

## Sharing The Secret

July 2021

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

website: [www.AWTHS.org](http://www.AWTHS.org)

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email: [AWTHS@AWTHS.org](mailto:AWTHS@AWTHS.org)

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

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude and thanks to all of you for your prayers and support following the fire that we had on our property on April 27<sup>th</sup>. It was a life changing event and changed how we will be spending our summer this year. As many of you know the commercial barn housed my husband's telecommunications business along with the apartment that my son and his family lived in. We also lost an additional barn that day as well. To us it is a devastating loss but it could have been so much worse. However, I do feel that God was looking out for us that day because not a single person was injured and our neighbors had no major damage. We owe a big thank you to our fire department and all the members of this small community that came together for us in such an amazing way. It is very humbling to have the kind of support we have had so again thank you all so very much.

Now on to an update on things happening at the Historical House. We have completed the Trash Bash for another year and really appreciate all the teams that came out that day. A special thank you to Jim Deis for organizing the event and to Dick Troutwine for his help on the day of the event. We also participated in the Serve Arcanum again this year and the help of the high school students was and is very much appreciated. This is a wonderful program that the high school puts on every year and I would like to thank everyone for their participation.

A thank you goes out to Annette Stewart and Bev Rensch for their display of quilts at the Arcanum Library. I would also like to thank Kirk Honeyman for his help in fixing the fence in our back yard and to Jim Deis and Dick Troutwine for their work on the trees and general maintenance around the Veterans Park.

The checking account balance is \$17,736.83. Thank you, Jerry Kramer, for keeping us all straight on our finances.

At this time, I would like to thank Barb Deis for all her work on preparing the newsletter and coordinating our events. She has devoted 15 years to helping our organization and would like some help to complete these tasks. If you or someone you know would like to volunteer please contact a board member, Barb-662-0119 or [bdeis08@gmail.com](mailto:bdeis08@gmail.com).

We have several events planned for this summer, so please check out the rest of the newsletter for dates and times. Everyone please have a safe and enjoyable summer.

### Euchre Parties To Start Again 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays of the month 1:00 a.m. Dave Flora - 692-8413

Euchre parties begin again after being interrupted by the Covid 19 pandemic. Ask friends and family to join you the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays of each month. Known as Progressive Euchre or Round Robin, partnership changes after each round when players then move to different tables. If you have questions contact Dave, otherwise just be there to play.

### July 10 Walking Tour of Historic Arcanum Rain date July 17

*Meet at the Historical Society at 9:30 \* Tour begins at 10:00 following a short introduction*

Cary Wogomon will be leading a walking tour featuring some of the older buildings and businesses. Learn little known history of our brick street business district which at first was only swampy streets with board walks. Cary is third generations of Wogomons living in the Arcanum and Ithaca area. He enjoys history and is interested in learning about what Arcanum was like before his generation started adding to Arcanum's history. Cary invites you to share what you know about the buildings, there is much we can learn from each other. Folks riding in golf carts are welcome.

### August 6 and 7 Businesses Signage & Advertisements Display

*Friday 5 – 8 p.m. and Saturday noon – 5p.m.*

*Stop in at Arcanum Wayne Trail Historical Society's open house held in conjunction with SVL Insurance's Brick Street Block Party. Browse around at our display of local businesses advertising and signage which area residents have donated. This is the first time to have these signs on display at one time. The old signs and advertisements are sure to peek your interest about days gone by. Also see unique ads in old newspapers: 1899 – 1970 Arcanum Times, the 1882 Arcanum Tribunes, & 1893 Arcanum Enterprises.*

### September 9 7:00 p.m. Civil War Tech - Infantry, Weapons, Dress, and Supplies

Arcanum local Robert Wiest will explain the beautiful simplicity of Civil War technology. He'll explore how the industrial revolution and advances in science and engineering perfected musket function, why the Union army issued wool uniforms and straight-last shoes to its soldiers, how a bayonet spent more time as a kitchen utensil than a weapon, and much more. Please join us for an overview of the historic tools that played such a major part in US history.

