

## Sharing the Secret

January 2011

Volume 7 Issue 1

Arcanum Wayne Trail Historical Society, Inc., 123 W. George St., Arcanum, Ohio 45304

Website [www.arcanumhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.arcanumhistoricalsociety.org)

President's Report by Fred Troutwine

We did it! The Christmas Bazaar was a huge success. Thanks to all, whom in large or small ways, donated Christmas items and baked goods, shared talents, and worked many hours sewing scarves and creating holiday decorations. It was heartwarming to hear so many positive comments from the "happy shoppers". New to the Bazaar this year was the "Boutique" with scarves and jewelry for sale. For everyone who baked, you certainly outdid yourselves. Not only were the sweets delicious, our selection was larger with numbers greater this year.

As you know, the Historical House was open during the Luminary Walk. Families gathered in town to tour local businesses, enjoy horse-drawn carriage rides, and Christmas caroling. Partnering with the Garden Club, who served hot beverages and doughnuts, the House provided warmth and comfort to those waiting for their ride. People were able to browse and shop as well. As I looked around, it was heartwarming to see so many enjoying the beauty and simplicity of the evening. I was pleased the Historical Society was part of this community fellowship.

I see many great things happening with the Society:

- \* Programs over the years have been educational and interesting. Excellent coverage to local media by Jeannie Miller has made the public aware, bringing increased numbers to our events.
- \* Building repairs continue to be addressed, recently including the addition of a unique storage building.
- \* Our genealogical resources are growing thanks to Annette Stewart, and will be a tremendous source of information for families.
- \* Bill Gunder has designed our website. It continues to grow and is a valuable source of information. Be sure to check it out at: [www.arcanumhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.arcanumhistoricalsociety.org).
- \* The Ways and Means Committee is very active, coming up with innovative ideas that bring monies in to the Society thanks to Dick and Sharon Troutwine.
- \* People continue to donate memorabilia to the Society.
- \* The Newsletter has a treasure of information for all to enjoy.
- \* Membership continues to grow with about 167 members.
- \* Historical programs for elementary children are in place connecting school and the Society.

How far we have come! Momentum is growing, and that's a good thing. I would say the *major* renovations have taken place, but there will always be new challenges:

- \* Microfilm transfer of all Arcanum Times to DVD.
- \* Air conditioning
- \* Heat for upstairs

Lastly, I'm passing the torch to our new President. I'm confident our Membership will continue to be committed in their support of the Arcanum Wayne Trail Historical Society.

Thank you all!

We will be having our annual Carry-In Dinner for the January Membership/Election of officer Meeting on:

**January 13, 2011 - 7:00 p.m.**

A-H Dessert

G-P Salad or Vegetable

Q-Z Meat or Meat Dish

Punch and coffee will be provided along with plates, cups, and silverware.

**AWTHS Officers and Directors**

President	Fred Troutwine	692-8939
Vice President	Beck Dynes	621-4814
Treasurer	Jerry Kramer	692-5764
Rec. Secretary	Pat Jones	662-9114
Correc. Sec.	Annette Stewart	692-6462
Directors	Dave Flora	692-8413
	Keith Furlong	548-6556
	Terry Mills	692-5582
	Jeff Puterbaugh	692-5304

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**March 10, 2011 Membership Meeting Program 7:00 p.m.****Speaker: Dr. David Hayes, DVM - Roll of Ohio in the Civil War**

Dr. Hayes' hobby is researching the role of Ohio in the Civil War. Ohio was the 3<sup>rd</sup> most populace state in the Union at the time and they raised 320,000 soldiers for the Union Army. These soldiers fought in every major campaign during the war where nearly 7,000 Buckeye Soldiers were killed in action. Come hear some of their stories.

