

Sharing The Secret

July 2016

Volume 12 Issue 3

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

Incorporated 2004 web-www.arcanumhistoricalsociety.org email - contact@arcanumhistoricalsociety.org

President's Remarks - Jenny Quigney 459-8090

Well we have rolled from spring into summer rather quickly at least it seems to me and that brings baseball, picnics and, family reunions to my mind. Like many other members I try to attend as many of these outings as possible.

I would like to remind everyone that the house will be opened during the summer months for visitors. We have had one Coffee and Conversation session on Saturday June 11th and there are two more coming up in July and August. Also, we need more people to work during the Darke County Fair when we manage Gate #3. I hope everyone will try to attend these activities and also help at the fair and as hosts during open hours.

We have had a number of events happen during the last couple of months including the trash bash, the third grade tour of the house and Old Fashioned Days. I would like to thank Fred Troutwine and Carolyn Furlong for helping with the third grade tours and all the members that helped with the trash bash. I would also like to thank all the members for their efforts to make operations at the house a possibility.

Fred Shaw gave an entertaining program at the last membership meeting. We will have the next membership meeting and program September 8th, "One and Two Room Schools of Southern Darke County".

I would like to take this opportunity to ask if there is anyone that would be willing to take over as program chair or be part of a program committee. Programs for September and November have been planned. The January meeting is the annual dinner meeting and elections, no program is presented. The new chairman's responsibilities will begin with promoting the September 9th program. Programs for March, May and Sept. 2017 need to be scheduled. Please contact myself or Barb Deis, 678-7832, to find out more about the responsibilities .

Annette Stewart has been updating the web site. All dates for card playing, summer open hours and dates for the Coffee and Conversation sessions are listed there.

We have 22 memberships not yet renewed. Help preserve the history of our area. Your support is appreciated.

Please enjoy your summer.

2016 Summer Coffee and Conversation Sessions July 9th and August 13th **10:00 a.m.**

Lyle Bixler will be the guest host to lead us down memory lane Saturday morning July 9th. Lyle has been a Darke County real estate salesman since 1971, opening his own Arcanum office in 1978 - Lyle Bixler Realty. Having grown up on a farm in Monroe Township, Lyle is a graduate of FM High School. In 45 years of business Lyle has seen area demographics change, how fires and tornados can alter the look of community, and how expectations of home owners change with the times. He has sold homes to three generations of families. All that leads to some interesting stories about our neighborhoods and for that matter our neighbors. Join us, bring your stories to share. This is a time to relax and reminisce.

August 13th we will share stories of **Ithaca**. Many may think of Ithaca as only a cross road of two state routes; St. Rt. 503 and St. Rt. 722. These early trails brought settlers from the Ohio River to the rich soil of Darke County. **Hubert Cromwell, Jim Hamilton, the Weimers, the Hoovers, and Bill Young** all have stories to share about growing up in Ithaca. Many of their families go back to those early days when Ithaca was the central trading post of the area, where the Traction Line stopped, where Jacob Thomas had a large dry goods store, Dr. John Hamilton's office was on Main St. and Cromwell's Greenhouse was "outside of town". In 1959 the two room school where many of these families attended closed its doors for the last time. It was one of the last of the one and two room schools to be used in Darke County. You may remember the church fire caused by a fuel tank falling from a National Guard airplane. Join them August 13th to hear their stories. This is a great way to spend a Saturday morning - reminiscing and learning more about Darke County.

September 8th * 7 p.m. * Speaker - Annette Stewart * "One and Two Room Old School Houses"

Our program for Sept. 8th at the AWTHS will be on One and Two Room Old School Houses of Southern Darke County presented by our AWTHS Reference Library Coordinator, Annette Stewart.

A graduate of Franklin-Monroe High School, her mom and dad graduated from Monroe High School which merged with Franklin later. Her grandparents attended the "one room school houses of Twin and Monroe Township with Inez Michael Brumbaugh attending Nealeigh on Alt. 49 East, Grandpa Brumbaugh (Delbert) attending Cassell or Burnice and Walter Sease attending Buzzard Glory. Come and find out where these schools and other one and two room schools were located and the names of these historical buildings. Plenty of photos and memorabilia will be available.

