

Arcanum Wayne Trail Historical Society, Inc.
Sharing the Secret

July 2007
Volume 3, Issue 3

Arcanum Wayne Trail Historical Society, Inc., 123 W George St. Arcanum, OH 45304
www.arcanumhistoricalsociety.org AWTHS@woh.rr.com (937) 548-6556

President's Report by Richard Troutwine

Yes, the front porch railing has been installed by Dave Fourman and Craig Ross, employees of Donovan Kessler Construction, Inc. who also built the railing. A hand rail to the porch needs to be fabricated and mounted. With a new storm door the porch will be completed.

On the second floor Richard Rinehart plastered the ceilings of the three west rooms. John Hicks painted the rooms. The stairway and hallway need another coat of paint and the floors have yet to be sanded and finished.

The conference room on the first floor is now under restoration. Dave Flora, Keith Furlong, Fred Troutwine and I have removed the drop ceiling as well as the plaster board that covered five windows. What a mess! Bud's Electric crew has installed new electrical wiring for the new lights, ceiling fans and speakers. Once again Lonnie Norris and crew will install ceiling plaster board so the room can be plastered and painted. To complete the room the five windows uncovered will need some sort of storm windows made. After which the floor can be sanded and clear coated.

Please note the stairway and stage at Veteran's Park was damaged by a car during Old Fashioned Days. The repair will be made and the cost of same will be covered by the car owner's insurance.

I'm happy to report Phyllis Hahn has been a Lifetime member since 2005 making her our first lifetime member. Thanks Phyllis.

As of May 31st AWTHS debt is \$9667.53. The checking/saving account is \$9395.35.

Have a Great Summer!

Officers and Board Members

President		Directors 2 nd year	
Richard Troutwine	692-5128	Dave Flora	692-8413
Vice Pres.		Jeff Puterbaugh	692-5304
Fred Troutwine	692-8939	Directors 1 st year	
Treasurer		Keith Furlong	548-6556
Jerry Kramer	692-5764	Wendell Miller	692-8425
Rec. Secretary			
Pat Jones	662-9114		
Corres. Secretary			
Barbara Deis	678-7832		

Inside This Issue

President's Report, Board Members, Sept. Speaker	1
Committee Reports	2
Old Fashioned Days	3
Arcanum 4 th July Parades	4 & 5
Religious Heritage	6
Along The Trail - Castine	7
Calendar of Events & 100 Years Ago	8

Program Sept. 13 - The Social History of the Bicycle From 1818

Our speaker for the Sept. 13 meeting will be Bob Menker from West Milton. Bob will give an overview of the development of the bicycle and its effects on society. The bicycle craze of the 1880's and 1890's changed the world lifestyle forever. From dating to clothing, transportation and travel, exercise and religion, all were caught up in the revolutions of the bicycle wheels.

Bob Menker is a long time resident of Miami County. He and wife Charlotte own and operate Patterson's Flowers in West Milton. The bicycle collection started with the purchase of a high wheel bicycle in parts at an auction in 1971. Since then Bob has assembled a collection of over 50 examples showing the evolution of the bicycle as well as a wide variety of memorabilia associated with cycling from 1818 to the present. As a member of "The Wheelmen" Bob has ridden his high wheel bicycle in parades from the Mummers parade in Philadelphia to the Circus Parade in Milwaukee as well as numerous local parades. He was the Ohio State Captain and in 1976 he was elected National Commander of the Club. He will bring part of the collection to the talk and explain how the bicycle changed the course of history.

Committee Reports

EDUCATION by Cheryl Gray, chairman

A huge thanks to Fred Troutwine for taking the third grade students on a tour of Arcanum Business District and making connections between past and present. A Community Born is a resource guide prepared by Fred and Carolyn Troutwine for classroom use in our school. It is this guide that Fred uses during the tour to help them have a clearer understanding of the history of Arcanum. The Ohio State Board of Education mandates grade three students focus on the history of their community as part of Science and Social Studies.