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

- 20047 Brochure of 1956 Arc. Trojans at State B. Ball Tournament. Brian York  
 20048 Christmas Pencil Advertising Arcanum Fed & Loan. The end has a rubber “choir” person’s head. Ruth Kepler  
 20049 2 Photos of Arc. School students on the Health Council, and a letter thanking them for their activism,  
 placing them 6<sup>th</sup> in the state. Two newspaper articles about the club and their work on tobacco awareness.  
 Terry Greeves, School Nurse
- 20050A 7 photos of 1993 Arcanum Tornado  
 B 9 photos of Arcanum Patriotic Parade (no date) Arcanum Village City Building  
 20051 1988 Arcanum Arcette Richard Troutwine (belonging to Matt Troutwine)  
 20052A Photo of saw-mill at Landis Farm RT 722 Arcanum  
 B Monroe Twp Elementary 1932 Certificate of Margaret Dickey  
 C Spitler Reunion Photo Myra Coleman

**Memberships** Sharon Troutwine 937-692-5128

Be sure to check, have you renewed your dues for 2021? If not, just fill out the form on page 5 of this newsletter and mail it to treasurer, Jerry Kramer. Thank you for helping to preserve the past for future generations.

*Good bye* It is with sadness we report the passing of member Mark York. We extend our sympathy to his mother Becky York and brother Brian York.

**Rentals** Carolyn Furlong 937-548-6556 and Sharon Troutwine 937-692-5128

Once again our building is available to rent for parties and celebrations. The rental fee is \$100, there is no time limit and the kitchen is available to use as well. In 2021 we have had one rental.

**Christmas Bazaar 2021** November 26th and 27th

*We want to thank you and the Community for the donations we have received thus far. A very special thank you to Judy Shroyer for her huge donation of an assortment of unique and lovely items. Thank you Judy.*

*Remember, we’re having our Bake Shoppe back this year so think about your most special recipes.*

**2021 Trash Bash Report** Jim Deis

April 17 was a good day to be outside walking the side ditches picking up litter throughout Darke County as part of the annual Darke County Solid Waste District Trash Bash. For each team who walked their assigned 2 mile stretch of a county road AWTHS was awarded \$75, for a total of \$450. The project resulted in collecting 1.47 tons of recyclables and 1.67 tons of trash. Everyone received a blue TShirt with the 2021 winning design by student Madi Nelson.

A big thanks to our members, their families and friends who made up the 6 teams representing AWTHS: David & Dixie Kepler, John Strawser, Cary Wogomon, Bev Rench, Kirk Honeyman, Connie & Mike Wells, Charles Harris, Thomas Riegler, Tessa Riegler, Melanie Kutter, Richard Troutwine, Michael Fout, Lynn Trump, Tom Jones, Joe & Jenny Quigney, Devin Keckler, Kristina Quigney, Kenna Quigney, Kolten Quigney, Anna Wetzel, Alan Fourman, Sally Sharritts and Fred Troutwine. Job well done! Thanks to Dick Troutwine for giving directions to the teams Saturday morning.

**Veterans Park Market \*\*\* 121 W. George Street**

**Saturdays June through September**

**9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

Set up your tables to sell eggs, fruits, vegetables, herbs, plants, flowers, baked goods, and hand-crafted items. Vendors do not need to register and there is no fee. Please spread the word and invite your family and friends. See you at the Market. *Support the market, be a vendor - Support the vendors, be a buyer.*

**History of Arcanum Books \* Purchase books at AWTHS, on the website, or contact a board member**

*The Secret Town \* Arcanum, Ohio Business History (1852-1968) \* Arcanum Chronicles \* Arcanum Chronicles 2*  
*Learn more about the contents of the books on our website: awths.org*

**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

**SOUTHERN DARKE COUNTY HISTORY** ANNETTE STEWART 417-3746

The Chancellor Brothers – written by Annette Stewart January 2021

When AWTHS did the Arcanum video series last summer with Cary Wogoman and Mike Fout Cary mentioned the Chancellor house at the corner of 1<sup>st</sup> and Locust when we were in the area.