Annette helps her husband farm, has two grown children, and four grandchildren. Her hobbies are researching, reading, writing, and enjoying life. Other activities include being involved in the Piqua-Lewis Boyer DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) as the historian.

AWTHS Officers and Directors

President	Jenny Quigney	459-8090
Vice President	Fred Troutwine	692-8939
Treasurer	Jerry Kramer	692-5764
Recording Sec.	Connie Norris	692-8085
Corres. Secretary	Connie Norris	692-8085
Directors	Keith Furlong	548-6556
	Dave Flora	692-8413
	Larry Wallace	620-2800
	Dick Troutwine	692-5128
	Joyce Colville	692-8685
	Bill Metzcar	692-5904

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Southern Darke County Annette Stewart 417-3746

This is an email we received from the **Ohio Historical Society** **thanking us** for our contribution from our own reference library:

Thank you again for contributing information about our World War I collections to our online union bibliography as part of our NEH project "Little Stories of the Great War". We've now completed this year-long grant, and the union bibliography is available to the public at <http://www.ohiohistoryhost.org/wwibib>.

This resource allows users to browse by region, topic or format, or perform a keyword search to find relevant materials. Each collection or item is linked with the organization where it is held, so researchers can tell at a glance where to find the material they're interested in.

They also listed the book Arcanum...a secret place by JoKay Miltenberger and JoAnne Hill, pages 215-216 which has local news affecting the community during WWI. The 100th remembrance of the "Great War" will be in 2017.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Wallace Alderman for installing our new printer and copier for the AWTHS use. We've updated and can now access our laptop for printing of documents and photos as well as scanning which will be helpful once the newspaper project is completed.

BEECH GROVE CEMETERY SIGN

The newly erected sign is up at the Beech Grove Cemetery on Rt. 503 near Arcanum-Hollansburg Road in Butler Township. Thank you to Butler Twp. Trustees and Mark Loxley for helping to remember this historic settlement which once had an old school house, the Reformed Church, cemetery, and store. Further information was written in the spring 2015 AWTHS newsletter as well as the historic driving tour of Beech Grove and Ithaca area. Susannah Karn was the first recorded burial and thus the year of her stone was used for the sign of 1849.

PART III MINI SERIES ON FAMILY RESEARCH AND RECORDS

Maps: Once located in census or in conjunction, a map list where the person owned land or property. That doesn't necessarily mean he lived there but it is another clue. On old maps, houses, schools, churches and cemeteries were marked. This gives clues to more research of possibility of your ancestor attending these places or possible burial. Please note: POSSIBLE. These are only clues. Maps are also used with deeds, which gives a legal description of the land or lot number in town. The AWTHS has a few large plat maps and smaller maps along with Rural and City Directory's which is like an old phone book.

Probate Records: Such records are Primary Sources of Information and could include the following: disbursements of estates, guardianships, adoptions, name changes, etc. One important record is the will (if one was written) and the distribution of property. If there is no will there may still be an estate packet to investigate. Check for both. Wills are helpful as the relationships of the deceased to the heir are named. Thus being able to find family members if they are included. AWTHS does not offer copies of these records or certificates below unless they are copied in a family history.

Birth/Death/Marriage Records or Certificates: (Vital Records) Actual certificates were not issued before the last half of the 19th century. However, prior recordings were made. If you can't find a recording or certificate Family Bibles are a source of information as well as baptismal records depending on religion or church affiliation. Also cemetery and funeral records, as well as obits, can be helpful with death recordings. Much information about the person can be obtained by looking at the certificate. For instance, with my own family member when looking at the marriage records of some the parents are listed along with maiden name of mother. In the case of the death certificate several valuable things are noted: cause of death which may give some health history, who was informed of death, doctor name, funeral home involved, and some state the spouse or parent's name. I was able to then verify the parent's place of birth and maiden name because it was listed which give clues for research on the maiden name as well as another state.

