

# The Bedford Bee.

Bedford Historical Society  
PO Box 46282  
Bedford OH 44146

November 2013 - February 2014  
Issue 315  
440 232-0796 BedfordOhioHistory.org

## Upcoming Events

### Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm

Lyceum, "President James A. Garfield, the 20<sup>th</sup> President and his Connections to Bedford"

*Andrew Mizsak, National Park Service Volunteer Ranger*

Old Church on the Square, 750 Broadway

### Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2-5pm

Veteran's Appreciation Day

Town Hall Museum

### Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, 6pm

Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony

Bedford Town Square

### Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7:30pm

Docent Training

Town Hall Museum

### Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6-9pm

Night Out Fundraiser,

Russo's Pizza, Northfield (see article for details)

### Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 12pm – 4pm

Christmas in Bedford Falls & Annual Open House

Location: Downtown Bedford, Town Hall Museum & Train Depot

### Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 7pm

Lyceum, "The Walhain-Saint-Paul Project in Belgium, a 12<sup>th</sup> Century Castle"

*Dana Best-Mizsak, Director, Bedford Historical Society*

Maple Heights Library, Library Lane off Libby

*\*Please note the date, earlier time and location*

### Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 7pm

Lyceum, "The Strawberry Festival turns 50!"

Join us for memories of the past 50 years and a strawberry social!

Bedford Hts. Community Center, 5615 Perkins Rd.

*\*Please note the date, earlier time and location*

### Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, Reverse Raffle

The Roaring Twenties! (details in our next issue)

*"A museum should never be finished, but boundless and ever in motion."*

*Johann Wolfgang von Goethe*

## From the President

Dear Members,

As we're winding down for Fall, it's time to think about the Holiday Season! As always, we are happy to be a part of Bedford's Annual *Christmas in Bedford Falls*. This year, we will feature Christmas Music on all of floors. We hope to see you there, as our team of staff and volunteers work hard each year to create beautiful displays and an enjoyable visit for all.

Next year marks the start of two years of celebrations! 2014 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Strawberry Festival and 2015 is the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Historical Society and the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Car Show. We will have a lot of special events and programming planned, so stay tuned. Thank you for your continued support which has made the Society what it is today. With your help, we can continue to grow, support our community, and most importantly, protect and preserve our local history.

Our team has done a great job of managing our buildings and resources over the past year. But, a necessary roof repair has left us a bit over budget. If you can spare an extra donation this year, please consider the Historical Society. Any help is always appreciated.

*Bob Schroeter, Sr., President of the Board*



**You may be wondering why this edition of the newsletter is a little early!** We are partnering with the Yankee Candle Company in a fundraiser. We earn 40% of the sales brought in by our members and friends. The deadline to place your order is **Thursday, November 13<sup>th</sup>**. Catalogs

are available at the Town Hall Museum. Delivery is expected around the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of December. We can accept cash, checks (made out the Historical Society) and credit cards. Call or stop by with any questions!

**Big News!** We now

accept all major credit



cards for the Museum Store, memberships and donations! Please stop by the museum to access this great addition to the Society!

## From the Director

Dear Members,

How time flies--it's almost the end of the year! Soon, the snow will be falling and we'll be thinking of spending the holidays with loved ones. I would like to offer each of you my sincere wish for a safe and happy holiday season.

We are planning a very busy schedule for 2014—with a lot of new activities and events, along with tried and true (don't worry, your favorites aren't going anywhere!). Since being here nearly ten months, I have come to realize that while we are a wonderful and big organization, there is still plenty of room to grow!

Please remember that your membership renewal is due at the end of the year. We rely on the income from memberships to produce this newsletter as well as it represents a significant portion of our operating costs. Additionally, thank you in advance for your support!

I love to hear your feedback- good and bad. Please let me know if there is programming that you'd like to see or if you just want to pass along how great our staff & volunteers are or if you've had a problem with our services and programs. If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to call me at the Museum or send an e-mail to: [dbestmizsak@bedfordohiohistory.org](mailto:dbestmizsak@bedfordohiohistory.org)

*Dana Best-Mizsak, Director*



### Strawberry Festival Update

Thanks our Historical Interpreters from this years festivities. We had over a dozen people participate in period-specific clothing marching through the Square. This is always a favorite part of the Festival! Thanks to Lynn Jones for continuing to do a fantastic job keeping everyone organized!

