

The Bedford Bee.

BEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PO Box 46282
Bedford, Ohio 44146

1955- 2005
50 years of Keeping History

March – May 2005
Issue 280

Up Coming Events

March 3, 2005 Thursday-8:00pm *Lyceum:*
A Visit to Arlington National Cemetery- Home of America's Heroes; Harold George presents an interesting program on the history of Arlington Nation Cemetery. From its beginning as Gen. Lee's front yard to the present, learn about this national treasure.

March 5, 2005 Saturday 6:30 pm *Annual Reverse Raffle;*
Join us at Catered Elegance for a great night out. Celebrate the 50's theme in honor of our 50th anniversary.

April 7, 2005 Thursday 8:00pm- *Lyceum- Through the Eyes of the Artist-Influences in capturing the landscape of the Western Reserve.* We honor Bedford resident, Kristen Boyesen as our Artist of the Year. See her works and learn about the influences that inspired them. A champagne reception follows the presentation.

April 10, 2005 Sunday 2:00 – 5:00pm- *Annual Open House. (Information enclosed)*

April 30th *Soups On!* Help us pay off the Town Hall addition and enjoy a delicious meal at the same time. (Information enclosed)

May 5, 2005 Thursday 6:00pm- *Annual Dinner;* (See article.)

May 11, 2005 Wednesday 7:00pm – *Spring Docent Training;* Long time volunteers and future volunteers-join us as we discuss and review how we can make our visitors' tours memorable.

May 19, 2005 Thursday 6:00pm- *1880s Dinner.*

June 10, 11 and 12, 2005- *Annual Strawberry Festival*
Great entertainment, lots of food and berries! New this year: Artist's Alley- meet some of NE Ohio's finest artists.

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*Thank you for renewing your membership. Remember: a gift membership is an ideal way to remember a relative or friend.*

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## The Annual Reverse Raffle Reflects Our 50<sup>th</sup>

In recognition of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Bedford Historical Society, the Annual Reverse Raffle has a decided '50s' theme. Time to dig out that 50's style clothing in the back of your closet. (Of course, they still fit, right?). Nothing to wear? It's optional, wear what makes you are comfortable. We will have some extra prizes for the big night. Phil at Catered Elegance offers your choice of traditional Prime Rib, Stuffed Flounder or Chicken Marsala. Cost of a ticket remains \$55 for your meal, open bar, dancing and a chance on the big board. Additional dinner tickets are \$30 for couples who want to share a big board ticket.

The Reverse Raffle is always a fun evening out and a great chance to support your Society. Call Bob Schroeter, Sr. 440 232-3849; Betsy Lee 440 735-0135; Debbie Watts 440 439-1547 or the museum office 440 232-0796 to reserve tickets or a block of tables. Have a lucky number? Reserve it early.

## Annual Dinner

The Annual Dinner meeting of the Bedford Historical Society will be held on Thursday, May 5, 2005. The meeting will be held at La Casa Bella, 26383 Broadway in Oakwood Village (next to Roseland Lanes). The Prinios' from the Astorhurst are our hosts. Your choice of three favorites: Lemon Chicken, Baked Fish or Breaded Pork Chops. Our program is a fitting 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary presentation- Janet Caldwell and Betsy Lee will present an interesting program about the Bedford Historical Society—things you knew and some you didn't". Cost of the dinner and the evening's entertainment remains at \$23. A post card will be sent in early April as a reminder.

## Amvet Post 15 Donates to Building Addition

Bedford Amvet Post 15 who has a proud tradition of helping the community has donated to the Town Hall Building Addition Fund. The Post is no longer meeting on a regular basis and chose the society as one of its recipients to disperse funds. We are most grateful to be the recipient of their donation.

## Special Oral History in honor of our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary begins this issue.

Beginning this month, Joanne Rose presents a four part series taken from the oral history of former director and founding member, Dick Squire.

*By Joanne Rose Part 1.*

*Dick was a founder and director of the Bedford Historical Society. A 1932 graduate of Bedford High, his heart was forever ingrained in the town where he lived. His honors include: 1994 Bedford Citizen of the Year, 1994 Bedford Athletic Hall of Fame, 1996 Bedford High School Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame, 1999 CitiSun of the Year, he has had a street named after him in front of the Museum. Dick also had the honor of running on the same track team as Jesse Owens.*

### Dick Squire

“I was born in Bedford on Palmetto Avenue and went to Bedford High and then to Ohio State. After competing in college my friend and I ran track as amateurs. Betty Leeks and I were married in February 1941 before WWII. Just before leaving for overseas I got a telegram, saying my daughter Betsy was born. She was 17 months old before I ever saw her.

“In WWII I was stationed in Orlando, there was no Disney World then. From there I was shipped out to Guam, Okinawa and Saipan. I had been a surveyor before the war at the Ravenna Arsenal and at an ordinance plant in Indiana—I can’t understand, but the Army actually put me in my area of expertise. I would run the survey party and lay out the runways and the hard stands for the flight strips.

