

President's Remarks – Jenny Quigney 937-459-8090

It is so hard to believe that fall is here already, I hope everyone enjoyed the summer months. Here at AWTHS we continued with the Coffee and Conversation sessions which were by all accounts enjoyable and informative for everyone. Our open houses went well and I would like to thank all who helped make these open hours a success.

In August we were awarded a grant in the amount of \$1,600.00 from the Darke County Foundation. This money will go toward the front porch repairs that will be completed soon. We are very grateful to the Foundation for being considered and the award.

Thank you to Bev Rench for her work on scheduling our fund raiser at the Darke County Fair gate. This requires a lot of hours to cover and a real commitment from our members, so thank you to everyone that helped out. The Fair Board also held their appreciation dinner for all and it was a good time.

Other activities that the AWTHS were involved in this past summer include the Cemetery Preservation workshop, a geology display in Preble County, the All Trains Flea Market and last but not least the Arcanum Walking Tour of historical sites in our town. A huge thank you to Fred Troutwine who took everyone down memory lane on the walking tour. Also, thank you to all who helped with the other activities that AWTHS was represented in.

Roane Smothers was the presenter for the September membership meeting. Mr. Smothers gave the history of how his ancestors helped establish the Longtown settlement. Coming up in November Tom Staley will be the guest speaker.

Speaking of November, we will be having our annual Christmas Bazaar and are looking for volunteers. This is a huge fund raiser for AWTHS and any help would be greatly appreciated.

As many of you may be aware a group, Arcanum Preservation Society, has formed to look into ways to save and utilize our historical City Building. While AWTHS is not directly involved I do encourage everyone with any interest to attend their meetings. The objective of this group goes along with AWTHS in the effort to preserve our past for future generations.

November 14 * Program * 7:00 p.m."The Old Dusty Rusty Things I've Seen" Speaker * Tom Staley, Local Antique Dealer

Tom Staley has had his store, Staley's Antiques And Woodworking, on Sycamore St. for nearly 30 years. Tom has seen trends over the years in what people are collecting, strange items come and go through his store, and prices go up and down.

If you have an item you can't identify, bring it to the program, maybe Tom or someone else in attendance can tell you what it is and what it was used for.

Join us to hear Tom's stories of the strangest items he has had at his shop and the people he has met.

January 9, 2019 * Dinner * 6:30 p.m.*Annual Member Appreciation Dinner Meeting and Election of Officers*

Pizza provided by AWTHS with drinks, salads and desserts provided by board members.

AWTHS Officers

President	Jenny Quigney	459-8090
Vice President	Dick Troutwine	692-5128
Treasurer	Jerry Kramer	692-5764
Secretary	Connie Norris Wells	692-8085

Directors

Keith Furlong	548-6556	Joyce Colville	692-8685
Dave Flora	692-8413	Jim Deis	662-0119
Larry Wallace	620-2800		
Fred Troutwine	692-8939		

Membership Sharon Troutwine 692-5128

Please continue to support AWTHS by paying your 2019 Dues. This is a reminder to several of our longtime members who have not as yet done so. It will soon be time to collect the 2020 dues.

Christmas Bazaar 2019 Richard and Sharon Troutwine 692-5128

It's time to mark your calendar for our major fundraiser, the 14th Annual Christmas Bazaar.

- * Friday Nov. 29th 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Preview Sale
- * Saturday Nov. 30th 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Second Day Sale

We will again have Mrs. Santa's Bake Shoppe. Please deliver all of your goodies to AWTHS between 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 29rd.

Door Prizes, In-House Raffle and 50-50 Raffle are all part of the Christmas Extravaganza.

November 14th, we will be carrying downstairs all of our stored donations after our regular meeting. This is a huge effort. We are fortunate to have received many large donations. We really need your help.

Gently used Holiday items are always welcomed. Donations should be left by the back door of the historical society building. Call Dick and Sharon if you need help with a large donation.

Please spread the word to help advertise our Bazaar. No other bazaar has such great prices for such nice items.

Monday, Dec. 2nd at 9:00 a.m. (?) Your help will be welcomed to pack up and clean up.

