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Bedford Historical Society and Museum Newsletter

Spring 2018

In This Issue

Message from the President

by Betsy Squire

We have lots of exciting things going on in the Museum and community building. We will begin renovation of the community building soon, watch for updates. Refreshing exhibits and creating new ones. Come visit and see what we are doing.

Our endowment is growing and is almost half a million (\$499,453.89 as of December 31, 2017). This is very important to our future, help us build it with your donations.

Our spring open house is April 8. Come meet our new director and see all the exciting things going on at the museum. See you at the Museum!

BHS Welcomes KSU Intern Andy Morilak

Andy Morilak joins the BHS as an intern from Kent State University. Today, Andy lives in Sagamore Hills Township, but was born in the city of Bedford in 1991 and attended school in Bedford at Glendale Elementary, Carylwood Intermediate, and Aurora Upper Intermediate until moving to Sagamore Hills in 2003. While living in Bedford, Andy was an active participant in Bedford recreational sports and Boy Scouts of America, which he continued after moving. Andy graduated from Nordonia High School in 2009 and is slated to graduate from Kent State University in the Spring of 2018 with a bachelor's Degree in educational studies and a Minor in History. He has

Upcoming Events

- Open House
Town Hall Museum
Sunday April 8
2:00 PM – 5:00 PM
- Annual Meeting
La Casa Bella Thursday
May 3
5:30 PM - 9:00 PM
- Docent Training
Saturday May 19
11:00 AM – 2:30 PM
- Strawberry Festival
Bedford Commons
June 8, 9, and 10
- Flea Market
Bedford Commons
August 11
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

completed observation at Jennings Community Learning Center in Akron, Ohio while studying Middle Childhood Education.

Outside of his educational pursuits, Andy works at the Winking Lizard Tavern in Macedonia. In his spare time, Andy is a massive supporter of Cleveland sport teams and an avid hockey fan, supporting the Columbus Blue Jackets and San Jose Sharks. He also enjoys travelling and is always thinking of his next adventure. He lives at home with his parents and twin sisters, as well as his three dogs Maggie, Gabe, and Rusty.

Rungs from the Director's Chair

by Elmer Schulz

"Brick by brick, my fellow citizens, brick by brick." I recently recalled this quote, not from a history book, but the film *Seabiscuit*. The fictionalized character of Red Pollard, played by Tobey Maguire, addresses his recovering mount with this heartening line. "I know. I know. I'm in a hurry too, Pops. But you know what Hadrian said about Rome, 'Brick by brick, my citizens.'"

The quote is originally attributed to Emperor Hadrian, who allegedly said it while urging his people to rebuild Rome after a horrific fire, which did not take place during his rule, encouraging them to do so that it may stand the test of time. Brick by brick, to be sure.

During the winter months the staff and I labor in preparation for the coming season. Installation of new storage and exhibit space as well as restoration and preservation activities are continuing. In addition, special event activities and program planning are under development.

Like Pollard and his horse, we are all in a hurry. Still, brick by brick is the inspiring call. New leadership brings new direction and new initiatives. To those witnessing these events there is a mixture of angst and anticipation. The steady placement of each brick builds hopefulness and the promise of an institution that will stand the test of time. Courage my friend, the best is yet to come.

Consider now your part in the work ahead, as we continue to grow the historical society. Become a member today, volunteer your time, make a financial contribution. Like Rome, we build brick by brick. And we need you!

Upcoming Events Docent Training

Join the Interpretive Team!

Do you like to teach? Do you enjoy history and meeting people? Do you have a gift for storytelling and enjoy explaining things to others? If so, our next docent training is scheduled for **Saturday, May 19** from **11:00 AM** to **2:30 PM** in the **Town Hall Museum**. Lunch will be provided.

We are looking for youth and adult volunteers willing to work **Monday** or **Wednesday** evenings during **June, July, and August** or one **Saturday** or **Sunday** afternoon a month. All current docents are encouraged to attend to mentor new recruits. If you are interested in becoming a museum educator, please contact us at **440-232-0796** to arrange a get-together with the staff.

Coffee with the Director Cheers!

Do you have an idea for a new program or a lyceum topic? Are you interested in developing programs for children or an adult workshop?



Linkup with the Director at the Bedford Falls Café over a beverage. You can typically find him there most **Tuesday** and **Thursday** mornings **9:30AM** and **10:00AM** enjoying a hot cup of java. If you miss him, just reach out to him and set up a get-together

eschulz@bedfordohiohistory.org.

Open House Come One... Come All!