In looking thru “The Arcanum Business book” we read several pages and places about the Chancellor’s and their involvement in various businesses and the community.

We will mention a few briefly here. W. A. Chancellor had an insurance business from 1899-1900 at 17 West George St.

On page 181 of the business book we find the Chancellor Brother quite involved with the photography business and were located at 6 West South Street or the old Saw Mill Lot in the triangle area where Pizza and Cream used to be and the post office now resides.

From 1905-1909 W. A. Chancellor was proprietor and from 1908-1909 they only offered outdoor photography, residences in postcard form. Probably a lot of the old post card photos we find today. From 1905-06 he was also involved in the insurance and real estate business. In 1906 Mr. Chancellor also served as Clerk of Board of Public Affairs and often advertised he could be found at City Hall.

1911-1913 W. A. Chancellor moved his photography business to his home as it was known as the Chancellor Photo Gallery at the SW corner of First & Locust Streets.

The biggest thing the brothers were noted for was the Dreamland Theatre later known as the The Ritz.

William and Harry had the theatre starting in 1907-1909 at 108 W. George St. In 1910-1927 it was known as the Dreamland Theatre. (In the block where Tom Wetzel’s antiques is today) The Dreamland, later known as the Ritz, was a part of the Arcanum and business community for many years. Shortly before October 1909 the two unmarried brothers and their mother, Amanda, decided to sell their possessions and move to Florida. In 1910 they returned to Arcanum as they did not like Florida.

The admission prices were 5 cents in 1907 and increased to 25 cents and 50 cents for night shows and 15 to 35 cents for matinees in 1925.

In 1927 the Dreamland closed their doors for renovations and reopened from May 1927 thru July 1953 as the Ritz Theatre. In 1930 the newspaper announced sound had arrived ending the silent movies. Two big shows at the Ritz were “Gone with the Wind” and “Wizard of Oz”.

William passed away at his home March 29, 1953, unmarried. Harry had married late in life and continued to run the theatre but didn’t quite obtain 50 years in the community. The notice read in 1953 after 46 years they regretted but were closing.

The Chancellors were strong supporters of the community helping with the buying of fire equipment for the Arcanum Fire Company along with free movies for the kids at Christmas. They participated in Arcanum’s 1950 celebration by cataloging and showing their collection of community photos which numbered over a thousand! Many postcard photos you see today may have been part of the collection of Arcanum and area.

The AWTHS has a collection of glass slides of various businesses in town that were donated by Joan Rench. According to her daughter, Bev Rench, we were told the slides were bought from Roland Gilbert. We do not know how or when Rolland obtained them. If anyone has info about the glass slides, year, what or how they were used please contact AWTHS. We are wondering if possibly these were from the Chancellor Brother’s collection of photos and photography business or the movie theatre.

It would be helpful to catalog these slides by description and put in numerical order. If you are interested in helping with this project please contact Annette Stewart. This could also be done during Open Hours when hosting.

We find the Chancellor family, father, mother and two sons buried at Abbottsville Cemetery along with Harry’s spouse. We find the parents’ names were Richard and Mary Amanda Smith.

Harry’s wife was Bertha May Cason.

Here is a link about the burial of the Chancellor’s and additional info. I’m sure there is advertisements and such in the old Arcanum Times Newspapers at AWTHS as well. From this site we find that Harry was born 1884-1965 and William Albert 1877-1953. <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/100866717/william-albert-chancellor>

Photo of house, Chancellor’s, Dreamland and the old slides are in AWTHS collection.

Reference: *Arcanum, Ohio Business History (1852 thru 1968)* by Anita Short Books available for purchase at AWTHS.

**Open Hours and Research Library** -ANNETTE STEWART 417-3746

The AWTHS house and Research Library will be open again the First Saturday of the month starting in June and July. August hours will be first Saturday, August 7 from noon-five to coordinate with Arcanum's Brick Party and event.