Thanks to all our bakers, volunteers and shoppers, you are appreciated. You do so much to make this event successful.

Farmers Market

Thanks to our summer vendors for their participation and a Thank You to you and the community for buying their products. It was nice to see new vendors this summer. The growing season was late getting started. We appreciate the vendors for continuing to set up as long as they had produce to sell.

2020 Membership Form

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

Name _____ New _____ Renewal _____

Phone Number _____ Receive Newsletter by Email? Add email _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip Code _____

Annual Fees ___\$15 Single ___\$25 Family ___\$50 Sponsorship ___\$150 Corporate ___\$1000 Lifetime

Your additional tax deductible contributions are also greatly appreciated \$ _____

Please check the area where you would like to help.

☐ Acquisitions ☐ Newsletter ☐ Membership ☐ Programs ☐ Ways & Means ☐ Historic Sites ☐ Education
☐ Flower Garden Care ☐ Yard Care ☐ Publicity ☐ Publications ☐ Adopt A Highway ☐ Displays
☐ Help Reference Librarian ☐ Genealogy ☐ Type Research Papers ☐ Christmas Bazaar
☐ Serve as Host/Hostess during Open Hours ☐ Provide Refreshments at Membership Meetings

History of Arcanum Books for Purchase

The Secret Town - The Story of the Founding of Arcanum, Ohio and William Gunder Family \$20

Arcanum, Ohio Business History (1852-1968) \$25

Arcanum Chronicles Includes - Opera House, Sports, Parades & Celebrations, Brig. Gen. Ed Sigerfoos, Grassville Quartette, Christmas, Chautauqua, Fast Horses, District 7 Ithaca School \$20

Arcanum Chronicles Volume 2 - History of Fire Department and Arcanum Public Library \$18

Purchase books at AWTHS during open hours, website, or contact board members

Southern Darke County Annette Stewart 417-3746**Cemetery Workshop**

In spite of hot temperatures in July we were able to hold the workshop at Ithaca Cemetery. Many thanks to our instructor, Mark Morton, who held a great class with valuable training as well as our Twin Township Trustees who helped sponsor the workshop and none work harder than Jerry Snyder and Wayne Stutz. Next time you see the trustees thank them for their service. They were out helping trim the cemetery as well as set up and get supplies for the workshop to helping set stones that day.

Thank you to our attendees: 16 of the 19 attended and some came as far away as IN, TN (almost AK) and KY. We learned to properly clean stones, set an early marker (oldest in cemetery that was leaning), fix and set a tablet, and move a three piece that was leaning.

If you wish to learn and help the trustees out, please contact the township trustees as there are many more old leaning stones to clean and set straight as well as to be repaired. Permission is needed by the cemetery and township.

Hosting

We continue to need volunteers to help host during Saturday morning open hours, the First Saturday of the Month. We've had some new volunteers but still need help this fall especially October and November. Please contact Annette Stewart. Open Hours are vital to exposure as an organization as well as attracting new members and volunteers for growth.

Arcanum Times
[Darke County, Ohio]
July 16, 1914

A Fine Monument. The Miami Granite and Marble Works of Piqua, Ohio this week contracted with I.M. Shields of north of Arcanum for a fine \$4000. Monument to be erected in Abbottsville Cemetery in memory of his wife, who died several months ago. The monument will be surpassed by one monument in Darke County, that of Henry St. Clair in Greenville Cemetery. It will be by far the most impressive structure in Abbottsville Cemetery. The weight will be over 50 tons and will be 22 feet in height. The top will be surmounted with a beautiful urn with pendums of lillies of the valley.

So it was that the homestead was sold and eventually passed into the hands of Chester Baker, who owned it when this photo was taken. It is said by people in the Darke County area that one day Chester Baker pulled a wagon into the barn and the floor gave way. On investigation, a complete still was found hidden in a cavity under the barn floor. It was during Prohibition (1920 to 1933 in the United States) that Isaac M. Shields and members of his family resided in this home and on this farmland.