Another thanks goes out to Keith and Carolyn Furlong, who met with the students at the historical society building and led them on a tour, showing updates, and interesting Arcanum history.

Students use the information shared to write a report "My Community", a requirement at the end of the school year.

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome new members + and those who have renewed their 2007 memberships.

Joe and Wanda Bailey	Phil Garbig - (Honorary)	Abraham and Patricia Lincoln
Paul and Jo Chastain +	Richard and Marilyn Graeff	Duane and Joan Reynolds
Miriam Clark	Harry and Hana Hanes	Marilyn Skillern
Richard and Carolyn Davison	Mark Hughes	John and Ella Stevenson #
Peggy Didier	Christine Jones	Lew Williams - (Honorary)
Sharon Karns	Phyllis Hahn *	Sally Sharritts

We now have 183 members. Help preserve our area's history, renew your 2007 membership.

Make check to AWTHS.

Mail to: AWTHS, P.O. Box 4, Arcanum OH 45304

\$15.00 Single - \$25.00 Family - ^ Sponsorship \$50.00 - # \$150.00 Corporate - * \$1000.00 Lifetime

WAYS AND MEANS by Jenny Quigney, chairman

Old Fashioned Days The weekend of May 18th, 19th and 20th saw Old Fashioned Days here in Arcanum and with that the AWTHS held the Goat-Go-Go, only this year it was held with a black sheep. Due to the fact that goats get sick very easily we decided to use a sheep. The sheep was "donated" by Don and Ellen Breece. Don brought the sheep in and let it do its thing. The deposit was made on square #14. Terry Mills held the ticket for that square and won \$100.00 - congratulations. The profit was \$400.00. A huge thank you goes out to everyone who purchased tickets and supported AWTHS. Without the help of everyone, our fundraisers would not be successful. A special thank you to Don and Ellen for the use of their sheep.

The winners of the Corn Hole tournament were Bob Colville and David Flora. The profit was \$30.00.

World's Longest Yard Sale AWTHS is taking part in the World's Longest Yard Sale along Rt. 127. We will set up in the American Legion Hall, 450 St. Rt. 127, West Manchester. They are renting spaces inside and on the grounds, so this will be like a mini-mall, with a lunch stand and restrooms. Your donations are needed to make this fundraiser a success. Bring your items to the historical society by July 30th. If no one is there leave the items on the back porch or contact me, 459-8090, or one of the board members to meet you at the house. Arrange to have large items picked up.

Fair Gate We will again manage Gate 3 (north gate) during the fair, Aug. 17th - 25th. Please contact me if you are interested in working at the fair gate. We are paid \$800 for this service which involves many man hours. We could use all the help we can get, so please call me to schedule a date and time you can work.

Christmas Bazaar Just a reminder we need gently used greenery, poinsettias and ribbons for wreaths, garlands and arrangements. These items sell well. A new area this year will be Christmas theme books, for both children and adults. Watch for these items at garage sales.

LANDSCAPING

The landscape committee selected a white distressed iron bench with two matching flower stands which were placed near the sidewalk on the west lawn. Residents are invited to use the bench when walking about town. Monies for this project came from a donation by the Arcanum Garden Club. Joe Quigney and Terry Barnett provided the materials and did the work in laying the bricks. Larry Vivitoe provided some of the bricks. Joe & Jenny and Terry & Kornelia spread the mulch, which was donated by the Quigney's. A big thanks to everyone.

AWTHS ARCANUM OLD FASHIONED DAYS

- (1) Wendell and Jeannie Miller represented AWTHS riding in their 1928 coupe. The dress Jeannie is wearing is an authentic reproduction she made for completion for their model car club.
- (2) Corn Hole Tournament. Winning team was Bob Colville and Dave Flora.
- (3) Friends with the sheep at the Sheep-Go-Go. The winner was Terry Mills.
- (4) Thanks to Richard Rinehart for providing the trailer and tractor used for the AWTHS float. Barbara Deis and Katelynn Burrell-Troutwine are seen wearing their "dust caps".
- (5) Gene Rench and Buddy Baker rode in Gene's one of a kind home made car.