We are always looking for host and volunteers during open hours as well as volunteers in the research library to organize, sleeve, research or write. No experience required. We can offer training and mentorship. An excellent way to learn how to use research materials for your own genealogy and history collections.

We've received several new acquisitions which you may have read about on Facebook or our blogs for our library. Check these out as well as "old newspapers" nicely displayed and stored in our new cabinet.

Appointments are not required to research but encouraged prior to arriving so that volunteers can be prepared. Please either call Annette Stewart to arrange a time or email awths thru email: [awths@awths.org](mailto:awths@awths.org) or use the messenger on our FB page.

We will eventually have in the library an old photo album, unfortunately unidentified photos, but believe may be the Grubbs family due to the obits in the front of the album. If you're a family descendant please help us identify photos. I did recognize Henry Fourman and Catharine Ryder's photo in the album.

**Tribute to Arcanum Garden Club** - Sharon Troutwine

In 1917 a group of women met during the summer months as a "Cooking Club". Mrs. Lovella Taylor visited a meeting of a Dayton Garden Club. She then presented the idea to the cooking club and a new club evolved in 1939 with 22 members. Today, the Arcanum Garden Club still meets monthly with programs on plants, flowers, trees, birds, and other related subjects. The Garden club's goal is to beautify the community. Their activities include: designing seasonal decorative pots throughout the town; planting flowers in Ivester Park; and planning, planting and preserving Generation Square. Currently the club has ten members, as well as associate and honorary members..

AWTHS thanks the ladies of the Arcanum Garden Club for their service to the town and their hard work to beautify the community.

Please check out our new display in the Historical Society honoring the Arcanum Garden Club.

**Arcanum Preservation Society Update**

submitted by Angela Herron 937-621-3236

Don't let the window shut on your opportunity to sponsor the restoration of a window at the Arcanum Opera House. Pricing starts at \$350 and is based on the complexity and size of the window chosen. Sponsors receive a temporary paper 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. Contact *Arcanum Preservation Society* today to check availability and pricing.

On June 5 Devon Hardin of Preservation Ohio was here to teach a group of volunteers how to preserve the windows. The window restoration process has begun.

- July 4th is our 2nd Annual Old Time 4th of July Picnic & Children's Parade in Ivester Park. There will be a community worship service at 10am followed by the picnic. Be sure to bring your picnic lunch and join us for a day of fun. The parade is at 2pm.
- *APS* will be hosting a community cookout July 10<sup>th</sup> at the Opera House in conjunction with the AWTHS walking tour. We will have hamburgers and hotdogs available from 11am-1pm. Be sure to stop by.
- The next tour date will be August 7th from 9am-11am and 5pm-8:30pm. Look for us at the Brick Street Block Party Car Show on August 6th. We'll be handing out fliers for the tours on the 7th. We have something special up our sleeve for the tours so you won't want to miss it.

Monthly member meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7pm at the Arcanum Opera House. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and/or Twitter. You can contact us by email at [arcanumpreservationsociety@gmail.com](mailto:arcanumpreservationsociety@gmail.com) or by phone at 937-459-1157.

**The GREAT Darke County Fair**

Bev Rench - 937-623-0468

bkraz85@gmail.com

AWTHS volunteers will soon be welcoming fairgoers, animals and vendors at the DARKE Darke County Fair Gate #3. This is one of the larger fundraisers for the Society and is an opportunity to see old friends and make new ones. The Darke County Fair will be held this year August 20-28. As scheduling coordinator, I look forward to working with the volunteer gate attendants. If you have not volunteered before, please contact me and I will get you added to the scheduled. Beginning August 1, I will be contacting everyone that worked in 2019. Feel free to contact me before that to confirm your scheduled time. Thank you in advance for your participation!

