

President's Remarks Jenny Quigney 937-459-8090

Hello all. It is once again time to report what has been happening with the Historical Society. I can truly say that not much has been going on the last couple of months. It was decided out of concern of the pandemic to close things up until at the earliest June.

We have, however, decided to once again be a part of the annual Darke County Trash Bash scheduled for April 17th. A big thank you to Jim Deis for taking care of all the registrations and helping to get teams together. We are also committed to manning the fair gate again this year. Thanks to Bev Rensch for continuing the job of scheduling workers.

We are looking forward to the day when things will resemble a more normal schedule. Board members will discuss ideas for events we could safely have this summer during the April board meeting.

Myself and my family have continued to remain healthy and have enjoyed our time together. My hope and prayers are that the same is true for you and yours and I look forward to seeing everyone in the near future.

Memberships Sharon Troutwine 937-692-5128

Thank you to everyone who has renewed their 2021 membership dues. We are thankful for our 7 Lifetime memberships, 2 Sponsorships, 26 Family, and 20 Single AWTHS memberships. We have 32 members yet to pay their dues for the current year – so please check your records. We encourage you, your family and friends to help preserve the past for future generations.

Welcome We welcome Carol Price our newest member to AWTHS.

Good-bye We are very sad to report that we have lost a member, Betty Shank, who passed away in December. Our sympathy goes out to Bruce Shank and Betty's family.

1981 Slow Pitch Softball Church National Tournament

Interest for this article came about when Slow Pitch Softball Church tournament memorabilia was donated by Bev Jay.

The Arcanum Faith United Methodist slow pitch softball team did things a little different in 1981. For many years they played weekly games in the Brookville, Ohio church league (Golden Gate Park). That year they played in Arcanum's new ballpark with new ball teams. For seven years they played in the state church softball tournament, taking the whole family (and this group was very prolific) for a softball "holiday" with bottles, diapers, and more (including many changes of clothes for the usually occurring mud. That year, that tournament was not to be.

In July, the team competed in the Annie Oakley Tournament in Greenville for the first time ever and got first place. Next up was the qualifications for Nationals in Columbus, Ohio, on August 11th. By virtue of their performance there, they earned the East Central Church Slow-Pitch regional title. The region included Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. Now they were qualified to play in the ASA men's nationals to be played in Austin, Texas Sept. 4-7.

No young children would be invited on this adventure, but the young ballplayers scrambled for ways to fund the plane ride, hotel bill, and meals for them and their wives. The solution was a rummage sale, car washes, and the sale of 2,890 subs!

Some parents like Bill & Mary Ester Jay and Austie & Gertie Furlong flew with the team. Special fans Bob & Marie Hoff drove the whole way to Texas.

The team did not fare well in the Lone Star State with 1 win, 2 losses. For the record, however, the fun times and wonderful memories of exploring Texas more than made up for the losses on the field.

Many in this group played together for about 17 or more years. Finally, most of the players had to hang up their cleats and gloves to be fathers to their own little athletes and attend their games.

Playing on the team: Rick Ary, Tim Booher, Winston Brumbaugh, Scott Campbell, Dave Flora, Mike Flatter, Dave Gray, Mike Gray, Ned Gray, Neal Hans, Doug Huffman, Gil Jay, Terry Mills, Kevin O'Dell, Jack Pyles, Don Taylor, John Winger, Bev Jay (coach), and Richard O'Dell. Rev. James Mussman was pastor at the time.

Compiled by Cheryl Gray - Special thanks to Lynn and Bev Jay and their scrapbook of special memories.

The GREAT Darke County Fair Bev Rench 937-623-0468 bkraz85@gmail.com

Are you ready for funnel cakes, midway sights, animal smells and the roar of diesel tractors? Let's meet at the GREAT Darke County Fair to be held this year August 20-28. The AWTHS fair gate #3 contract has been signed. This is one of the larger fundraisers for the Society. As scheduling coordinator, I look forward to working with the volunteer gate attendants. If you have not volunteered before, please contact me and we will get you added. Working the gate is a GREAT opportunity to see old friends and make new ones. The schedule will be included in the July newsletter.

2021 Christmas Bazaar * November 26 & 27 – Richard and Sharon Troutwine 937-692-5128

We have already received “lots” of very nice Christmas donations. We are planning another shopping event where the community can enjoy “a Christmas treasure hunt”, you never know what you will find.