“When I got out of the Army I had hoped to spend a couple of weeks just relaxing. But my new employer put me to work right away. My first job was laying out a grid at the Cleveland Airport—in January’s zero weather. For the past 2 ½ years I had been in the tropics. At that time runways were mostly grass at the airport.

“Later I bought half interest in a business, the Lincoln Press at Broadway near Glendale. I spent 29 years of my life in that little shop. I had had experience in printing in high school when I worked for the Bedford Times Register.

### On Loan

The Society has three inter-museum loans scheduled for 2004. First one is a portion of our holdings on famed Bedford resident, Dr. Theodatus Garlick. The exhibit will be on view at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History from March 12<sup>th</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup>. Stop down and view it!

## What’s New in the Museum?

If you don’t stop by the Town Hall Museum regularly, you miss a lot! Thanks to member, Helen Pratt for sharing a portion of her Christmas antiques and collectibles.

On display for the spring months- member Doris Shriver’s egg collection. Doris is well known for her Ukrainian eggs. A portion of her collection, Ukrainian and others will be on display through May 15<sup>th</sup>.

### Blacksmith Shop to be Packed Away Temporarily

One of the museum’s interesting permanent exhibits has been a blacksmith’s shop complete with all the tools of the trade. The items were cleaned and coated three years ago as an Eagle Scout project. Unfortunately, the location of the blacksmith shop has not been environmentally friendly to metals. Andy Jones, Steve Batko, Joe Ross and Frank Caldwell are in the process of cleaning the tools (again) and recoating the metal with a special sealer. The items will be stored until their new home is ready.

### Central School Celebrates 100<sup>th</sup>

Central School on Washington Street was built in 1905 to serve the needs of the Bedford community. It still serves a need today. The building underwent restoration several years ago; visitors to the building can see a unique incorporation between the newer addition and the original 1905 section. From 1905 to 1921, the building served as Bedford High School. When the third Bedford High School was opened at the corner of Washington and Columbus, the 1905 building became an elementary school... The school is looking for its earliest students.



*From the archives- early Central School photo*

## Thanks!

Our thanks to the following for helping at the Annual Christmas Open House. We had app 300 visitors from near and far. Volunteers who manned the Town Hall Museum and the Train Depot Museum: Jean Offutt, Diane Balach, Kimberly Balach, Doris Shriver, Vivian Crowl, Doris Pankratz, Millie McCarty, Iris Dawson, Eva Labuski, Roy & Sharon Naylor, Jim & Judy Magyar, Elmer Palinkas, Don & Loretta Navratil, Merril Cermak, John Straka, Joe Ross, Alma Rhine, Frank Caldwell and Tom Ramsay. Thanks to Betsy Lee for leading walking tours through the historic district. Thanks to the Bedford Garden Club for decorating our building. Thanks to all of our members who baked and donated delicious bakery!

Christopher Offutt (Jean's grandson) made the 'gingerbread house' that decorated our holiday lobby. Christopher is 8 years old and attends Bissell Elementary School in Twinsburg. Thanks Christopher!

## No Winners-Yet

There was a challenge to readers of the last issue of the Bee. The newsletter contained several sayings. Those sayings are *somewhere in the Town Hall Museum*. So far, no one has spotted the words. We will extend the contest for one more quarter. Stop in and try to find the location; you could win a \$20 gift certificate from the Museum Gift Shop.

## Ready to Cook?

In response to our insert on the 'Foods of Bedford', several folks have expressed a willingness to try some meals from different eras in the life of our town. The first of these events will be the 1880s dinner. Stop in and read some of the recipes. From your choices, we will form the menu and plan the meal. The cookbooks are available at the Town Hall museum during hours or if you have an 'oldie' at home, bring it in. After the menu is chosen, we will discuss who would like to help prepare each item. Don't cook? Don't worry, the peas will need shelled and the butter churned, the tables will need set. There is something for everyone to do. Target date for the 1880s meal-Thurs May 19<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm. Call the museum if you didn't sign up; 440 232-0796.

## Dunham House Project Continues to Evolve

Plans are still developing which will culminate with the occupancy of the historic Hezekiah Dunham House for one week. The project is a joint effort between the Historical Society, Bedford City Schools and the

Southeast Branch of the County Library. Call the museum, 440 232-0796, for details.

## From the archives.....

### Bedford's Finest



A recent donation to the Society's archives is this b&w photo of the Bedford Police Department taken in 1940. From left to right: S. Walton, E. Taylor, C. Spinney, E. Vance, J. Spotto, and Sgt. E. Pejsa, Capt. J. Gresham and L. Walton.

E.G. Carver was the first appointed Chief in 1932 having served as the Village marshal from 1910. In 1932, there was one patrol car on the force. Those who were 'invited' to stay over by these gentlemen found the jail in a long brick building behind the Garlick House. Before that, there was a 12 x12 jail attached to the back of the Town Hall. The outline can still be seen in the new museum lobby.