(1)



(2)



(3)



(4)



(5)

Arcanum 4th July parades

Arcanum never met a parade that it didn't like. The celebration of the Fourth of July was an occasion that always served as an inspiration for organizing a parade.

The first parade for which we have a record was **July 4th 1890**. The parade held in the morning included the local GAR Civil War Veterans and an Industrial parade with the local business enterprises represented and lead by Miller & Nealeigh's drummers. The afternoon entertainment included a baseball game, greased pole exercises, wheel barrow and sack races with fire works in the evening.

An Early Fourth of July Parade, Date Unknown

**West South Street at D&U Railroad tracks
looking west**



**West George Street at D&U Railroad tracks
looking east**

Although there is no written record of the parade held **July 4th 1898**, there is the following picture. Again this is taken on West South Street at the D&U railroad, looking north.



The next parade for which we have a written record took place **July 4th 1901**. The day began with a thirteen gun salute at 5 a.m., awaking the people in time to have their residences and business houses decorated. By 7 a.m. flags, bunting and streamers were in place and flying with enthusiastic crowds beginning to arrive on the early trains. The morning was devoted to the comic and industrial parade and home talent baseball game. The parade was unique, with many of the enterprising businessmen taking the opportunity to display their wares. The comic section of the parade included "Jack" Etzler, "China" Reynolds and Johnny Coal Oil with George Eichelberger taking first prize of \$5. At 3 p.m. the crowd divided between the ball game on North Main and various attractions on the grounds of the Arcanum Milling Co on South Main (where Arcanum Hardware is now located) with contests being held around City Hall on South street. After supper the Brookville and Arcanum bands gave a concert, followed by a balloon ascension and the evening closes with an exhibition of fireworks.

July 4th 1904 began at 4 a.m. with the Morning Salute. By 9 a.m. everyone was ready for the parade which again featured Comics with prizes of \$3, \$2, and \$1, followed by a ball game, clay bird shoot and a band concert by the Arcanum and Painter Creek Bands. The afternoon was devoted to contests—running horse race, three-legged sack race, obstacle race, old man race, wheelbarrow race, rope pulling, yarn winding, pie eating, hitching and greased pig. At 3:15 a fancy drill by sixteen girls under the direction of Maud Reynolds was presented. 4:30 p.m. was devoted to Daylight Fireworks—something new, which because of the cost had only previously been presented in large cities. 5:45 p.m. brought forth a high dive from the tower of the city building by Prof. G. Andrew, without a parachute or netting, illustrating the latest evolution in fire escapes. 7 p.m. brought a choice between a Band Concert or Lawn Tennis. The evening was culminated by Fire Works at 8:00 p.m. and at 9:30 it was "Goodnight." The celebration drew a crowd of over 5000 people with extra police sworn in as a precaution.

The celebration of **July 4th 1906** essentially followed the 1904 program 4 a.m. Morning Salute; 6 a.m. decoration of business houses and residences; 9 a.m. Industrial and Comic Parade; 10 a.m. Clay pigeon shoot; 10:30 a.m. Band Concert; then dinner. The afternoon began at 1 p.m. with baseball between Lewisburg and Arcanum. Also during the afternoon the following contests were taking place: Rope pulling, Donkey race, horse race, ladies nail driving, ladies yarn winding, pie eating, ladies ball throwing, boy's shoe tying, three-legged race, obstacle race, wheel barrow race, girls potato race, girl's running race, boys potato race, boys stilt race, fat men's race, old men race, hitching and unhitching, greased pig.

The celebrations over the next few years followed much of the same format. By **July 3rd & 4th 1925** the celebration had extended to a two day affair again with the usual entertainment. A Mardi Gras Dance was held both evenings in the Arcanum Motor Company Storage Room (now a part of Troutwine Auto Service).