Since Isaac was the owner of the home & barn at that time period, he or one or more of his sons (Isaac Mathias, William & George) were probably the ones who evidently had the hidden still. Isaac's son, George, was arrested several times by the local authorities for selling "moonshine" or just "shine" as many called it. George never seemed to get the penalty that others received for the same infraction. Ah, there may be more untold tales to tell!

We posted these short post on AWTHS FB page and a follower sent in a copy of the actual newspaper article as well as a photo of the Baker family descendants. Our readers seem to enjoy these stories as well!

Acquisitions Carolyn Furlong 548-6556

19028 Old School Book belonging to Merrie's aunt, Ester (Betty) Sower

Merrie Ann Brown

19029 Two AHS sports programs, Winter and Spring Sport 2018

Keith Furlong

19030 Water Gauge – Troutwine Auto Advertisement piece

-

19031 Hency's Farm Equipment - several pieces of advertising plastic kitchen scoops

-

19032 Book, pamphlets and articles about Fireman's Convention in Arcanum

-

19033 Numerous framed pictures of Arcanum summer youth baseball teams – Girls and Boys

Eldon Erdmann

19034 News photo of opening day of sales at Smith's Big Store (circa 1930s)

-

19035 Columbus Citizen Journal news articles about 1969 basketball state tournament

-

19036 Black Bowling Towel Arcanum Lanes

Paul Shilt

Around Town**Boys Baseball Team 19**

Row 1 Zach Rhodelhamel, Cody Paw, Travis Gibbons, Josh Kuhbänder, Justin Miller

Row 2 Jason Besecker, Dustin Smith, Justin Hayes, Joey Humphries, Todd Woodruff

Row 3 Josh Hays, Jon Hayes, (Keith Gibbon not pictured)

**Girls Softball Team 19**

Row 1 Amanda Falknor, Natalie Jensen, Lyndsey Baker, Amanda Falknor, Jill Bryant, Abby Asheworth

Row 2 Jacinda Chasteen, Ashley Carrol, Danielle Pottenger, Bethany Fox, Ashley Faulkner, Morgan Bean

Row 3 Scott Fledderjohn, Jeff Falknor, Amy Carroll

Arcanum Train History Photo Display Arcanum Wayne Trail Historical Society, along with other area organizations, was invited to provide a Photo History display of train lines and traction lines which came through our community at the 40th *All Trains Flea Market* held September 15th at the Darke County fairgrounds. Following is information shared with train fans about the trains and electric railways which were vital in helping Arcanum become a prosperous community. Thank you to Mike Fout, Bruce Shank, and Cary Wogomon for greeting visitors at our display and sharing their stories of when the trains ran through Arcanum.

William Gunder – Founder of Arcanum – Brought the Train to Arcanum

William Gunder had been planning to plat a town somewhere on his land as early as **1835**. He had purchased several parcels of land to provide a choice of the point where the village could be platted. The exact location of the new town would later be determined by the railroad angle through the area and it would be 13 years until the first plat was drawn.

A railroad was being built from Dayton, Ohio to Richmond, Indiana in **1846** with a branch running from the line at an angle to Greenville. The branch was organized as the Greenville & Miami Rail Road Company.

William had devised a plan for the organization, development and financing of his new town. By the end of **1848**, the town plat was drawn and the first step of the plan was in place. The next step was to negotiate a deal with the developers of the G&M RR to insure that the town would be important to their operation. His proposition was to give them land that would also offer an opportunity to make some additional money during the first days of operation.

Gunder rejected their initial cash offer for the right of way through his land. Instead, he proposed to give them the land provided they establish a depot or stopping place on or near the southeast corner of his new town. He also negotiated other considerations such as cattle guards, crossing for easy access to his land west of the tracks and payment for any relocation of buildings threatened by fire from passing locomotives.

The next part of his proposition required that the G&M RR established a turn out and water station for their use on Gunder land in or near Arcanum. In return, he would give them a group of lots located near the center. They could resell the lots through financial contacts and Arcanum would have the initial investors to attract settlers.

Gunder gave the G&M RR eight and one-half lots in **1851** from the original plat after they had completed the water station and siding (turn out). The G&M RR sold all but one within the year.

