

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

WOW 2023 - it just doesn't seem possible that another year has ended and a new one just began. So many possibilities are on the horizon for each of us.

I would however like to take the time to update you on a change of board members and also review all that has happened in our organization this past fall and early winter.

First, I want to thank Dave Flora for the many years he has served as a board member. He reluctantly is stepping down due to health reasons. Dave has been a great value to the officers and board members in decision making but also for his knowledge of the maintenance of the building and his woodworking skills. Dave will be greatly missed.

As our new board member, I want to introduce Dr. David Hayes. An Arcanum graduate Dave has relocated here in Arcanum after retiring from his veterinary practice in West Milton. Welcome, Dave.

I want to thank the many members and non-members who have helped make our projects and events successful:

August we completed yet another year manning gate 3 at the fairgrounds and I know that Bev Rench devoted a lot of time making sure that each slot was filled.

September we participated in Ohio's History Connections program and the Purple Heart Ceremony.

October we began to prepare for the Christmas Bazaar held in November. Dick and Sharon Troutwine again took on this huge undertaking. Many helped with bringing the items down from upstairs and unpacking the boxes. The displays were beautiful. The bake sale was filled with many yummy cookies, pies and fudge. Many members helped with the behind the scenes and during the hours that we were opened.

We continue to be blessed from our community with all the donations, and those donations go a long way in helping to keep our organization operational.

In the spirit of Christmas the stage was decorated with a lighted Christmas tree and also live evergreen roping, which was compliments of Rose Lambert.

This is the first year AWTHS has taken part in the Christmas lighting in Ivester Park. We are thankful to Cary and Teresa Wogomon for taking on the awesome job of planning and installing the beautiful light display. Great job.

There have also been a lot of people who have helped with the maintenance of the house over the past year, whether it is in the form of yard maintenance or painting the front porch, this organization would not exist without everyone's help.

So, simply thank you to all of you who put in that little bit of extra time and energy.

As I close, I would like to take the time to extend my wishes and best blessings to each and every one of you. Go forward into 2023 with high hopes and expectations.

January 12th 6:30 p.m. Annual Membership Meeting and Election of Officers

Join us for pizza and salads provided by AWTHS and board members at 6:30 p.m. A brief meeting will be held to recap the past year. An invitation is also extended to non-members who have helped at the fair gate, trash bash, garage sale, and the Christmas Bazaar in 2022. Your help is greatly appreciated! You are appreciated!

March 9th 7:00 p.m. Fort Jefferson State Historic Site **Guest speaker: Dave Heckaman**

Our historical society is very fortunate to have as our guest speaker Dave Heckaman. Dave works closely with Dr. David Cox in the research and development of the site of Ft. Jefferson.

Mr. Heckaman is a retired educator, enjoys appearing in Living History programs, gives speeches about the Northwest Territory and Indian War, he has co-authored a teacher's guide and video relating to early history.

Dave will give a presentation about the historical importance of "forgotten" Fort Jefferson and the recent attempts of the Friends of Fort Jefferson to acquire land adjacent to the present park, prepare grants, raise support through public relations, and plans for future development and interpretation of the site.

We will learn what has been happening since Fort Jefferson was named a State Historic Site and Friends of Fort Jefferson was formed.

Invite your friends to join us Thursday March 9th to learn about this forgotten historic site not far from our doorsteps.

Here is what is happening in April

Saturday Open Hours are changed from April 1 to April 15.

April 15 th	2 – 4 pm	Historical Society will be open special hours for AHS Alumni Weekend
April 20 th	7:00	Darke County Center for the Arts Featuring Elden Kelly Purchase \$15 tickets - Darke County Center for the Arts or Fourman's Variety Store
April 22 nd	8:30 a.m.	Darke County Solid Waste District Trash Bash Sign up to help on a team! Contact Jim Deis 937-662-0119