**WOULD YOU PREFER TO HAVE THE BEE VIA E-MAIL? It is on line at [bedfordohiohistory.org](http://bedfordohiohistory.org) or let us know your e-mail address and we will send it directly.**

## Museum Bicycle on Display

Bill Cleland, owner of Royal Cycle in downtown Bedford has restored a 1940 Western Flyer bicycle for the Society. Cleveland Welding Co on Berea Road made Western Flyers. Their main line was Roadmaster bikes. They made Western Flyers for Western Auto Stores. The bicycle has extra accessories that really make it special. It would have originally sold for about \$60, a lot of money in 1940. If you zipped through Bedford's neighborhoods on a bike, stop by Bill's window and enjoy his efforts. Did you know Royal Cycle has been selling and repairing bicycles in the greater Cleveland

area since the 1920s? Our gratitude to Bill for undertaking the restoration.

## Stamp Update

Historical Society members have stepped up to the plate in grand fashion this past year to enhance our stamp collection. Lester Pratt has mounted your donations in the stamp albums. He continues to add new stamps as they arrive. These small pieces of art contain a lot of history. Lester's annotations help educate the novice and give the viewer an appreciation of this beautiful collection.

### *Obituaries:*

*Eleanor A. Gordon;* Life member, Eleanor Gordon, nee Day, passed away on November 1, 2004. Eleanor lived in Bedford for 74 years. Besides the Bedford Historical Society, she was a member of the Methodist Church and helped many children through her association with Bedford Schools library and Central School PTA. She was the wife of John, deceased. She was the loving mother of Linda (C. Allen) Zimmerman, Dr. Peter (Linda) Gordon. She was a loving grandmother and great-grandmother.

*Ruth E. Dennis;* Member Ruth Dennis passed away on November 10, 2004 after a long illness. Ruth joined the society in 1974. She was the loving wife of John. She was the loving mother of Edna Ruth (William) Larkin, Marian (Larry) McCandless and John (Denise) Dennis. She was the loving grandmother of six grandchildren. Ruth taught many Bedford children piano. She taught Bible lessons through the Nazarene Church.

*John S. Castle;* Member John Castle passed away on December 9, 2004 in Exton PA where he resided nearer his daughter. He was the husband of the late Alice (nee Hites). He was the loving father of Ruth (Michael) Kelly, Jack (Jean) Castle, and James (Ann) Castle. He was loved by grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He was the brother of Kathryn Blewett. John authored a family Civil War memoir, "Grandfather Was a Drummer Boy".

*Francis E. Junkin;* Frances Junkin, wife of the late William, died on December 10, 2004. She was the loving mother of Duane (Deborah) Junkin, Susan (Bob) Lumpkin, Peter (Jill) Junkin and William (Brenda). She was the sister of Edith Rogers. She was a loving grandmother. Francis was a member since 1997.

*Gladys Thomas;* Member Gladys Thomas passed away on December 23, 2004. She was 101 years old. She was the wife of the late Ted. She was the loving mother of Joyce (Harry) Gardner; Joan (William) Beyer; and Janet

(Rodney) Reed, both deceased. She was a loving grandmother and great-grandmother.

*John R. Lemmo;* Sportsman's Park enthusiast, John Lemmo, passed away on December 23, 2004. The Sportsman's Park exhibit contains memorabilia from the years that he was associated with the track. He was a veteran of the Army and served during WWII. His wife Jane A. (nee Hartshorn) survives him; he was the loving father of Jack (Janet) Lemmo; stepfather of Pamela (Paul) Prusinski; R. Alan (Shelly) Bigelow and Terri (Michael) Bigelow. He was a loving grandfather and great-grandfather. His first wife, Jennie Elizabeth (nee Rich) preceded him in death.

*Douglas P. Handyside;* Doug Handyside passed away on December 29, 2004. He was a member of the society since 1972. Douglas, his brother Holsey and sister, Barbara (deceased) lived in the historic Gates Handyside House adjacent to the Historical Society properties. Doug served as a naval aviator in WWII. His love of music resulted in a lifetime of teaching and performing. He was preceded in death by his wife Sarah Elizabeth (nee: Smith) and leaves daughters Shirley Harley and Hilary Hall and loving grandchildren.

*Ann Hamilton;* A member since 1960, Anne (nee: Tiffany) Hamilton passed away on January 10, 2005. Ann was a community leader for many years. She worked in administration for the Bedford City Schools prior to retiring. Ann was the wife of Robert, the loving mother of Steve (Alice) Miller and Jeffrey (Karen) Miller; the dear stepmother of Hollis Hamilton, Robyn Palmer, Betsy Kaminsky and Lee Hamilton. She was a dear grandmother and aunt.

*Pearl A. Metz;* Bedford Historical Society member, Pearl Metz passed away in Ormond Beach Florida where she had been residing. Pearl and her husband, Glen along with 'Shorty' and Glenda Miller operated the famous 'M&M Dairy' in Bedford. Pearl was preceded in death by her husband, Glen. She was the sister of the late Doris Featherstone and George Benesh. She was a loving aunt.

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Our sympathy to members Glenn and Olive Maley upon the death of their son, Ron in November. Ron was a friend of the Bedford Historical Society and was active in veteran's affairs. And on the death of their daughter-in-law, Phyllis in January.

Our sympathy to member Ruth and Bob Miller upon the death of their son, Gordon in January. Gordon was a 1974 graduate of Bedford High School.