**Committee Reports****Acquisitions:** Carolyn Furlong 548-6556 & Carolyn Troutwine 692-8939

01034	Specs of Weisenbarger, Lester, and Powel additions-no date	
01035	The Munday Collection The Dayton Racquet Co.	Ted Mundy
01036	Very old photo copies of early Arcanum buildings	
01037	2 photos of Joseph Leander & Ida Jane Fellers circa 1884 -Family History on File	Phyllis Fourman Shields
01038	Es-co score card for draft horses	
01039	Large family photo - Jacob and Mary Brumbaugh Family Pitsburg, OH circa 1905	Annette Stewart
01040	A.H.S. class of 1922, Grade School Photo, and Weisenbarger & Co. coat hanger	Kandis & Kenneth Farst
01041	Franklin Class of 1939, Senior news, and basketball scores and Franklin 1934-35 Band, Photo of 1914 J. H. Gilbert's Tobacco crop Franklin Twp.	Ron Gilbert
01042	1919 Twin Twp class and 1916 Butler girls Jr. High basketball team. Class of 1928 & 1933 photos	
01043	1876 Public Sale Bill-Jesse Banta farm Castine, Ohio	Byron Brehm
01044	Proclamation- Grange	
01045	U.S. President mementoes -napkin, ruler, matches, tie clip and glass saucer	Joan Reynolds
01046	2 postcards addressed to Crouse's Men's Store, 1 Arc. National Bank pen and 1 Arcanum Federal Savings hot pad ,3 ribbons -10K run-Arcanum Old Fashioned Days 1985, 86, 76	Mark Eilerman
01047	Arcanum Pop Bottle	Bev Jay
01048	Rules and Regulation book - Arcanum Water Works, Smith Dry Goods letterhead, Smith's Big Antique Store ad, and a postcard	JoAnne Hill
01049	Various news articles, pictures, Program Regulations book- Arcanum Light Co. Old lighting fixture, and a blue covered dish from Fred Harris China and Gift Shop	JoAnne Hill
01050	Photo of Smith's Big Store - circa 1900	JoAnne Hill
01051	Arcanum Centennial Program Book, Ads from Smith's Big Store and John Smith Co.	JoAnne Hill
01052	17 photos of the Opera Hose Interior (How it looked in 2000)	JoAnne Hill
01053	Many articles of advertisement and Long Furniture -Pitsburg, Oh Yardstick	Gertrude Brehm
01054	Arcanum Butler Basketball shorts and Arcanum pin 1956	
01055	AWTHS Certificate of Plan Approval from Ohio Dept. of Commerce & Inspection log	
01056	Arcanum National Bank money bag	
01057	2009 Darke Co. Fair Program Magazine	Jenny Quigney
01058	Greenville Advocate news article - History section - Nov. 11, 2009 Douglas Lafever, only Arcanum resident to die in Vietnam Combat	
01059	4 newspapers - Farm and fireside National, 1950 Centennial Edition, 1949 Arcanum Times and 1950 Special Edition	

**Ways and Means:** Dick Troutwine 692-5128

This year's Christmas Bazaar was a booming success. There was an extra boost from the Christmas on George Street with the "Luminary Walk" in the evening. The fun "n" fancy scarves spotlighted the sales. Carolyn Troutwine was the head designer on the scarf project. A total sale from all sales was approximately \$3400. The bake sale added a sizable amount to the total. Thanks to all who donated frozen soup, baked goods, and candies; especially John Toops for his peanut brittle and Mark Eilerman for his Nieman Marcus Cookies. Jeannie Miller did a tremendous job of advertising the event.

\* The in-house raffle added \$99 to our total.

Winners - 1 <sup>st</sup> place	Santa	James Newburry
2 <sup>nd</sup> place	Wreath	Ardis Trigg
3 <sup>rd</sup> place	Wine Basket from Sutton's Super Value	Betty Daugherty
4 <sup>th</sup> Place	Goodie Basket	Joyce Myers
5 <sup>th</sup> Place	Candles from Barn Primitives	Tammy Meyer

\* Winners of the 50-50 Raffle

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Byron Baker	\$135
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Monte Clark	\$90
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Christine Sparks	\$60

This netted the Historical Society \$280.

Once again I would like to thank all those who donated their time and items for this year's bazaar. Remember to save your new or gently used items for next year. We will accept items anytime of the year. This event has made it a successful year for fund raisers.

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**Monkey Business as told by JoAnne Hill**

Every Saturday Milton Baker came into the store (Smith's Big Store) with his market basket over his arm to buy groceries. Milton was a jokester and loved to play pranks.

One Saturday evening he came into town from his home a mile and a half south of Arcanum, parking in front of the middle section of the store. As he got out of his car he saw a monkey sitting outside the door. With his foot he gently kicked the monkey into the store.

At that time the millinery department was up front near the door. Aunt Ada Smith was helping a customer select a new hat. The lady told her there was a monkey in the store. Aunt Ada ignored her and went about selling her the hat.

The monkey went into the grocery department. The next thing I knew the monkey was swinging by its tail from the light bulb rack. As soon as I saw it I ran over to the men's department to get Dave. Dave was talking with Harry Brandenburg. I said "You have to come get this monkey!" They thought I was delirious and started laughing. By the time they came the monkey had jumped into the dairy case.

Harry and Dave were doubled over laughing. I ran to the men's department to get a pair of leather gloves. After putting the gloves on I grabbed the monkey. It let out a blood curdling cry. I let go, the monkey jumped out of the case and ran to the potato chips rack, swinging there until it jumped down. It ran to the middle room where Uncle Joe was fitting a woman with new shoes. The monkey sat next to the customer, Uncle Joe chased it off. From there it ran into the men's department where it had an "accident". Now, it wasn't so funny to Dave, who had to clean it up. By that time a lady came into the store. Upon seeing the monkey she said "Sweetheart, where have you been? I looked all over town and couldn't find you. You must have jumped out of the car." With that the monkey jumped into her arms and they left the store, ending the story.

**Arcanum Trivia 1935** At a recent meeting of the Arcanum Board of Education it was decided that no married women teachers would be employed to teach in the Arcanum school. All of the members of the present teaching staff were rehired for the coming year with the exception of Mrs. Irene Weisenbarger, Mrs. Ruth Starr and Mrs. Elizabeth Taylor, the three married women teachers in the school. (Arcanum Times May 2, 1935) Editor's note: This action was taken to allow married men and single women an opportunity for employment. Following the depression the three women were rehired.