Acquisitions

22219	Newspaper clippings, 2 old Basketball Pictures, 1 Band Picture, Picture-supper at Opera House	Cheryl Gray
22220	Monroe Twp. <u>Mote Cemetery Inscriptions Book</u>	Annette Stewart
22221	5 painted bricks to represent old Arcanum buildings by Jo Dunlap	Tom Staley
22222	A.J. Dohner Insurance Adv. Clock	Twin Township Trustee
22223	2 Old obituaries (1902)	John Weisenbarger
22224	Framed picture of Dr. Cupp	Cary Wogomon
22225	6 old Basketball DVDs	?
22226	50's Arc. Basketball Warmup Jacket	Ted Hickman
22227	Brownie Dress, 2 pr. Socks, Hanky & Pin from 1955	Carolyn Hollinger
22228	Darke County Fair 2022 Booklet & Brochure	Sharon Troutwine
22229	Arc. Fed. Savings bottle opener with knife (Adv.)	Lee Stanley
22230	Long Furniture Yardstick (Adv.)	Ruth & David Kepler
22231	3 1946 Senior Pictures, 1946 Arc. News., 1946 Arc. HI News, Junior Edition	?
22232	19 old adv. Items from local businesses	Bruce Bryson
22233	1891 Dictionary, Book – <u>The Life & Work of James Blair</u>	Becky Hill
22234	Arc. Nat. Bank – Canvas Bank Bag	Sue Besecker
22235	3 Pict. 1912- 1913 Arc. Class Mates, Fern Flommers & School, John Flommers with Fern	JoAnne.Hill
22236	1911 John Smith Store Pict. Of Parade float, Old Smith Brothers Cough Drop Box	JoAnne Hill
22237	Richard Rosser inauguration program booklet as 17 th President of DePauw Univ.	JoAnne Hill
22238	Adv. & Clippings, 1936 Calendar, Etc. 10 items -Smith's Big Antique Store	Marilyn Strickler
22239	History of AWTHS items & Newsletters	Marilyn Graeff

Membership

It is time to renew your AWTHS membership. Simply fill out the form on page 4 in this newsletter and mail to our treasurer David Kepler at AWTHS, PO Box 4, Arcanum, OH 45304. We appreciate your renewals.

Farewell It is with sadness that we report the passing of life time member, Phyllis Hahn. Our condolences to her family.

Christmas Bazaar 2022

Thank you to everyone who helped with our 2022 Christmas Bazaar. You helped in so many ways...donating, carrying, unpacking, setting up, baking, buying, selling, packing, cleaning, and on and on and on. Most of all thanks you for your support! We want to congratulate our 50-50 Raffle Winners: Alan Fourman - \$175, Linda Jackson - \$125, and Jim Troutwine - \$100. Door Prize winners were: Debra Jennings – Party Dip Set, Anette Shepard – Christmas Basket, Kyle Copely – Salt and Pepper Shakers. The total income from the Bazaar was \$3,400.

AWTHS Rentals

AWTHS is available to anyone to rent at any time. The fee is \$100. Renters have use of the down stairs and Veterans Park including the stage. To book a rental, please contact Sharon Troutwine at 937-692-5128.

Southern Darke County History - Annette Stewart 937-417-3746

Welcome to some new volunteers for AWTHS and the reference library! Chase Osterday, Noah DeCamp, and Dr. David Hayes.

Chase saw our post on FB and has been helping with our FB live presentations at programs as well as designing posters, computer help and is currently looking at some old glass slides to be able to view and save as photos.

Noah also saw our post on FB about the Boy Scout display and came in to visit during open Saturdays. Noah is interested in his family history and history in general and has written some articles for Veterans Day. Recently Annette Stewart and Noah photographed the Old Castine Cemetery off Rt. 127 in Butler Township and cleaned some of the stones with hopes of being able to decipher some of the writing and hopefully discover some forgotten names. We also have an updated history on the Old Castine Cemetery with photos and history on some of the family names in the cemetery.

Dr. Hayes interest is Civil War research. For those wishing to find out about their ancestor or where to look for records, we encourage you to contact David. His email is: drklhayes@woh.rr.com. A research source list has been created to use by Dr. Hayes. He also looked at some micro fiche in the library that was not identified or indexed as well.

Welcome all and thank you for your volunteer time! It is much appreciated.

