highway reached Zanesville in 1830 and Columbus in 1833. The road was completed to Springfield, Ohio by early 1835. Construction was delayed again, as politicians from Dayton and Eaton, Ohio sought to have the new road pass through their cities. They believed the National Road would bring with it much economic growth and prosperity. A new survey was made from April 10, 1835 to July 27, 1835, which compared the longer "Dayton cut-off" with the route as originally proposed. The route through Dayton was 3.3 miles longer, but the survey showed that it would cost \$11,780 less to build than the shorter, original route. In spite of this, the chief

engineer, Capt. A. Canfield, recommended to Congress that the original route be followed, saying that the ever-increasing movement of mail, goods and people over the shorter route would prove to be more economical in the long run. Furthermore, segments of the National Road near Richmond, IN already had been completed and a change at this time would mean these parts would have to be redone. In August of 1835, President Andrew Jackson approved the original route and construction resumed. The National Road was completed in Butler, Randolph and Clay townships in Montgomery County and through Preble County by late 1838. It reached Vandalia, IL in 1840 and some years later were extended to East St. Louis.

The historic National Road from Baltimore to East St. Louis stretched over 700 miles through six states: Maryland, Virginia (now West Virginia), Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. The road covers 227 miles in Ohio and runs through ten counties. Mile markers placed along the north side of the highway gave distance traveled west from Cumberland, MD and number of miles to the nearest towns east and west. The use of mile markers continued into eastern Ohio, but none have been documented west of Springfield. Most surviving markers are made of sandstone, about three feet high above ground with rounded caps. About eighty such markers remain in the State. For a short while, after its completion, the National Road was a turnpike and tolls were exacted from all travelers to help with road maintenance. In Ohio, tollhouses were placed at 20-mile intervals with a limit set at one per county.

The National Road played an important role in the migration of German Baptist and Mennonite settlers from Pennsylvania to central Ohio in the mid-1800s. Pike towns such as Tadmire, Vandalia, Harrisburg (Englewood) and Lewisburg were platted during this period. Hotels, inns and livery stables were opened along the new National Road to accommodate the large influx of travelers. Many of the families settled in this part of Ohio, instead of traveling further west, attracted by the fertile soil and abundance of springs. Communities flourished as wagon makers, grocers, dry goods storeowners and lumber mill operators opened businesses to meet the needs of the new residents.

During and shortly after W.W. I, much of the National Road was paved with brick or concrete. By 1926, the road had been designated U.S. Route 40 and adventurous tourists in their Model T's started heading West. Filling stations appeared at major crossroads, e.g. Smith's and O.K. Snyder's stations in Swanktown in Clay Township, located at the intersection of Rt. 40 and Ohio Route 49 (the Dayton-Greenville Pike). Mom-&-pop tourist cabins such as McDonald's Camp (later Bob's Nickel Saver), 7 mi. north of Eaton in Preble County, provided welcome rest stops. By the 1950s, truckstops such as Hines Restaurant and Sinclair station at Rt. 40 and Ohio Route 127 were thriving businesses. Most tourist cabins were being replaced with family owned and operated motels. One local example, the Kern Motel at Fox

Rd. and Route 40 in Randolph Township, consisted of a remodeled chicken house moved to the side of the road. By the mid-1960s, the Kern Motel and many others like it had fallen into disuse, as travelers and commercial haulers bypassed the old National Road and headed west via Interstate 70. The "glory days" of Route 40 were never to be seen again.

As the bicentennial of the National Road in 2006 drew near, there was renewed interest in the history of the National Road. States began recognizing the important role that the National Road played in their settlement and development, and recognized the highway with Scenic Byway status. Ohio joined these states in 2000. In 2002, the Federal Government designated the National Road an All American Highway and a National Historic Scenic Byway. Over the past year (2006), Route 40 became a well-traveled highway again, as tourists who appreciate a more leisurely travel adventure sought out historic places, special events and exhibits related to the bicentennial of the historic National Road.