Taking note of what our shoppers were interested in last year, there will be some key changes. By “popular demand” we are bringing back the Bake Shoppe. Although there will be some donated decorated wreaths, etc. members will be designing fewer new pieces than in the past. We are discontinuing the Boutique but will sell purses, hats, gloves, scarfs, etc. and accessories - but “no” clothing. Free items will again be available Saturday outside on the stage.

The bazaar will have a different look with no special displays but the shopping experience will be the same and all at the same low prices! Will you please mark your calendar for November 26-27 for our Christmas Bazaar?

Acquisitions – Carolyn Furlong 937-548-6556 and Sharon Troutwine 937-692-5128

20036	China Hutch – on loan	Bev Rench
20037	Framed and Matted hand crotched piece by Betty Cox (wife of Dr. Dan Cox)	Jean Aukerman
20038	Book – <u>Train Wrecks, A Pictorial History of Accidents on the Main Line</u>	?
20039	5 Booklets – Darke County Steam threshers Program – 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1990	Bev Rench
20040	3 items – 1981 Slow Pitch Program Booklet for Church Softball National tournament in Texas. Newspaper picture of F.U.M. Softball team. Softball printed Bracket Paper	Bev Jay
20041	Framed Certificate of Promotion of Eloise Best (lived on Falkor Rd. at Caylor Chapel Church (located on Hog Path Rd.) Signed by Wm. T. Crick (lived on Dull Rd)	Joan Rench
20042	3 Wooden Cut-outs of Arcanum Village; Smith Store; Dayton & Union Railroad Dept of Arcanum	Barb Deis
20043	Arcanum National Bank money bag	Dave Flora
20044	Framed and Matted – 3 Profit Sharing Coupons from Dale Etzler	LaJean Riegler
20045	1981 Arcanum National Bank Annual Report	Dick Troutwine
20046	3 Advertisement items: Red Plastic Bank – Louise's Beauty Shop; Red Plastic Pouch – Troutwine Insurance: Card Holder – Arcanum National Bank	Bev Jay

Arcanum Preservation Society started off the year by announcing their Board of Directors for 2021. Jim Piel will serve as President with Brad Troutwine as Vice President as well as continuing in his role as Planning Committee Chair. Holly Daugherty and Bev Rench continue as co-Treasurers. Chris Kessler continues as Secretary and has also agreed to serve as Membership Committee Chair. Annette Stewart continues as Heritage Committee Chair, Cole Morrie as Finance Committee Chair and Angela Herron as Communications, Events & Social Presence Committee Chair.

Preservation Ohio toured the *Historic Arcanum Town Hall & Opera House* this past fall and after speaking with them regarding the windows it was decided that it would be more cost effective to restore them than to replace them. Their Board members were impressed with the quality of the windows as well as the quantity which showed that while finishes in the building were simple in style, the original builder put a lot of the building's budget into windows which was a large expenditure for the time. There were also concerns that new windows wouldn't fit properly, allowing drafts around them due to expanding and contracting. Despite decades of neglect the windows are in remarkably good condition and one of the **Preservation Ohio** Board members, an experienced window restorer, has volunteered to teach **APS** members how to properly remove and restore them. With almost 100 windows in the building this process is estimated to take a couple of years.

How about sponsoring the restoration of your very own Town Hall window? Pricing is based on the complexity and size of the window chosen. Sponsors will receive a sign on their window, visible from street level, with their name and/or logo on it as well as a permanent plaque on the inside of the window. Which window will you choose?

APS' monthly member meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7pm at the Historic Arcanum Town Hall & Opera House. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and/or Twitter. You can contact us by email at arcanumpreservationsociety@gmail.com or by phone at 937-459-1157.

Making "Do" Written by JoKay Miltenbarger 1983

Many of our readers will remember JoKay Miltenbarger for her community involvement, whether it be the Arcanum Public Library Board, Darke County Fair Board, Darke County Chamber of Commerce, Butler School Secretary, as a reporter and columnist for both the Greenville Daily Advocate and the Early Bird newspapers, just to mention a few of her accomplishments .

The subject of this article is JoKay as a columnist. A column in which she tells with humor of life on the farm she shared with Deo, the Head Herdsman. JoKay titled the column "Fields and Flowers". The book she compiled of her readers favorite articles was named "Fields and Flowers- By Request", published in 1988.