The Annual Spring Open House will be held at the **Town Hall Museum** on **April 8, 2:00 PM** to **5:00 PM**. If you would like to help plan the event or volunteer as a

greeter, please contact the museum **440-232-0796**.

In addition, we are currently looking for artisans to demonstrate their skills for our guests. For instance, quilters, spinners, and weavers are invited to make a request to join the event.

Annual BHS Meeting Mark Your Calendar!

The Annual BHS Meeting will be **Thursday, May 3 at 5:30PM**. The gathering will be held at **La Casa Bella**, 26383 Broadway in Oakwood Village.

Your entree choice includes Chicken, Fish, Pork, or a Vegetarian dish. Cost of the dinner and the evening's entertainment is **\$25**. A Cash Bar will be available. Invitations to the dinner will be mailed in late March. Please join us for fellowship and fun as the Society honors our Volunteer of the Year!

Strawberry Festival and Car & Motorcycle Show Join the Fun!

The Strawberry Festival is fast approaching! Plans are currently being finalized. We have a great



lineup of live entertainment and vendors on hand!

As always, we need **VOLUNTEERS** to help with this year's event. There is something to do to meet just about every skill set and interest including, serving strawberries, kitchen preparation, and ticket sales. Help is also required to setup and tear down program areas. And don't forget about the museum; docents are needed to handle visitor traffic and conduct tours.

In addition, the Car & Motorcycle Show rolls in on Saturday afternoon. Participants will meet at 3:15 PM at the Bedford High School and will leave at 3:45 PM to cruise downtown! The show will be from 4:00 PM to 10:00 PM with Awards at 8:30 PM. Volunteers are needed to help direct vehicles into their places. For more information call **440-232-0796** or strawfest@bedfordohiohistory.org

Flea Market Find a Good Deal!

The Annual Flea Market will be held on **Saturday, August 11, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**, on the Bedford Commons. If you have items to donate to the Historical Society table, please bring them to the Town Hall Museum during open hours. All proceeds from this table benefit the Society. If you are interested in reserving a space, contact Chris Sweet **440-439-7470**.

Reverse Raffle Fundraiser Donate to Support the BHS!

BHS Hours of Operation

Monday: 6:30pm - 9:00pm

Tuesday: 10:00am - 4:00pm

Thursday: 10:00am - 4:00pm

Saturday: 10:00am – 2:00pm
(4th monthly, April – October)

Sunday: 2:00pm – 5:00pm
(2nd monthly)

Our biggest fundraising event of the year is just around the corner! Join us for merriment and an opportunity to help the Society grow! More information concerning gift tickets and event details including this year's theme, meal and entertainment will be forthcoming along with your invitations.

Until then, we could use your help. If you have experience organizing fundraisers or just enjoy arranging parties, please contact the museum **440-232-0796**.

Volunteers

Wanted: Event Planners and Tour Guides

Please consider volunteering for the Bedford Historical Society. Presently, we have a great need for **Event Planners** and **Docents**. So, if you like to plan parties and special event activities, we could use your help. Hours are flexible

to suit your routine. Currently, our Volunteer Coordinator, Louise Novak, is compiling a list of individuals interested in undertaking various tasks within the museum complex, including the Train Depot, Dunham House, and Town Hall Museum. Whether your interest is gardening, cleaning, fundraising, social media, data entry, community out-reach, education, programming, theatre, or maintenance, we have something to suit your interests and skills.

If you have a desire to meet people and work in a fun environment, contact **Louise** at **440-439-6150** or novak.louise@gmail.com or call **440-232-0796**. to speak to one of our staff about possible opportunities.

High School Service Hours

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 for more details **440-232-0796**.

Membership

Join or Renew Today

Please consider becoming a member of the Bedford Historical Society. Annual memberships begin at \$10 for Individuals, \$20 for Families, \$25 for Contributing, and \$150 for Life members. Memberships are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Simply fill out and detach the form below and mail it to **Bedford Historical Society, PO Box 46282, Bedford, OH 44146**

For those individuals that have renewed their annual membership, thank you for your continued support! We could not carry on our community engagement, collections, and programming without you.



Charitable Giving

AmazonSmile

Do you shop on **Amazon.com**? If so, consider shopping through

Amazon Smile and designating the Bedford Historical Society as your charity of choice. We will receive a small percentage of your purchases!

Preserve Our Local History

The Old Church on the Square in downtown Bedford has provided communities of Bedford, Bedford Heights, Oakwood Village and Walton Hills with a venue for music, art, lectures, worship and entertainment for 122 years. It is our goal that this stately structure will continue to do so for future generations.