Cemetery Records and obits: Besides the death certificate, cemetery records include the actual stone record, cemetery plot records at the actual cemetery, and funeral home records. We have some funeral home records and some Cemetery Inscription books by Anita Short which is transcribed recordings from the cemetery in book form from the 1960's. Find-A-Grave is a good website for further information along with the cemetery names on the Darke County site <http://album.dcoweb.org/cemetery.htm>. (If Darke County). Sometimes the stone is the only place to determine the age of deceased and to obtain a birth and death time frame. Obits are another source. With newspapers being on-line, copies and records can be obtained. The obit helps by naming (depending) the spouse, children, family members such as parents or siblings. Old obits often contain family history such as where parents lived or the deceased place of birth which is helpful especially if out of the current state they resided in. Some obits contains cemetery or funeral home as well as social tidbits such as church affiliation or clubs and organizations they were involved in. Now days more personal information and history is included. The AWTHS has the Arcanum Times obits on-line through our website.

Newspapers: Important info can be obtained such as marriage, divorce, deaths, and births in early papers and legal issues such as settling of estates and purchasing or selling land. Other items are social events and school news such as graduations or sports or school events. Old papers contain social news from all the little bergs and villages in the area. You might find who your grandparents invited over for dinner or who was building a new house, etc. We have several volumes of such items in our AWTHS library. These were clipped from actual old newspapers. As mentioned before obits were included in the papers and other clippings about business news in the town and so forth. We have the Greenville Journal "Arcanum News" on our AWTHS laptop and in the near future the Arcanum Times **actual newspapers** will be available to read. I'm looking forward to looking up my family and read from an original Times. These papers are also available on microfilm at the Arcanum Library as well as Greenville papers at the Greenville Library and Garst Research Library.*

This is just a brief introduction to get you started on various types of records and where to find them. I hope it helps you in your journey to find your family members history and to get a clearer picture of their past.

Reminder we are open each Saturday during the summer. And other times by appointment by calling 937-417-3746 or e-mailing contact@arcanumhistoricalsociety.org.

School Memories

Monroe Township School Betty Brumbaugh Sease was in the band and orchestra from the 8th grade through her senior year. Betty was majorette or "twirler" in the band and played the violin in the orchestra. One event the band played for each year was the Memorial Day service at Mote Cemetery which is located on Pitsburg Laura Rd a few miles from the school.

Betty said, "I can't believe we walked from the school to the cemetery. We marched in many different parades including the Arcanum Christmas parades. Girls were just starting to wear slacks in 1940 when I started as a majorette. Our uniforms were white slacks and white shirt. Mr. McCrea, the band director, taught we girls baton routines. The baton was wooden with rubber balls on the ends. Later Mrs. Thelma Gilbert made satin uniforms of full short skirts and jackets with fancy fringed padded shoulders. We performed at home basketball games showing our new routines. The other majorettes were Miriam Clark, Jean Fitzshan, Dolores Kress, Janet Brown and Betty Netzley."

A photo of Betty as drum majorette her senior year and also the boots she wore are part of a display at AWTHS.

We Looked Forward To It All Year by Ted Murphy, Minneapolis, Minnesota

As many of us get older, our memories tend to fade and sometimes we can't even remember what we did last week. My Mom, Betty Murphy, is an exception to the rule. In fact, she can remember exactly what she was doing 80 years ago this August—she was working at the Great Darke County Fair.

That's because during the 1936 & 37 fairs, the Gray family ran a food stand under the South corner of the Grandstand in front of the men's restroom, (a pizza stand is there today).

They sold ham sandwiches, orange drink and chocolate milk which came from the Arcanum Dairy, that was owned by her Grandpa, Al (Alonzo) Gray and was located behind his home at 46 West South Street (part of the dairy still stands). The Arcanum Dairy was an important business in the 1930's because it provided fresh milk and dairy products for Arcanum and the surrounding area. Her Dad, Arley would go out every morning on the delivery route in his International truck, often taking Betty and her brother Bud with him. Arley drove, and it was Betty and Bud's job to put the milk bottles on the customer's porch. The dairy supplied homes and stores in Arcanum, Pittsburg, Laura and Potsdam.

In fact, things were so busy in the 30's that Grandpa Al hired two Arcanum High School boys—Beverly Floyd and Kenneth “Red” Pease to help at the dairy. Tragically, both were to later die in World War II, Beverly as a Marine fighting on Cape Gloucester, New Britain in the South Pacific, and Red in the D-Day invasion of Normandy.