We're pleased to announce two additions to our team!

**Gemma Telling** joins us the Museum Store Manager. She has jumped in with both feet and has some great ideas! **Kay Rossman** also joins us our Membership Secretary. Kay is eager to start processing all of the new memberships and renewals this year!

# WELCOME



## Membership Renewals

It's that time of year again—time to **Renew** your membership! A friendly reminder that membership renewals (all categories except Lifetime) **are due at the start of the year**. For those have recently joined or renewed, you are renewed through 2014. An envelope is included for your convenience. Additionally, we can now accept credit cards at the Town Hall for memberships and donations. Please consider an extra contribution towards our general operating fund to help cover the cost of some unplanned roof repairs that were completed this year.

*Know someone that loves history? Consider a gift membership to the Historical Society!*



A big **Thank You** to **Marge Keene** who is stepping down from the position of Membership Secretary.

A big **Thank You** to **Ann White** for tending the front garden! It looks beautiful!

### Limited Hours for a few weeks

The last chance to purchase Museum Store items for the holidays is Monday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>. The museum will be closed through the holidays.

Additionally, we may be closed through January so please call in advance of your visit. Trustees are considering this measure to conserve the high operating costs during part of the winter season. Staff will continue to answer phone and email inquiries. If you need information you can e-mail or leave a phone message and we will return your call. It won't be warm enough to offer tours during the time we are closed. We'll see you at the Lyceum programs. Our Giants of Industry exhibit will remain up for a while as we are preparing our new Sportsman's Park exhibit.



Are you interested in getting more involved? Even a few hours makes a big difference!

We are in need of a **Volunteer Coordinator** to help schedule volunteers for our very busy calendar of events next year. The time commitment is at most a few hours a month. Please contact Dana for more details.

*Do you know any high school students that need service hours for the current school year? We have several projects that could use a few dedicated students! Call the Museum for more details.*

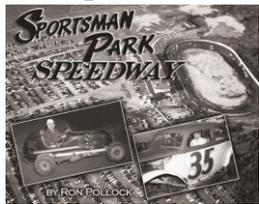


## Museum Store News

Just starting your Holiday shopping? Stop by the museum store. We have a number of new items including:

Tales from the Smoke Shop by RJ Pine is back in stock! (\$4.00 each + tax)

### New Sportsman's Park Items Available!



Sportsman Park Speedway

by Ron Pollock

(\$20.00 each + tax) and

Mighty Mites of the Speedways

(DVD) (\$18.00+tax)

The Best They Could Be: The Cleveland Naps

by Scott Longert (\$25.00 + tax)

*Plus, many books and handmade crafts are available!*

Need a gift for a friend or family member that loves history? Consider a Museum Store Gift Certificate! Stop by the Town Hall Museum to purchase!

### Do you have ink cartridges or have small electronics that are ready to be recycled?

Consider donating them to us! We earn funds for every item donated. Items can be dropped off at the Town Hall Museum during our normal business hours or at Spirit Apothecary in Historic Downtown Bedford. You can also visit our donation website at: <http://www.fundingfactory.com/goals/?id=BedfordOhioHistory> to print your own shipping label at no cost to you.



Join us for a "Night Out" at Russo's Pizza in Northfield on Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 5-8pm. All proceeds benefit the Historical Society. We hope that this will become a regular event! \$15

per person, call or e-mail us for details!

As we begin thinking about the end of the year, please consider making a contribution to our Endowment Fund at the Cleveland Foundation. These funds help us to continue our mission of collecting, preserving and interpreting this history of Bedford, Bedford Township and portions of the Western Reserve by making sure we can continue to serve our community.



## The Ellenwood PTA

A recent donation to the archive is the 1943-44 Ellenwood School PTA booklet. Officers for the year were: President-Mrs. Emil Taussig, Vice President Mrs. Walter Brown, Secretary- Mrs. Clifford Kerchner and Treasurer- Mrs. J.D. Tusel. Principal for the year was Miss Marguerite Harris. The teachers were: Miss Snell, Miss Brenneman, Miss Todd, Miss Margareidge, Miss Nichols, Mrs. Shipherd, Mrs. Dille, Miss Creviston, Miss Mehnert, Miss Horton, Mrs. Weaver and Mrs. Clampitt.