NOTE: A very good booklet entitled "The Historic National Road in Ohio" by Glenn Harper and Doug Smith, can be obtained by contacting the Ohio Historical Society at www.ohiohistory.org. Copies are free unless they have run out.

Editor's Note

Euphemia, platted 1839 in anticipation of National Road, was annexed to Lewisburg in 1916. Along Route 40 between Lewisburg and the Indiana state line, there are several motels and tourist cabins that once provided a haven for tired travelers which have been made into apartments and small homes. The Golden Inn, built in the 50s is still open to travelers. Some of our local people remember McDonald's Camp. Made up of small tourist cabins, it was located on the northeast corner of RTs 40 and 127 behind Bob's Nickel Saver. After the tourist trade fell off gypsies camped there when they traveled through the area. When they visited the surrounding towns the business people would spread the word "the gypsies are in town". The Gypsy Queen was of special interest to the townspeople. There are many stories about Old National Road. What do you recall from your early days traveling this historic road?

On Going Projects

Euchre Parties

First and Third Friday of each month, 1:00-3:30.
 Contact - Fred Troutwine, 692-8939

Hall Rental

Contact - Carolyn Furlong, 548-6556

Aluminum cans and Computer Inkjet

Print Cartridges Recycling.

Leave items on the back porch in marked containers.

Donation of Appreciated Stock(S)

Contact - Richard Troutwine, 692-5128 or Todd Durham, Second National Bank, 548-2206

AWTHS has a new project. Note cards depicting historic Arcanum will be sold in packages of eight for \$5.00. Sketched by local artist and AWTHS member Jo Dunlap, each package includes the following: Dayton and Union Railroad Depot, Big Four Railroad Depot, Arcanum Public Library (Ivester House), Arcanum City Hall & Opera House, AWTHS Historic Society building and the 1881 Ahrens Fox Steam Pumper. Note cards may be purchased during membership meetings or by contacting AWTHS at P.O. Box 4, Arcanum, Oh 45304.



Membership Update and Renewal

Membership fees are due by January 1, 2007. Please use the membership renewal form printed below. Additional forms can be picked up at the historical society building, or call Carolyn Furlong for information, (937) 548-6556. All memberships are due Jan. 1st., unless you are a new member who has joined after June 1, 2006, in which case you will renew January 2008. If you have not paid dues for 2006 and do not renew you membership for 2007, your name will be dropped from the membership roll.

Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State & Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Check: New Member _____

Renewal _____

Annual Membership Fees:

-----	\$15.00	Single
-----	\$25.00	Family
-----	\$50.00	Sponsorship
-----	\$150.00	Corporate
-----	\$1,000.00	Lifetime

Please make your check payable to AWTHS
 Mail to: Arcanum Wayne Trail Historical Society
 P.O. Box 4
 Arcanum, Ohio 45304

Additional Donation Amount _____

Arcanum Wayne Trail Historical Society Calendar of Events

January 1, 2007	Membership fees are Due!
January 3, 2007	Board Meeting - 7:00PM
January 5 & 19, 2007	Euchre Part - 1:00-3:30PM
January 11, 2007	Annual membership Meeting - 7:00PM Election of Officers for 2007
February 2 & 16, 2007	Euchre Party - 1:00-3:30PM
February 7, 2007	Board Meeting - 7:00PM
March 2 & 16, 1007	Euchre Party - 1:00-3:30PM
March 7, 2007	Board Meeting - 7:00PM
March 8, 2007	Membership Meeting - 7:00PM Program: Underground Railroad, Presented by Rachel Ann (Sarver) Minnich

It Happened 100 Years Ago - 1907

Commercial Hotel holds their annual Pig Roast in January (to celebrate the new year?)

Alleys in business district being cemented.

Weisenbarger's have first electric sign in front of their business.

Casino Theatre (now historical society building) has moving pictures every evening from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m.

WORKING TOGETHER TO PRESERVE YOUR MEMORIES OF OUR COMMUNITY!

Visit us on the Web at www.arcanumhistoricalsociety.org

Arcanum Wayne Trail Historical Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 4

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Arcanum, Ohio 45304