New Acquisition

Julia Gormley requested some family genealogy information regarding her Pressler and Myers families and burials in Mote Cemetery, Monroe Township. As a gift, Julia donated the cemetery inscriptions of Mote Cemetery by Spencer and Stephens read in 2013-14. This will be a nice addition to our reference library and update as our last book was 1964 from Anita Short.

Blogs, FB post and web site

We hope you've enjoyed reading the military stories on our web site and FB post. We featured our veterans for Veterans Day during October and November. If you would like to research or write an article please contact Annette Stewart. Suggested topics but not limited to include your family, growing up in the community, school days, past businesses, military, a historical person or topic of area.

We recently acquired the lineage history of Morris-Young family. The bio's from the July Cemetery program are also in the library: Ashley, Howe, Fasig, Clark, Dr. Cupp, Good, Thatcher, Rynearson and Colville. And thank you to our presenters, I missed mentioning them in the last newsletter: David Kepler, Cary Wogoman, Jeannie Miller, Mike Wells and Annette Stewart.

The 2022 GREAT Darke County Fair Bev Rench 937-623-0468

2022 was my third year as Fair Gate Coordinator.

The fair gate is open 135 hours.

We had 57 volunteers staff 75 slots. Numerous people work multiple shifts. Kudos to Lynn and Carolyn Trump for working 5 shifts.

We sold 554 weekly passes in addition to 1,845 daily tickets.

On 3 of the 9 days our dollars equaled our tickets.

One day we were \$1 short!

One day we were \$854 to the good.....evidently that day needs some TTT.....Ticket Tearing Training!!

And for the week... we were to the good \$2,137.

For all this fun the Society was paid \$1,500.

If you have any suggestions for changes at the gate....I would appreciate them.

Thank you all for making the coordinator task enjoyable.

I am looking forward to the 2023 Great Darke County Fair!!!

All who helped at the fair gate, including those who are not AWTHS members, are invited to the pizza dinner January 12th, 6:30. We appreciate everyone's help.

Arcanum Preservation Society Update Angela Herron 937-459-1157

Arcanum Preservation Society wound down a busy 2022 with Caroling at the Opera House Dec 3rd, 10th and 17th. This fun family friendly event was open to the public and we hope to make it a yearly event that the community will look forward to. This last quarter we also enjoyed Trick or Treating in front of the Opera House, touring the Sorg Opera House in Middletown, Henry St Clair Memorial Hall in Greenville, The Gloria Theater in Urbana and the West Liberty Town Hall & Opera House. Amongst all the fun, crews have continued working on removing the false ceiling in the Opera House, continuing the restoration work on the windows and beginning the planning for the restoration of the Mayor's office. The window crew will be taking a break starting in January to work on other projects but will start back up in March. They are still looking for volunteers. Contact Tim Herron or Jim Piel if you are able to help. The Communications, Events & Social Presence Committee has started planning the 2023 event schedule. You are encouraged to watch our Facebook page or website for upcoming events. Our 2023 window cling will be available soon. If you are interested in purchasing one to show your support please contact Angela Herron at 937-459-1157. They are \$20 each.

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

AWTHS Officers

President	Jenny Quigney	459-8090
Vice President	Dick Troutwine	692-5128
Treasurer	David Kepler	692-5903
Secretary	Connie Wells	692-8085

Directors

Carolyn Furlong	548-6556	Joyce Colville	692-8685
David Hayes		Jim Deis	662-0119
Cary Wogomon	623-5857	Fred Troutwine	692-8939

Calendar of Events

Open House Hours	First Saturday of the Month	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
	<u>To make an appointment – email awths@awths.org</u>	
Euchre Parties	1 st and 3 rd Friday of each month	1:00 p.m.
Board Meetings	1 st Tuesday of the month	7:00 p.m.

January 12, 2023	Annual Membership Meeting and Election of Officers & Pizza Dinner	6:30 p.m.
March 9, 2023	Program: Fort Jefferson Historical Site Presenter: David Heckaman	7:00 p.m.
April 15, 2023	Open Hours (Closed April 1st)	2:00 4:00 p. [
April 20, 2023	Darke County Center for the Arts here. Featuring: Elden Kelly	7:00 p.m.
April 22, 2023	Darke County Trash Bash (Registration Forms due March 3rd)	8:30 a.m.
May 11, 2023	Program - To Be Announced	7:00 p.m.