The fair stand was a family affair and everybody pitched-in and worked hard. Al and Arley made the drinks at the dairy and worked at the stand, along with Arley's wife Elizabeth, Betty and Bud. The drinks came in half-pint glass bottles and cost five cents, and a big ham sandwich (from the John Smith Company Grocery) went for a quarter.

I asked Mom if Bud (who was around 10 at the time) liked working at the fair? “He must have, she said, you know your Grandpa Arley, we didn't have a choice.”

“We'd get up early every day and be at the fairgrounds by 8:00 a.m. to get a good parking spot along the fence and we wouldn't go home until the horse races were over. Mom would pack a big basket filled with fried chicken and all the fixings. Later, we'd have a picnic lunch under the big beautiful trees that stood at the fairgrounds then. What a treat, we thought we were big stuff.”

The Gray food stand did a good business and back then there wasn't any pizza, tacos, giant turkey legs, or blooming onions to compete with. The location was also very good and in those days people didn't line their chairs up in front of the grandstand like they do today. Betty remembers that a weekly fair ticket for an entire family only cost five dollars.

“Just like today, the fair was the major event of the summer, and we looked forward to it all year-long. After all, no one had any money, so the fair was the one place people could take their family that had something for everyone—rides, crop and flower displays, farm equipment, 4-H, and harness racing were all very popular,” Betty said.

If you're wondering why the Gray family was running a food stand at the fair, there's a simple answer: they needed the extra money. Remember, this was in the middle of the Great Worldwide Depression of the 1930's. Times were hard, money was tight, and the fair stand helped put food on the table. Just how tight was it? For comparison, the US unemployment rate hit a high of 25 percent in 1933, and today it's less than five percent

The Gray's left the food stand business after the 1937 fair. “I remember Daddy saying that it was taking too much time and we had too many other things to do, and that Bud and I were pretty happy we didn't have to work so hard at the fair anymore,” said Betty.

“Looking back, one of the things I enjoyed most about working at the Fair was getting to see so many people you knew. We didn't have a lot of distractions then; no cell phones, texting, television, or email. The Fair brought people together, they came to visit, to see their neighbors, and to just talk to each other-- it was the social event of the summer. There were always a lot of people around the grandstand, and many of them couldn't afford a ticket to sit inside, so they'd hang over the fence and watch the horse races for free.” Maybe some things never change.

2016 Darke County Fair - Gate 3 Friday Aug. 19 thru Saturday 27th Keith Furlong 548-6556

AWTHS will again work gate #3. The fair board pays organizations to work the gates; this is one of our fund raisers. The updated schedule below is based on last year's list of volunteers and times they worked. Please look over the schedule, verify with Keith that you can work. Our responsibilities are to sell tickets and to check season passes. **I do need volunteers for Wed. Aug 24th from noon to 5 p.m.**

There are three shifts: 7 a.m. - 12 noon 12 noon - 5 p.m. 5 p.m.-10 p.m.

Several things I need:

1. Will you be able to participate this year?
2. Please let me know if you trade times with someone else.
3. Verify your phone number
4. Call me to verify your status and with any questions you may have.

If you did not help in 2015 but want to volunteer this year please contact me. Thanks for your willingness to participate.

