The Bedford Bee.

Bedford Historical Society PO Box 46282 Bedford OH 44146 March 2013 - May 2014 Issue 316 440 232-0796 BedfordOhioHistory.org

Upcoming Events

Thursday, February 6th, 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

Thursday, March 6th, 7:30pm

Lyceum, "Train Ferries on the Great Lakes" Historical Society Member, Barbara McDaniel shares stories, memories and information about the C & O Train Ferries that operated on Lake Michigan in mid-20th century.

Saturday, March 8th, Reverse Raffle

The Roaring Twenties! (details inside!) Reservations required.

Mondays in April

The Old Ways School (details inside!)

Sunday, April 13th, 2 - 5pm

Spring Open House—Come and see our brand new Sportsman's Park exhibit! Refreshments will be available.

Thursday, May 1st, Annual Dinner

Program: Mary Elizabeth Walker, Prisoner of war during the Civil War, writer, doctor, fashion trend-setter and the only female to receive the Medal of Honor

Members will receive an invitation in late March or early April. Reservations required.

Saturday, May 10th, Victorian Tea and Tour

Join us for a Victorian Tea and lunch plus enjoy guided tours through the Gates-Handyside House and the Hezekiah Dunham House. (details inside!) Reservations required.

Friday June 6th – Sunday, June 8th

The 50th Annual Strawberry Festival Bedford Square

Saturday, June 7th, 4 – 9pm

9th Annual Car Show

From the President

Dear Members,

Happy New Year from all of us at the Historical Society! Winter is all around us, but we're looking forward to Spring! The New Year is bringing a packed schedule of programming and events—all of the old favorites and a few new ones. So, please show your support by attending!

If you haven't stopped by the Town Hall Museum in a while, consider dropping by—there are new exhibits going up and our Museum Store has a number of new books in stock!

Thank you to all those who made end-of-the-year contributions towards the Endowment and our recent roof repair. With your generosity, the Endowment is steadily growing and we ended the year in the black—even with the costly repairs.

Bob Schroeter, Sr., President of the Board



Annual Reverse Raffle & Silent Auction Fundraiser

It's time for our first fundraiser of the year and we're celebrating the "Roaring Twenties" this year!

Dinner will be roasted chicken, potatoes salad, hors d'oeuvres and dessert as well

as a cash bar. The Silent Auction will feature donated items from our members and local businesses. As always the main Raffle features a \$2,000 prize + sideboards will be available. All are encouraged to dress the part—come dressed in your finest 1920's attire if you're game!

Reservations are required, \$55 per ticket that includes dinner and raffle; \$80 for 2 dinners and 1 raffle ticket *At the time of publication, entertainment has not been finalized but will be music of the 1920's*.

"History is a cyclic poem written by time upon the memories of man."

-Percy Bysshe Shelley

From the Director

Dear Members,

On March 1st, I begin my second year as the Director of this amazing institution. Over the past year, I have been in awe of the time and dedication put into each and every exhibit, event and presentation. With continued help and support, I hope to enhance and expand our programming and events so that even more of our community and region learn about us. Also, over the past year, I have come to realize that we are a hidden gem. I have spoken to many people in our community and around the region that don't realize that with over 700 members, we are one of the largest historical societies in the area. So, my challenge to you for 2014 is:

If you haven't been in to see us in a while, stop by!
If you live out of state, like us on Facebook or check us
out on the web!

If you live in-town, bring a friend to the Museum or to one of our free, family-friendly events.

Did you know that we are one of the largest historical societies in the county? That's because of you—our members! Your continued support, no matter what it is (volunteer or financial) will help us to grow and continue to offer our community a fantastic resource.

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

Dana Best-Mizsak, Director



Strawberry Festival

The Festival is fast approaching- June will be here before we know it!

Plans have been steadily progressing for this year's 50th Anniversary! This year is jam packed with



entertainment, food and vendors along with a few suprises to help celebrate! Watch for the next edition of the newsletter for details!

Are you interested in volunteering at the festival this year? We have a few new spots that will need some extra helping hands! Call or e-mail the museum for more information.

Victorian Tea & House Tour

Join us on Saturday, May 10th for a *special fundraiser*- a tour of the 1890's Gates-Handyside House, the 1832 Hezekiah Dunham House and



the newly opened Sedlon Garden. A Victorian-themed lunch and tea will be served along with a question and answer period with Ambassador Holsey Gates-Handyside. The cost is \$40 per person and includes both houses, the garden and lunch. Space is limited, please call the Town Hall Museum to make your reservation.



Membership Renewals

Thank you to everyone that has sent in their 2014 membership renewal. We are steadily working through the stack of renewals and you should

receive your new membership card in the mail soon.

If you haven't renewed yet, please consider doing so soon! The funds collected from our membership help to produce this newsletter, offer programming and help contribute to our general operating costs. *Know someone that loves history? Consider a gift membership to the Historical Society!*

Don't Forget! 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!



A big **Thank You** to everyone that helped to decorate the Town Hall Museum for Christmas. They were a

beautiful addition to the snow outside and provided a special treat for all of our visitors, volunteers and staff during the Holdiay season.

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.

Flea Market Update

It's hard to believe that we're already thinking about the Flea Market! Reminder postcards will be going out soon to all of our past sellers. If you



are interested in reserving your space, contact Chris Sweet at: 440-439-7470. We will be collecting items to sell at the Historical Society table. If you have anything that you would like to donate, please bring your items to the museum during our regular business hours (Mon & Weds 7:30pm-10pm or Thurs 10am-4pm).