2023	Membership Dues	January 1st
2023 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	<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 \$ _____		
Please check the area where you would like to help.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisitions	<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership
<input type="checkbox"/> Flower Garden Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Yard Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Publicity
<input type="checkbox"/> Help Reference Librarian	<input type="checkbox"/> Genealogy	<input type="checkbox"/> Type Research Papers
<input type="checkbox"/> Christmas Bazaar	<input type="checkbox"/> Organize Refreshments for Membership Meetings	<input type="checkbox"/> Monthly Keeper of the House
<input type="checkbox"/> Programs	<input type="checkbox"/> Ways & Means	<input type="checkbox"/> Historic Sites
<input type="checkbox"/> Publications	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopt A Highway	<input type="checkbox"/> Education
<input type="checkbox"/> Displays	<input type="checkbox"/> Serve as Host/Hostess during Open Hours	

TIPS FOR CIVIL WAR RESEARCH by Dr. David Hayes**1. Ohio Historical Society (now known as Ohio History Connection) Website is ohiohistory.org**

For on-line research click on library catalog and enter search terms, e.g. the Civil War soldiers name, or the regiment that is being searched. A visit to the Historical Society library in Columbus would be the best way to be certain any documents in their holdings could be acquired. The site is located at 800 E. 17th Ave., Columbus 43211. Phone is 614-297-2300. An appointment to research there is required and the library staff are very helpful. In order to avoid copy fees, a permit can be secured at the help desk that would allow the researcher to photograph the documents desired. Many of this institution's documents and newspapers are on microfilm which can be viewed on site or can be made available to a local library on inter-library loan.

2. County histories

These can be found at the Dayton Metro Library or the Historical Society. Each county in Ohio has a written history and most of them contain military history which highlights regimental commanders and, on occasion, lower ranking soldiers. It is also common to find a section in each county's history addressing every Civil War regiment that received recruits from that county.

3. National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections

This is based at the Library of Congress. The website is loc.gov. In the search window enter "OCLC catalog." In the OCLC catalog, enter your search term. This website can be particularly rewarding because if your search is successful, it will tell you every library or research facility in the country that has copies of your documents.

4. The National Archives in Washington, D.C.

This site is particularly important because nearly every Civil War soldier has Military Service Records on file. If a soldier or his surviving family applied to the government after the war for a pension, those records will be available also. The pension records are the most likely to contain personal information on the soldier and his family. On occasion, I have found photographs of the soldier I was researching. The archive materials can be acquired on-line but there is usually a significant charge for the staff to research them and mail them out to you.

5. The United States Military History Institute (now known as the U.S. Army Center of Military History).

The website is history.army.mil. At present the research library is closed to visiting researchers but on-line research may be possible.

6. Ohio Genealogical Societies

Many Ohio counties have local genealogical societies that will do research on an individual and will charge a small fee for doing so. Each of these groups can be found by entering the county society into the computer search engine.

7. Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies

This is 127 volumes and a general index containing military reports of various movements and engagements in the Civil War. It is an excellent source of information but does not contain information on individual soldiers. These can be found in some large libraries. All 128 volumes can be purchased on-line on CD for \$10-\$30

8. Newspapers

Many Civil War soldiers sent letters home to their local newspapers during the war. The Library of Congress is an excellent source of photocopies of Civil War era newspapers. The website is loc.gov. In the search box simply enter "newspapers." You can then search for individual local newspapers in whatever year you choose and print them directly from your computer.

WWII Trivia -On the Home Front

Vocational teacher at Franklin and Monroe schools will have charge of the canning project at Franklin and persons interested in making use of the canning facilities are urged to contact Mr. Hutchinson.

With the permission of Friends of Ft. Jefferson and author, Bud Muck, the article which appeared in the Dec. 14, 2022 edition of the Daily Advocate is reprinted here.