The first documented location of a station was in the 'flatiron' building on lot 31 east of the tracks. Dayton Weekly Journal carried an article in July, **1873** indicating that a depot and telegraph office a necessity and very badly needed. The G&M RR finally built their depot on lot 32 in **1880**. It remained in that location until it was demolished and the lot cleared after being sold in the **1970s**.

Information from the book **The Secret Town** - *by* William Gunder (great grandson of the founder) pages 4,5,&6

Train Depot 111/113 West George Street Best known as D&U Station

Greenville & Miami (G&M) Railroad (traveled South to North)

Line changes - *Greenville & Miami Railroad* (1846-1863) *Dayton & Union* (1863-1922) *Baltimore Ohio* (1922)

The dense forests that surrounded Arcanum furnished cheap fuel for the locomotives. There was a wood station near the Greenville & Miami Railroad Depot. The log would be cut into proper lengths and hauled to Dayton by special "wood trains" as they were called, which made one trip every day. (2) (page 16)

1901 D& U started running passenger coaches between Dayton & Union City. (D&U) (1) page 60

Early **1900s** 6 to 7 trains came through Arcanum each way daily.(1) page 60

At Fair time, extra service was put into effect. (1) page 60

1910 D&U made some radical changes – "the waiting room thrown into one large room". (Prior to that railroad depots usually had separate ladies and gents waiting rooms.) (1) page 60

Train History continued

1918 Dayton and Union depot and Big Four depot were consolidated and the business transacted at the present Big Four station.—The change had been made in keeping with the government's policy under wartime management of consolidation wherever possible. (1) page 60

1921 D&U reopened their station. (1) page 60

1922 Baltimore and Ohio Railroad - run under the D&U franchise combines Freight and Passenger Service. (1) page 61

1936 The D&U Railroad through Arcanum is now a part of Baltimore and Ohio System. (1) page 61

1914-1940 City Coal Company (provided coal for trains). 101 South High St. (1) page 137

1952 A total of 485 Railroad Fan Club Members last week participated in an Excursion through Greenville on the Dayton and Union Line. It was the first passenger run on the old route since 1928. (1) page 61

1. Arcanum, Ohio Business History by Anita Short
2. Arcanum...a secret place – 1999 Sesquicentennial Book

Train Depot 213 South Main Street Best known as the Big Four Station

"Big Four" (traveled East to West)

Line Changes: Indiana, Bloomington & Western (IB&W) Railroad 1881-1891

Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis Railroad (CCC&St.L) aka Big Four 1891 – 1925 New York Central Railroad 1925-1968 (Peoria & Eastern Division)

Common practice for obtaining a railroad was to collect a subscription from citizens and businessmen. The total amount of the subscription to obtain the I.B.&W is not known.

Our railroad men are putting down another "Y" so as to put a train from one road to the other and intend running a passenger train direct over the I.B.&W from the west and from here to Dayton over the D&U" (GJ 11/13/1890) "The OI&W RR has put in another "Y" here and are running a train through from the west via Dayton to Columbus. (GJ 11/27/1890)

Still the improvements continue around the Big Four. The latest is a large well sixteen feet in diameter to supply water for engine use. The improvements for the past few years have been many, namely a new water tank seventy-five feet high, the tank holds ninety thousand gallons of water, next the bridge boys, section foreman and superintendent's office, a large building occupying space between the main track and Y, connecting the Big Four and D&U. Already this year they have remodeled the stock yards and put water works and scales in them which affords the shippers the privilege of weighing and plenty of fresh water for stock, gratis. Those who have not visited that end of town lately, it would be worth your while to walk down and see it. (AT 7/8/1899)