JoKay once joked with her Mother that the epitaph on the Herd Herdsman's gravestone should read "Twine Was My Life Line". Following is a column printed July 22, 1983

Making "Do"

If our supply of tobacco lath ever runs out we will be out of the farming business. Between the lath and baler twine, we keep our Ma and Pa Kettle operation running smoothly.

The lath is good for leveling large objects (like a refrigerator), herding cattle, gently teaching young puppies to mind, emergency repairs on the corn crib, and last but not least, splinting calves' legs.

Over the years we have had a few calves born with too-short tendons in the front legs. They try to get around on their knees, reminding me of goats nipping greenery in the pasture.

A couple times we were given calves because the owners didn't want to take the time and trouble to work with the baby bovines in splinting their legs.

It works. Time has proven if we are persistent and carefully padded and splinted the legs, they would eventually stretch and strengthen and the calf could walk nearly normal again.

But, two in one week is more that we bargained for.

A young, first calf heifer, Bradi, was born the same week Jim Brady was shot. The Head Herdsman found the calf partially born to its mother in the pasture. The head and one foot had obviously been exposed all night and both were swollen double.

With a little effort the Head Man located the other foot and brought it into proper position and pulled the nice heifer calf from the womb of the exhausted mother.

The leg that had been out of place was thinner, the shoulder under-developed, the good leg, bent at the knee joint. Unable to stand, the calf could not nurse. We also found its throat was swollen nearly shut, its bulging head appeared grotesque.

"It's always such a pleasure to milk a heifer," the Head Man grumbled as he dodged the swinging hind foot of the cow. Finally some milk was in the calf bucket, but the calf had no inclination to suck.

So. . . Plan A went into effect. I retrieved a plastic squeeze bottle and filled it with the warm milk. The Head Herdsman held the swollen head upward and I found a little opening in its throat behind its tongue to slowly pour a little milk.

Our first intention was to save the calf. We'd worry about the legs later. By the second day the swelling was receding and the third morning the calf could nurse the nipple bucket. She perked up and began to gain strength.

Plan B . . . the splints. We secured old tobacco laths and, padded with old towels and wrapped the familiar Ace bandage, made splints for the calf. We held the whole works in place with the indispensable silver duct tape, which is almost in demand as much as the twine and lath on our farm.

To date the little heifer is doing fine. Her splints have been removed and the under-developed shoulders filling in.

Just a few days later our old cow Twinkle delivered her eighth calf. Twinkle always hides her calves and when we found it we were shocked to see one front leg was apparently broken. It probably had been stepped on either by Twinkle or another cow.

Armed again with lath, Ace bandage and towel padding, we splinted the leg until the vet could come on Monday.

The Vet declared the bone broken and suggested a new splint. He produced fresh white cotton and wrapping as he prepared to encase the leg.

I was quite embarrassed for the vet to see the homemade splint, and more so when he cut it off, revealing its inner secrets.

My embarrassment faded when he looks me in the eye and said seriously --"Do you have any more of those narrow little laths to make a longer splint?"

From the book "Fields and Flowers – By Request" page 116 by JoKay Miltenberger

OOPS!!! Did You Forget To Renew Your Membership?

Calendar of Events

Open House Hours First Saturday of the Month – check our website for updates 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
To make an appointment – email awths@awths.org

Euchre Parties 1st and 3rd Friday of each month (canceled until further notice) 1:00 p.m.

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

April 17, 2021 Trash Bash teams to meet at AWTHS 8:30 a.m.

Farmers Market **June thru September** - Sharon Troutwine 937-692-5128

Opening Day June 5 * Veterans Park is available for vendors to set-up and sell their crafts, fruits, vegetables, and baked items. Vendors do not need to register. As with all activities held on AWTHS properties CDC guidelines are to be followed. Please spread the word and invite others to sell their wares. Questions? Contact Sharon Troutwine.

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
David Kepler 692-5908 Fred Troutwine 692-8939

Just A Reminder

- Read articles written by members & friends of AWTHS on our website. Click on publications then click blog.
- Save Aluminum cans for AWTHS recycling project – place in containers on back porch, or secure tightly in bags.
- Pay your 2021 dues
- Read some of the books written about Arcanum which are available to purchase and at the Arcanum library.
- Invite someone to join AWTHS with you. It is important to increase our membership to continue our viability. We need younger minds and backs, we need more members to help preserve the history of Southern Darke Co.
- Leave Christmas donations on the back porch.