Christmas at Ft. Jefferson from a diary dated Jan. 1, 1794

Much had transpired during the two years since Fort Jefferson had been established. Immediately after the fort's construction in October of 1791, Gen. Arthur St. Clair's temporary army of U.S. Troops and Kentucky Militia had been severely crushed by Chief Little Turtle and the northwest Native American confederation at modern day Fort Recovery, Ohio. Yet, after the defeat, this remote wilderness outpost withstood repeated efforts by the natives to attack fort personnel and to steal horses and cattle. Many men had died and the extreme difficulty of supplying and maintaining the garrison made for tough times indeed.

In October of 1793, Major General "Mad" Anthony Wayne and the recently formed Legion of the United States arrived at Fort Jefferson. Wayne's army then marched six miles north and proceeded to construct the largest wooden fortification ever built on American soil. This new fortress consisted of over fifty acres of enclosure, complete with eight "exterior redoubts." Wayne never referred to it as a fort and, on November 21st, simply named it "Greene Ville" in honor of American General Nathaniel Greene.

It would seem that with all of the bustle of activity during this phase that it would be difficult to find both the time and resources to hold a celebration of the birth of Christ and the New Year. However, there is a record of such an activity taking place that can be found in the diary of Major John Hutchinson Buell. One of the most fascinating accounts of the Legion oriented journals, Buell's diary features many details that are absent in other contemporaneous journals of the region. While the following entry doesn't mention either Christmas or New Year, the festive mood and time frame of the feast provide plenty of evidence to suggest such a celebration.

Misspellings, etc. are retained as originally transcribed in Buell's diary.

Jan. 1, 1794

"I went with the commander-in-chief and a number of other officers to Fort Jefferson and dined with General Wilkinson. Bill of fare: roast venison, roast beef boiled, and roast mutton boiled and roast veal boiled and roast turkey and fowls; raccoons, possums, bear meat, pies made of chickens, mince, applies, tarts, &c., &c. Sweetmeats of every kind, preserves and jellies, floating island and ice cream, plum pudding and plum cake, vegetables of every kind, a plenty of the best wine, at evening we had tea and coffee in high style, Mrs. Wilkinson was present, we got back to Greenville ten o'clock at night."

Gen. Wayne, Major Buell and other officers had been invited to Fort Jefferson by Wayne's second-in-command, Brig. Gen. James Wilkinson, who had arranged for a fine house to be built for his lovely wife, Anne. While James was by no means as lovely as his wife, he did possess a charming personality that was surely exhibited at this affair (We'll expound more on Mr. Wilkinson in a future article). Obviously, the Wilkinson's and staff had taken great pains to prepare a feast that, even by today's standards, seems practically incomprehensible.

Let's take a look at the "bill of fare" in detail: The menu includes a list of meats that most modern readers can identify with; venison, beef, mutton, veal, turkey and chicken are all table-fare that can still be found on dining room tables across the continent. Although this author is an avid hunter, I'm ashamed to admit that I've never experienced the apparent delicacies of raccoon and possum. Notice that Major Buell makes no attempt to disguise these two woodland creatures on the list. The bear meat may also be a surprise to some readers. It actually is quite tasty and, yes, along with wolves, panthers and woodland bison, black bears did roam this region at that time. The mince, apples, tarts, preserves and jellies are also items familiar to the modern connoisseur. Research has revealed that the "floating island" is similar to a merengue that is not baked but rather cooked on top of boiled milk or cream and it would be interesting to know how ice cream was churned or otherwise made in 1794. Today, plum-pudding is a rarity and yet, my wife's family makes a cranberry plum-pudding that harkens back to their roots on the eastern seaboard. It's a delicious moist cake-type breading that is doused in a heated sweet syrup. The vegetables would have required a cellar for preservation and finally, it's worth noting that the fine wines, tea and coffee would have required shipment from the east at great difficulty and expense.

Envision, if you will, that scene of long ago that transpired right here in Darke County: There's frost on the imported plate-glass windows, a crackling fire, possibly some boughs of cedar and wild holly are on the railing. Delightful aromas fill the air. The impeccably dressed attendees exchange pleasantries, speculating on what the new year holds in store for the future of the northwest territory frontier...