In 1931 the July 4th celebration was held in connection with a celebration of the purchase of a new Community Fire Truck. At this time the village of Arcanum was served by the Arcanum Fire Truck with the surrounding area being served by the Community Fire Truck. The combined celebration was held early on **June 25, 26 & 27 1931**. It consisted primarily of three big evening's of entertainment with a total of over 10,000 people attending the three-evening event. Entertainment consisted of a Water Battle which went on until midnight one evening. The new community fire truck with its flashing red colors and its bright lights, displayed its prowess each night and the old fire truck strutted its stuff as did the old steam fire engine which took part in the celebration. There was a parade on Saturday night with a long line of merchant floats and of course the fire engines, three bands and a pet parade that included a gazelle. Entertainment consisting of bands and a jazz band lead by "Germany" O.W. Gazell, a former resident, was given on "the square" which was the intersection of High and George streets. The Merry-Go-Round was one of the busiest places.

Over the years some times July 4th was celebrated with parades at home in Arcanum, other years no celebration was held with the town residents going to Greenville or other town's celebrations. The Centennial Celebration planned for September 1949 was postponed due to the polio epidemic. It was held **July 2, 3 & 4 1950**. However, that is a story for a later issue.

Arcanum Old Fashion Days was organized by the Arcanum Business Association around 1980. First held in the parking lot and lawn of Suttons Super Market with a flea market and car show, the celebration moved to the Arcanum School grounds, it then moved into the downtown area, where it is held today. The celebration has evolved to include a parade, rides, good food, local entertainment, games, and contests throughout the 3 day festival. A highlight of the parade is Arcanum's first fire steam pumper. Restored to it's glory, the Ahrens-Fox steam pumper is pulled by 2 horses.

Religious Heritage

Religious Heritage of Arcanum and the surrounding area continues with the histories of Family of God Ministries and Immanuel Baptist Church in Arcanum.

Family of God Ministries
310 West South Street, Arcanum
Founded in 1882

The church at this location has served the faithful since 1882. June 1955 when Pilgrim Holiness was building an addition to the church, the tin box in the cornerstone of their church was opened, revealing information pertaining to the first church at that location, First (German?) Reform Church of Arcanum. Although the Reform Church was organized in Arcanum prior to 1882, the brick structure was not erected until that date.

The following is from an article that appeared in the Arcanum Tribune Aug. 8, 1882. "The Reform Church was organized several years ago, by Rev. HM Herman, in the pleasant and thriving town of Arcanum. The want of a church building in which to worship has long been felt and its progress has been somewhat impeded, the people of this organization meeting with many discouragements-but the time has come when they have said we must have a church in which God shall be honored.."

The Reform Church worshiped there until approx. 1910. From that time until sometime around 1924 the Christ and Christian Union Church served the faithful. The church then became home to the Pilgrim Holiness. A new wing including Sunday School rooms, two overflow areas, classroom, one more restroom and nursery was added in 1948.

Pilgrim Holiness merged in the 1960's with the Wesleyan faith becoming the Arcanum Wesleyan Church.

At the end of 1994 a change took place among the Ithaca United Methodist when a group of members voted to leave the Methodist denomination to found Family of God Ministries as a non-denominational church. Rev. Joe LeMaster was asked to lead the faithful who believe "Scripture is true without error".

Don Avore, pastor of Arcanum Wesleyan Church, invited the newly founded church to share their facilities. For 6 years the churches worshiped separately and shared Sunday School Classes. Following that period the churches worshiped and held Sunday School together. A merger took place in 2003, keeping the name Family of God Ministries.

Remodeling of the sanctuary was completed in 2004. A current project is the construction of a fellowship hall, to be named Family of God Community Center. Those searching for a faith family are invite to visit worship services.