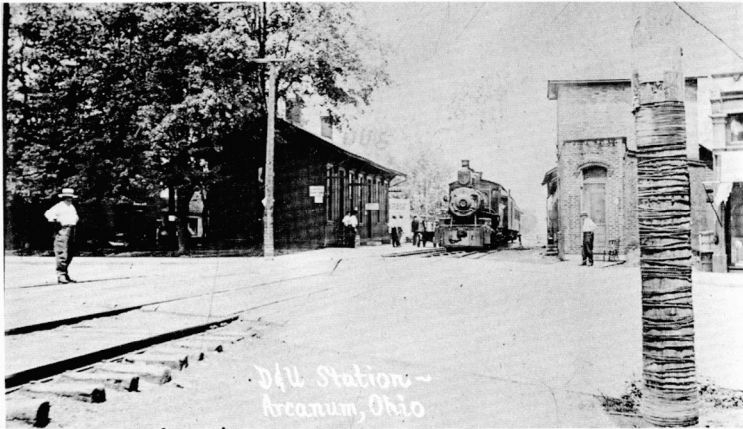
The Big Four Railroad Company has built a new brick smoke-stack to replace the old iron one at its pumping station in this city. With the new transfer station, pumping station and ships clustered about the depot, makes the place look like a young factory district. (TWT 08/18/1900)

New York Central - Passenger and mail train service will discontinue and this marks the end of rail passenger service in Arcanum. (AT 10/27/1949)

1986 was the last year the New York Central or Big Four depot had an agent assigned to Arcanum and the depot was closed.

All information here was taken from the book " Arcanum, Ohio Business History (1852 - 1968)" pages 165-167

Read about the Electric Railway (traction line) in the April 2013 issue page 5 by going to our website, click on publications.



Dayton & Union Depot 111/113 W. George St.



Big Four Depot 213 S. Main St.



Water Tank at the crossing of D&U and Big Four railroads



Electric Railway Sub-Station 6 N. Main Street

Electric Railroad (1900-1925) – alias Traction Line and Street Railroad

In the early 1900s Arcanum residents were fortunate to have two passenger & freight steam train lines as well as the electric railroad stopping in their community.

Shortly after the invention of reliable traction motors and the subsequent electrification of local street railway systems, entrepreneurial individuals began applying the technology to longer haul routes to serve territories that were lacking meaningful transportation.

In our area the traction line came north from Cincinnati through Dayton into Darke County up to Union then entering Indiana. The typical electrical system was 600 volts DC. Because of the limits of DC transmission, substations were required every 5 to 10 miles to feed the running wire, with high voltage AC transmission lines connecting the substations to the central power plant.

With that in mind substations were probably in Verona, Arcanum, Greenville and Union City. We know the substation in Arcanum was at 6 N. Main St. There were stops in Gordon, Ithaca, Arcanum, Abbotsville/Jaysville, Greenville, and Union City.

With the growth of car travel, as well as new bus and trucking lines, there was increasing pressure in the 1920s and 1930s to get the rails off the roads.

“Traction will stop service December 31”. Will make last run Thursday, December 31. Agents were officially notified. (Arcanum Times 12/24/1925)

Calendar of Events

Visitors Open House Hours First Saturday of the Month 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Euchre Parties 1st and 3rd Friday of each month 1:00 p.m.

Board Meetings 1st Monday of the month 7:00 p.m.

November 14, 2019 Program: Tom Staley, Antique Dealer 7:00 p.m.

November 18 – 27, 2019 Set-up for Christmas Bazaar

November 29, 2019 Christmas Bazaar 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

November 30, 2019 Christmas Bazaar 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

December 2, 2019 Box up and clean up after Bazaar 9:00 a.m.

All 2020 Membership fees are due January 1st

January 9, 2020 Annual Membership Meeting and Election of Officers **6:30 p.m.**
Pizza Dinner

On Going Projects

Hall Rentals – Carolyn Furlong 548-6556 * Aluminum Recycling – Lynn Trump 548-6116 *

Donation of Appreciated Stocks – Richard Troutwine 692-5128 or Todd Durham, 2nd National Bank, 548-2206 *

Adopt-A-Highway – Jim Deis 662-0119 * Arcanum Books by Anita Short and Bill Gunder for sale at AWTHS, or contact a board member.

Gentle Reminder

Bring a friend with you to hear Tom Staley's stories about his Antique Store November 14th.

Donate gently used Christmas items and Bake Shoppe goodies for Christmas Bazaar.

Help staff Christmas Bazaar.

Purchase an Arcanum Historical Book for a Christmas gift.

Pay your 2020 AWTHS dues.