2016 Darke County Fair Gate #3 Fri. Aug. 19 thru Sat. 27 Schedule

	7am-12noon	12noon-5pm	5pm-10pm
Fri 19	Connie Norris 692-8085 Deo Miltenberger 678-0185 *	Karen & Mike Young C.Furlong & Jean Aukerman 692-9922	Tom & Liz Stephens 459-0884 Gary & Denise Swabb 692-5979
Sat. 20	T. Staley 692-8634 Bill Metzger 692-5904 Deo Miltenberger 678-0185 *	Wallace & Trump 620-2800 548-6116	C Furlong & Kelly & Jeff Baron 548-6556 765 964-5310
Sun. 21	Need Volunteer Gary & Denise Swabb 692-5979	Barb and Jim Deis 678-7832 & Sally Sharritts 692-5245	Dick & Sharon Troutwine 692-5128 & Linda Newbauer 996-8264
Mon 22	Carol Hightower 692-8895 Allen Fourman * 692-8635 Dave Hamlin & Ardis Trigg	Marilyn Graeff, 692-8140 J. Aukerman 692-9922 Susie Weisenbarger 692-5597	Dick & Sharon T. & Linda Newbauer 692-5128 996- 8264
Tue. 23	Jim & Barb Deis 678-7832 * Annette & Rex Stewart 417-3746	J. Delk 692-5569 & Jenny Quigney J. Colville 417-3344 459-8090	Jerry & Bev Kramer 692-5764 Bev Rench 623-0468
Wed. 24	Jeff Puterbaugh 692-5302 & C. Furlong & Jenny Quigney 459-8090 *	Need Volunteer Wendell & Jeannie Miller 692 8425	Terry & Judy Mills 692-5582
Thur. 25	Carolyn and Fred Troutwine * 692 8939 M&L.Schweiteman 692-5021 or 417-9816	Sue Stammen 692-0164 Jean Aukerman 692-9922	Cary & Teresa Wogomon 692-5877
Fri. 26	Gene & Nelda Morris F. Troutwine* 884-5424 692-8939	Dustin Meyer & Fred Troutwine 692- 8939	Dick & Sharon T. 692-5128 Cheryl Gray 692-8905
Sat. 27	C & K Furlong * 548-6556 Carolyn Trump 548-6116 * Will pick up cash box at Grand Stand	Larry and Annabelle Wallace 620-2800	Beth and Dave Flora 692-8413

on call: C Furlong 548-6556 Cell 417-2966

2016	All memberships are renewable January 1st of each year	2016
Use the form below to renew or join for the first time. Fill in your email address if you wish to receive the newsletter by email.		
Please consider volunteering your time or services."Many hands make light work"		
Membership Form		Mail to AWTHS, P.O. Box 4, Arcanum, OH 45304
Name _____	New _____	Renewal _____
Phone Number _____	Receive newsletter by Email? add address _____	
Address _____		
City, State and Zip code _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Single	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Family	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Sponsorship
<input type="checkbox"/> \$150 Corporate	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 Lifetime	
Your additional tax deductible contributions are also greatly appreciated \$ _____		
Your participation is needed for AWTHS to exist and for continuous growth. Please check the area where you can serve.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisitions	<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic Sites	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Nominating
<input type="checkbox"/> Genealogy	<input type="checkbox"/> Publicity	<input type="checkbox"/> Design/Displays
<input type="checkbox"/> Adopt A Highway	<input type="checkbox"/> Type Research Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Clipping newspaper articles
<input type="checkbox"/> Scan Photos	<input type="checkbox"/> Assist Resource Librarian	<input type="checkbox"/> Programs
		<input type="checkbox"/> Publications
		<input type="checkbox"/> Ways & Means
		<input type="checkbox"/> Flower Garden Care
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yard Care
		<input type="checkbox"/> Set Up Hall For Rental

AWTHS Visitors Hours 9 a.m. - Noon Reference Room 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Open each Saturday June through August
September thru May open the 1st Saturday of each month

Calendar of Events

Farmers Market Each Saturday through August

July 5, 2016	Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.
July 1 & 15, 2016	Euchre Card Party	1:00 p.m.
July 9, 2016	Coffee & Conversation Series	10:00 a.m.
August 2, 2016	Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.
August 5, 2016	Euchre Card Party	1:00 p.m.
August 13, 2016	Coffee & Conversation Series	10:00 a.m.
August 19 - 27, 2016	Darke County Fair * Work Fair Gate #3	7 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Sept. 6, 2016	Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 2 & 16, 2016	Euchre Card Party	1:00 p.m.
Sept. 8, 2016	Membership Meeting & Program	7:00 p.m.

Program: One and Two Room Schools

in Southern Darke County * Annette Stewart

Just a Reminder

Volunteer to work at Fair Gate #3

Attend Coffee and Conversation Series July 9th and August 13th.

September 8th Program 7 p.m.

Be a host during Saturday morning visitors open hours

Help Reference Library Coordinator

Editor's correction to School Memories in the April newsletter: Richard Rinehart attended West Manchester school up to Christmas break during third grade then attended Butler Elementary at the beginning of the new year.