Immanuel Baptist Church
500 West South Street, Arcanum
Founded in 1951

Immanuel Baptist Church was born out of a commitment to biblical teaching and Scripture. Twenty-nine people joined together with the hope of starting a new Baptist work. They asked Dr. James T. Jeremiah and Dr. J. Irving Reese to advise and assist them.

Soon after the church was established they joined with the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches.

In 1952 the home owned by the American Legion was purchased to serve as meeting rooms and home to the first pastor Rev. Thomas Younger. Shortly after that a fire broke out destroying the building. Just as our early settlers did years ago, men, women and children worked together to erect a new church, laying the cornerstone August 5th. To meet the needs of the growing attendance the church was enlarged in 1954, adding Sunday school rooms, a new basement and a new sanctuary.

"Revival Under the Stars" was the results of the believe that the church should reach out to the community. Open air drive-in church services were held Sunday evenings during the summer months starting in 1955. People enjoyed the comfort of sitting in their cars. Church members remember how people came from Greenville, Richmond and beyond for the one hour service that included special music programs. At that time a new basement addition was in use, but the first floor addition was not yet built. The roof of the basement served as the stage. The drive-in service continued until approximately 1967.

Around this time Immanuel Baptist reached out to the people in Greenville, founding Faith Baptist Church, located on Russ Road. Faith Baptist has grown to included a school pre-K thru 12th grades.

As Immanuel Baptist continued to grow a new sanctuary was built in 1963, later remodeled in 1985 and the building was made handicapped accessible in 1998.

(References: Arcanum Tribune, Arcanum Times, & Arcanum..a secret place.)

Along the Trail

The community of Castine is situated where the Anthony Wayne Trail from Ft St Clair to Ft Greenville now US 127 crosses the old Quaker Trace now St Rt 722. A historic marker located at the Council House placed in 1936 tells: "Camp Maple Swamp. Maj Gen Arthur St Clair camped on the southern margin of Maple Swamp at the headwaters of Twin Creek ½ miles west of this site at Noon Tues Oct 11, 1791 AD. On account of marshy condition of the ground it was necessary to delay the advance until the following afternoon. When the army veered northeast and struck a well-known Indian path leading through prairie and avoiding the wet places. The army gained about 5 ½ miles this day and camped on the bottom land along a small stream probably near the large spring at the entrance of Wayne Lakes Park. This was the first recorded entrance of a body of white Americans within the confines of Darke Co Ohio. Distance 62 miles from Fort Washington (Cincinnati)."

Named by M. DeCastin a fur trader from Canada who made this stop on his route to Kentucky, the town was first called "New Castine." New Castine was first platted in 1832 on lands owned by John Ellis, Joseph Danner and Frederick Smith. Claiming that the lots were not put up for bid according to law, Dr. J.P. Love and Samuel Bosserman bought out the landowners and re-platted the town a year later. Around the year 1885, "New" was dropped from the name.

The first log cabin was erected in 1821 by Charles Harriman. Dr. Love's home was the first house erected within Castine after it was re-platted, located at the intersection of Main and Cross Sts (US 127 & St Rt 722). Although Dr. Love did not complete his education in medicine he practiced off and on throughout his life. He also engaged in the legal business and merchandising. He ran a slaughter house, specializing in pork, which was shipped in barrels by wagon to Cincinnati.

Businesses listed in 1857 were a blacksmith, cooper, hotel, merchandisers (dry goods, groceries, boots & shoes), saw mill, harness maker and the United Brethren Church. Joseph W. Hamiel operated a local sawmill, his father dying when he was 5 years, around 1833. He was raised by an uncle with instructions to see he was educated until competent to cipher in "the rule of three" and the contract was scrupulously adhered to, not educating him beyond that point.

At this early day, education was not of the most importance. Before the first school was erected in 1824, classes were held in surrounding homes. The fourth school known as Castine or No. 7 school, a brick structure, was located ¼ mile east of town at Fowble Road and Rt. 722. One teacher was employed in the summer and two in the winter. This school was used until the early 1920's, at which time the children went to the newly erected Butler School.