Programs included "A Harvest Festival" a display of Children's Victory Gardens with prizes; Theodora Blake spoke on Father's night; Several Mothers did a December program entitled "Christmas in Other Lands"; Bernice Connell of Wm. Taylor & Son Co. spoke on Interior Decorating; Mr. George Sheehan of East Ohio Gas Company talked about "Food Facts of 1944"; Mr. Mahlon Webb spoke about 'moving pictures' and Dr. Edith Petrie Brown presented a program about "The Value of Summer Round Up."

The National Parent Teachers Association was founded in 1897 as an advocacy group for children. Parents meet in local schools. Their aid and grassroots efforts have helped millions of children over the years. Bedford School System PTAs have a long and proud history.

## Cemetery Worker



Meet Ryan C. our youngest cemetery preservation worker. Ryan, age 7, singlehandedly photographed the entire Section 4. His photos will be added to the database that his grandma, Reggie Taussig is constructing. When it is completed, families will be able to find information and photos of their family's graves in Bedford Cemetery.

*Thanks Ryan!*

The Historical Society held a Cemetery Preservation Workshop on August 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>. Photos of the weekend can be found on the website-bedfordohiohistory.org.



## The Way it Was...

**Sales Tax** In Ohio, general sales tax legislation passed in 1934 and went into effect a year later. Tax was collected on goods and services. Today we pay sales tax and it is printed on receipts. When the tax was first collected, vendors issues small tags to show that sales tax was collected. The tag above is for 3 cents.



**Charga-Plate** The 1" x 2" metal tag with the custom holding case is a Charga-plate. The card helped expedite purchases made at participating stores by the card holder. This Charga-plate is for Cleveland stores- The Bailey Co., Wm. Taylor Son & Co., The Halle Bros. Co., The May Co., The Higbee Co. and Sterling-Lindner-Davis. The plate was the idea of the Farrington Company which offered the service throughout the US. It was a popular way to pay for shopping 50 & 60 years ago. Today's credit cards replaced them.



### *Remembering Mr. D.*

We were saddened to lose a longtime supporter, John Dennis. During the construction of our museum addition, he would regularly review the building plans and the financial books for the project. He took a genuine interest and offered valuable advice. Our addition might not have been completed for a few more months if it wasn't for Mr. D. As director at the time, I was concerned to enter into the project until all funding was in place. Mr. D. did the math and percentages on what needed to be raised and how much additional cost it would be to postpone it a few more months. He made a convincing argument; and he was right. He always had a smile and encouraging words to all of the workers at the museum.

*Janet Caldwell*

**Lower Level Update** Volunteers have been moving, painting and cleaning two exhibit areas in the lower level of the Town Hall Museum. Willie and Charlie from Suburban Junk & Stuff Hauling did the hard lifting for us. The new Sportsman's Park room including the midget racer will premiere at the Spring Open House. The former Sportsman's Park room now is our home laundry. It will be ready for Christmas visitors. The museum's collection of washers and laundry aids spans over 100 years. It has been fun to pull ads from our extensive magazine collection for washers and cleaners.



*Merry Christmas from the Museum Crew!*

### *New Additions at the Museum*

The Town Hall Museum has received two new additions to its art collection. Betty Buddenhagen donated a John Poti oil painting of haying time in Amish country. Poti is a Northeast Ohio artist; he was a Bedford High School art teacher.

Artist Marianne (nee: Smriga) Krizner, BHS class of 1951, has donated an oil painting of the Great Falls of Tinkers Creek. Marianne received her teaching degree from Western Reserve University and additional art courses at the Art Institute. She taught at Interstate Elementary School for several years before moving out of state. For 38 years, she has taught art in Johnstown Pa. Miss Vashti Morgan was her art teacher at Bedford High.



### **Obituaries**

*William Fenton;* Long time member Bill Fenton died on August 11, 2013. He was a long time member of the society and served as treasurer for several years. He was preceded in death by his wife Rosemary (nee: Cockins). He will be missed by his children: Lynn (James deceased) Lang, Lisa (Denny) Lehman and Lori (Bryan) Graham. He was a loving grandfather. Bill served his country in WWII in the US Air Force.

*John Raymond. Dennis;* John Dennis died on September 29, 2013. He was an active member of the society and frequent visitor to the museum even when his health became frail. His love of history was passed on to his children and grandchildren some of whom are members of the society. He is survived by his children Edna (Bill) Larkin, Marian McCandless and John L. (Denise) Dennis. He leaves six loving grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.