**2021 Darke County Fair Gate #3 Friday August 20st thru Saturday 28th Schedule**

	<b>7 am-12noon</b>	<b>12 noon - 5pm</b>	<b>5pm - 10-pm</b>
<b>Fri. 20</b>	Beth & Dave Flora 692-8413 * Deo Miltenberger 678-0185	Jean Aukerman 692-9922 Sally Sharrett 692-5245	Connie & Mike Wells 692-8085 Tasha Anderson 621-4569
<b>Sat. 21</b>	Karen & Michael Young 737-0016*	Wallace & Trump 620-2800 548-6116	Carol & Earl Hightower 692-8875 Bev & Kirk Honeyman 623-0468
<b>Sun.22</b>	Denise & Jason Trimble 416-7178 Mike Fout 467-6534 *	Jim & Barb Deis 662-0119 Sally Sharritts 692-5245	Jerry & Bev Kramer 692-5764 Dick & Sharon Troutwine 692-5128
<b>Mon. 23</b>	Tom Staley 692-8634 Dave Hamlin & Ardis Trigg 623-8963*	Marilyn Graeff 692-8140 J. Aukerman 692-9922 Jean Munn Hillis 692-5433	Dick & Sharon & Linda Newbauer 692-5128 417-1166
<b>Tue. 24</b>	Annette & Rex Stewart 417-3746*	Carolyn Trump 548-6116 J. Colville 417-3344 Linda Riley 564-5023	Bev Rench & Kirk Honeyman 623-0468 Deo & Pam Furlong 272-8886
<b>Wed. 25</b>	Lynn & Carolyn Trump* 548-6116 C. Furlong 417-2966	Lori Harshbarger 760-8381 Brenda Tester 423-2523 Bev Rench 623-0468	Rose Lambert 623-7333 Mike Schweiderman 417-9816
<b>Thur. 26</b>	Fred Troutwine* 692-8939 Alan Fourman 692-8635	Linda Newbauer 417-1166 Jean Aukerman 692-9922	Cary & Teresa Wogomon 692-5877
<b>Fri. 27</b>	Gene & Nelda Morris 423-5347 Fred Troutwine* 692-8939	Shirley Winger 678-7864 Dave Hamlin & Ardis Trigg 623-8963	Dick & Sharon Troutwine 692-5128 Cheryl Gray 423-1549
<b>Sat. 28</b>	Jim & Barb Deis 662-0119 *	Larry and Annabelle Wallace 620-2800 Jerry & Bev Kramer 692-5764	Kenny & Holly Daugherty 564-0589 Lynn Trump 409-5966 or 548-6116

\* Will pick up money box at Grand Stand On call: Bev Rench 937-623-0468

**2021 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 Beds 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 for Membership Meetings

Calendar of Events

**AWTHS**

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

Appointments are not required to research but encouraged so volunteers can be prepared. To arrange a time please either call Annette Stewart -937-417-3746, email: [awths@awths.org](mailto:awths@awths.org) or use the messenger on our FB page.

*Euchre Parties*                      1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month                      1:00 p.m.  
*Board Meetings*                      1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month                                      7:00 p.m.

June thru Sept	<u>Veteran Park Market</u>	9:00 - noon
July 10	Walking tour with Cary Wogomon	arrive 9:30 tour 10:00 a.m.
August 6 & 7	Businesses Signage and Advertisements Display	
	Friday                      5 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Saturday                      noon to 5 p.m.
August 20-28	Darke County Fair - work fair gate	
Sept. 9	Program: <b><u>Civil War Tech - Infantry, Weapons, Dress, and Supplies</u></b>	7:00 p.m.

**Arcanum Preservation Society**

July 4	Ivester Park *      Community Church Service      10:00	Children's Parade.      2 p.m.
July 10	Community cookout at the Opera House in conjunction with AWTHS walking tour	11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p
August 7	Tour of the Opera House in conjunction with the Brick St. Block Party	9am-11am and 5pm-8:30pm.

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, 2<sup>nd</sup> National Bank, 548-2206 \*  
 Adopt-A-Highway - Jim Deis 662-0119 \* Arcanum Books by Anita Short and Bill Gunder for sale at AWTHS, the website, or contact a board member.