Through the years businesses changed as the needs of the community changed. Besides those mentioned above, at one time there were 3 hotels, numerous restaurants, an elevator, stockyards, gunsmith, welding shop, plumbers, photographers, farm implement dealer, along with the Cincinnati-Northern Railroad. There were 3 lodges: Knights of Golden Eagles #5, IOOF Lodge #628 and Grange #866. The first churches were United Brethren erected in 1849, German Baptist erected in 1871 and Castine United Methodist. Today the faithful are served by Castine United Brethren, Bridgeview Baptist and the Church of Living God.

There is one story that has been passed down through the years: "Castine used to have the reputation as being one of the roughest towns around. It has been said that when a stranger approached the edge (of) town he was stopped and told that he 'had' to 'buy' from all. If he refused he was escorted out of town, sometimes bodily, and told never to return. It has been said that on occasion some of these strangers were tarred and feathered. This story came about during the era when there were 7 saloons and 3 trading posts in this small town."

Early in 1910 there was a local telegraph line set up with six regular stations, all of which were located in resident's homes. The lines, fastened to insulators, ran from trees to poles and along fence posts. Around this time the Castine Cornet Band played at many activities and marched in may parades. Harry Trager also entertained with his one-man band. Early settlers followed Indian trails and military traces to make their home in this area. Later the town of Castine would play an important roll as a station on the Underground Railroad furthering slaves along their route to Canada. Today, two hundred years later, tourists travel these same routes to visit what are now designated historic sites—Ft St. Clair, Ft Nesbit, Ft. Jefferson and Ft Greenville.

(References: "The History of Castine Ohio 1822-1976: compiled by Paul W. Fellers, 1857 Darke County, Ohio Atlas-Map, Darke County, Ohio Atlases 1875, 1888, 1910. Also informative is a map found in *Ohio's Underground Trails*, from the book *The Mysteries of Ohio's Underground Railroads* showing Castine as a stop on the Underground Railroad between Ithaca and New Madison on the route to Newport (Fountain City), Indiana, 16 miles west of Castine, on the route to Canada.)

Arcanum Wayne Trail Historical Society Calendar of Events

July 3, 2007	Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.
August 2, 3, 4, 2007	"World's Longest Yard Sale"	
August 7, 2007	Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.
August 17 thru 25, 2007	Darke County Fair - Gate 3	7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
September 4, 2007	Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.
September 7 & 21, 2007	Euchre Party	1:00 - 3:30 p.m.
September 13, 2007	Membership Meeting & Program	7:00 p.m.
	Bob Menker - The Social History of the Bicycle from 1818	

On Going Projects

Euchre Parties - First and Third Friday of each month starting again in September
 Hall Rental - Carolyn Furlong - 548-6556 Aluminum Cans and Computer Inkjet Cartridges Recycling
 Donation of Appreciated Stock(s) - Contact Richard Troutwine, 692-5128 or Todd Durham, 2nd National Bank, 548-2206
 For Sale - Historic Arcanum Note Cards - 8 for \$5.00

IT HAPPENED 100 YEARS AGO - 1907

Notice all users of city water must refrain from using same immediately upon sounding of fire alarm. Neglect of this notice will cause the arrest of the consumer by order of Board of Public Affairs. (Arcanum Times 5-9-1907)

The old fences must go. Several were torn down this week and each day sees Arcanum assuming a more attractive appearance. Let the good work continue. All of the front yard fences should be taken away and the yards filled up. (Arcanum Times 5-30-1907)

Smith's retailing gasoline for 16 cents a gallon.

(Arcanum Times 7-25-1907)

WORKING TOGETHER TO PRESERVE YOUR MEMORIES OF OUR COMMUNITY!

Arcanum Wayne Trail Historical Society, Inc.
 P.O. Box 4
 123 W. George Street
 Arcanum, OH 45304