Museum Store News

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

Spring Training is right around the corner—celebrate by picking up a copy of:

The Best They Could Be: The Cleveland Naps

by Scott Longert (\$25.00 + tax)

Since the founding of professional baseball, few teams have risen above years of mediocrity only to see their fortunes interrupted by war and tragedy. Fewer still have then rallied to win the World Series. In the early twentieth century, the Cleveland Indians brought the world championship to their city of passionate fans in a spectacular style that has yet to be replicated.

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.

Handyside House Project

Bedford's most photographed home, the Gates Handyside House 762 Broadway, is the subject of recent activity. The classic Queen Anne is a private

residence occupied by a family descendent. Historical Society member, Mr. Holsey Handyside has allowed the Society to offer tours of the home on a yearly basis. He recently gave the Society permission to have the home filmed by a professional videographer with Mr. Handyside leading the tour. When the film is completed, it will be archived at the society.

Bedford Rotary is covering the cost of this important historic project. We extend our gratitude to Rotary members for their support.



Detail of the woodwork at the parlor door.

Sportsman's Park Update

Work is progressing toward the April 13th Open House. Some of the obstacles in preparation



include pulling the engine so that the midget racer can be lifted into the building. The first photo is of member Debbie Ambris who helped tear down the old exhibit.



Jim O'Neill found a used trophy case and glass display rack. He and brother Gene drove down to get it. Five strong guys, Joe Garganta, Gary Watts, Bob Schroeter, Jim O'Neill and

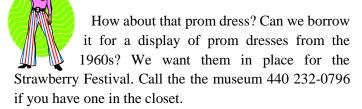
Frank Caldwell unloaded the items and carried them into the museum. Joyce Maruna and Oriann Crow helped the curator clean and place our treasures. Still lots to do.





See you at the Spring Open House when we inaugurate the new Sportsman's Park Exhibit!

Remember the 60s?



Thank you to all those who gave end - of - the - year donations towards the Endowment Fund. The fund continues to steadily grow with your continued



support. Remember, donations to the Endowment can be made any time during the year either by mailing it to us at our mailing address or by going online to the Cleveland Foundation website. (www.clevelandfoundation.org) 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.



Obituaries

Evelyn Saxelby; Member Evelyn (nee: Jarrett) Saxelby died on September 23, 2013 in Auburn California where she lived with her family. She was preceded in death by her husband George W. Saxelby and a son Dennis. She will be missed by her children George H. (Sheila), Fred (Judy), Lynn and Dilys Wohletz (David) and her grandchildren and greatgrandchildren.

Jeffrey E. Quin; Society supporter, Jeff Quin passed away on Friday October 18, 2013. His physical impairments later in life did not prevent him from visiting the museum on Thursday many times. He would enjoy conversation and lunch with the Thursday volunteers. Jeff was an accomplished NE Ohio artist. He donated two of his works to the museum. He leaves his wife Judy (nee: Shaffer) and children Jeffrey (Ariadne), /Sandra (Robert) Rivera, Suzanne (late James) MacAlonan, Jennifer (John) Bogdan and Donna (Jeffrey) Treubig. He was a grandfather and great-grandfather. He was predeceased by his first wife Patricia (Yoder).

David C. Boam; Longtime member Dave Boam died on October 30, 2013. Dave and his wife Shirley were active in the life of Bedford through the Historical Society, Masons, Lions and American Legion. When his health began to fail, he moved closer to his daughter in southern Ohio. He is preceded in death by his wife Shirley. He leaves his children Patricia (John) Eshbaugh and David (Melissa) Boam and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Dave was a veteran of WWII.

James A. Rice; Member Jim Rice died on November 18, 2013. Jim served the Society as a Trustee and Treasurer. For many years he helped lead school tours of the museum and helped his wife, Kathie organize the annual Bedford Schools visit. Jim was a volunteer at many of the museum functions. Jim was a retired educator with the Bedford City School District. He is survived by his wife Kathleen (nee: Melling). He was the father of Lauren (Sam) Motrunecs, Lisa McCoy, Leslie (Fred) Pfaff and David (Stacy) Rice. He was a loving grandfather and uncle.

Fred Schuld; Member Fred Schuld died on December 10, 2013. Fred was a Lyceum speaker who made any topic an enjoyable program for the audience. He was an avid baseball fan and could recite statistics of many players, especially the Indians. He taught history at Independence High School for 32 years. Fred served his county in Army during WWII and the Korean Conflict. He is survived by his wife, Doris (nee: Smith), he was a loving father of USAF Col. Roger Schuld (Ruth), Karl Schuld (Cindy). He was preceded in death by his son, Theodore. He will be missed by his grandchildren.

Luverne Skillicorn; Member Luverne (nee: Milz) Skillicorn died on December 22, 2013. Luverne was an active member for many years before her health prevented her from participating. She helped curate the second floor exhibits at the Town Hall Museum and was instrumental in the purchase of the Dunham House. Her genealogy included the Dunhams, Wheelers, Collins and Milz. Luverne kept in contact with many family members throughout the country. She was a 1932 graduate of Bedford High. Luverne will be missed by her children daughter Judy (Bill) Paulus, Douglas (Ruth) and Robert (Judy) and grandchildren and greatgrandchildren. She was a part of all of their lives.

Garth E. McAdoo; Member Garth McAdoo died on January 11, 2014. Garth was active in the Bedford community through many civic organizations. Garth's memory of growing up in Bedford and Bedford Schools was shared through a Lyceum program several years ago when Bedford High students interviewed a panel of our members. He is survived by his wife Barbara and children Debbie (Steve) Peepers, Kathy (Jeff) Messics and Anne (Mike) Santora. He was a loving grandfather and great-grandfather.