We took a look back at the Arcanum Aluminum Foundry in the October issue. AWTHS member Tom Hanes worked at the foundry and has submitted a narrative, telling about his experiences working at the Foundry.

### **I was the sand cutter.....**

Ernie Fisher, our next door neighbor came over one evening when I was a senior in high school and ask if I was interested in being his sand cutter after school at the aluminum foundry. I did not know what he meant but he said he would teach me.....

Ernie Fisher told me to wear old jeans, heavy shoes and to bring a pair of heavy gloves.

Ernie, his son Dwight and son in law Carl Trentine, had started the foundry on North High Street in Arcanum but soon outgrew that facility. They then had a large Quonset building built down by the NYC RR tracks. His son Dwight was involved handling the business side. Ordering the metal, getting orders, seeing that the finished product was timely shipped. Carl Trentine was the “core” man and pattern maker and as well as assisting in the foundry operations.

When I first arrived I filled out all the paper work required with Dwight. Then it was time for the “pour off”. Both the furnaces were blasting when I got there and Ernie kept a close eye on them and adding more metal as he felt it required. I presumed to get the right consistency and the right amount of metal for the pour off. He was a very good foundry man. Ernie did most of the pouring of the melted aluminum. The molders had been busy all day and their work was on the concrete floor. Each mold had two vents. The sprue was the hole into which the metal was poured and the riser was on the opposite side of the mold and allowed the escape of the gases and air. The metal cooled fast and I was soon taught how to breakout the castings. Most were too hot to handle without gloves but soon cooled. Then I would put them in a wheelbarrow and take them to the rear of the foundry where there was a big band saw. When that was done it was time to start cutting the sand. A combination of heat with the moisture of the sand had made clumps and dried out the sand. The sand cutter was a fair sized machine with an electric motor. I first had to water the sand to get moisture back in so it could be molded. Then I ran it through the cutter which was a grinder. The machine could shoot the sand a good distance.

The molders bench was against the wall and the molders liked the sand up against the wall so it could be easily shoveled into the cope and drag which were the top and bottom of the mold frame. The pattern was half on the top and half on the bottom. It was hooked to a vibrator that somewhat packed the moist sand. The hot metal with the damp sand combined with the core sand made lumps and they all had to be removed to reuse the sand. That was the cutter’s job. It was a fairly large machine with adjustable plates or flanges so the extent of the distance the sand was thrown could be adjusted. When I finished one molder’s station, I would move over to the next molder’s bench and start all over. I seem to remember there was about seven molder’s benches. Ernie also molded, he did the more difficult jobs because of his experience and expertise.

Carl’s “cores” were an important part of the operation. These were to be inserted in the mold in spots where it was too difficult to use a regular part of the sand mold. For example, a casting that had a hollow or unique bend in the finished product required a core. They were inserted by the molders as each mold was made. The core was sort of a glue and prevented the area from filling with metal during the pour.

The sprues and risers from the castings had to be removed using the band saw and then boxed for shipment. I did that.

I liked the job and the people and on top of that Ernie paid well. I do not remember how much an hour I received but it was highly competitive. I was banking money for school on a weekly basis.

A lot of times I was the last one to leave. Some days work went faster and produced more molds thus more sand to cut. I would finish, lock the door and walk home.

I was taught by Ernie to mold. I did some novelty molding until I was good enough to do regular molding. I worked again for Ernie for a brief period after I got out of the army in 1955. He encouraged me not to become a foundry man. He had bad lungs and warned me that I would be subject to the same silent killer. Silicone from the sand was deadly to the lungs, an occupational disease.

I enjoyed my time at the foundry and made a lot of friends.

(Editor’s correction: The October newsletter article read that iron and steel were poured. Only aluminum was used)



## Calendar of Events

**Membership Fees Payable January 1, 2011**

January 4, 2011	Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.
January 7 & 21, 2011	Euchre Card Party	1:00-3:30 p.m.
<b>January 13, 2011</b>	<b>Annual Membership Meeting</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
	<b>Election of Officers and Carry-In Dinner</b>	
February 1, 2011	Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.
February 4 & 18, 2011	Euchre Card Party	1:00-3:30 p.m.
March 1, 2011	Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.
March 4 & 18, 2011	Euchre Card Party	1:00-3:30 p.m.
March 10, 2011	Membership Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Program: Dr. David Hayes - Roll of Ohio in the Civil War		

**On Going Projects**

Euchre Parties -First and Third Friday of each month Sept. through May - Fred Troutwine 692-8939  
Hall Rental - Carolyn Furlong 548-6556 Aluminum Recycling - Wendell Miller 692-8425  
For Sale - Historic Arcanum Books, Christmas Cards and Note Cards - Bill Gunder 692-8000  
Donation of Appreciated stocks - Richard Troutwine 692-5128 and Todd Durham, 2<sup>nd</sup> National Bank, 548-2206

**Newsletter** is edited by Barb Deis. Contact Barb at 678-7832 or [bdeis@core.com](mailto:bdeis@core.com) with information for the newsletter.  
We would love to hear from you. Share your memories of life in Arcanum.

**WORKING TOGETHER TO PRESERVE YOUR MEMORIES OF OUR COMMUNITY**

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