The Bedford Historical Society has started a capital campaign with the help of a \$100,000 grant to restore and repair the foundation, improve plumbing and electricity throughout the building, enhance the building's use by making it ADA accessible, and renovate the community room to enhance and expand usage for activities such as banquets, expositions, education forums, lyceums, public meetings, theatre productions, musical performances, dance recitals, art

Membership Form

Detach & Mail To:

Bedford Historical Society

PO Box 46282, Bedford, OH 44146

Individual \$10

Family \$20

Contributing \$25

Junior \$5

Life \$150 (per person)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Thank you for your support. Donations to the Bedford Historical Society are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law

exhibits, cinematic presentations, and much more.

As this work continues, we are looking for an individual supporter to help us repair the stain glass transom on the north side of the church. Currently the window has been shored up by the Cleveland Restoration Society. This is a temporary fix until we can begin work to repair the stain glass interface. A large contribution today can help us kick off the project.

Plan a Legacy Gift



Plan a legacy gift or make a memorial gift to our Endowment Fund.

The fund continues to steadily grow with your continued support. Donations are tax deductible and 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.

Domestic Transcripts

Celebrating President's Day by Amy Schulz

George Washington, Father of our Country, also lent his name to

many culinary treats. His birthday on February 22 was celebrated widely in town and countryside throughout the 19th century and it is not hard to imagine some of these treats being presented to the celebrants. The following receipt (19th century term for what we now call "recipe") is a delightfully moist cake and when served with the accompaniment of a warm wine sauce will prove to be worthy of its namesake. The "receipt" for the cake is from The Ladies' New Book of Cookery by Sarah Josepha Hale (1852). Mrs. Hale is best known as the first female editor of the widely popular "Godey's Ladies Magazine" and also responsible for our celebration of a national



day of Thanksgiving. The wine sauce receipt comes from the wonderfully detailed cookbook entitled The Kentucky Housewife by Lettice Bryan, 1839.

Washington Cake: Beat together 1 ½ pounds of sugar, and three quarters of a pound of butter; add four eggs well beaten, half pint of sour milk, and one teaspoonful of

saleratus, dissolved in a little hot water. Stir in gradually 1 ¾ pounds of flour, one wine glassful of wine or brandy, and one nutmeg grated. Beat all well together. This will make two round cakes. It should be baked in a quick oven and will take from 15 to 30 minutes, according to the thickness of the cakes.

Updated directions: ¾ cup butter; 1 cup sugar; 3 eggs; ¼ cup red wine; 2 ½ - 3 cups flour; 1 teaspoon baking soda; 2 teaspoons grated nutmeg; 1 ½ teaspoons cinnamon; ½ pint heavy cream or sour milk. Mix as directed above and pour batter into 2-9" pottery pie plates or 9x9" baking pan and bake for approximately one hour at 350 degrees.

Wine Sauce: Melt or draw half a pound of butter, and stir into it immediately while warm, three gills of white wine, three tablespoonfuls of powdered sugar, and a grated nutmeg. Serve it up with any kind of boiled puddings that have in them flour, butter, or grated bread.

Updated directions: ¼ cup butter; 1 cup powdered sugar; 1 teaspoon nutmeg; 1 cup white wine. Melt butter in saucepan. Add sugar and nutmeg. Stir to mix. Add wine and return to heat. Allow to come to a boil and boil for two to three minutes. Serve warm over cake.

Library Footnotes

Spirit of '76

by Paul Pojman

We continue our “tour” of the Museum (aka Old Town Hall) on the first floor. This floor is divided into sections highlighting aspects of the collection. Here, we are of course concerned with the library part of that collection. The last installment described our so-named “Lincoln and Civil War Room.”

This column concerns the contents of the “Willard Room.” One will probably recognize that name as belonging to Archibald M. Willard (1836-1918), the artist responsible for the painting *The Spirit of '76*. The Willard Room highlights this famous painting with framed prints, a wood carving, a lampstand, plates, pottery, books and articles, and other items. It also includes other examples of Willard’s artistic output. Here we have a photograph of Hugh Moser, model for the fifer in the “’76” painting, a book (1926) by Henry Devereux, model for the young drummer, and a drum we believe to be an original “model” used by Willard. Among our collection are pictures of Willard’s mother and his father, who served as the model for the painting’s central figure. On the wall is a framed drawing and tribute to Willard.

In this room are housed most of the art and photography materials in our library, as well as works on the 1876 Centennial Exhibition

held in Philadelphia and works about other expositions around the country and in the Cleveland area. A special case houses the William Jacka collection of 1876 Centennial memorabilia.

Not all items about Willard reside in this room, though. One may view other paintings in other places, and we have a Willard Family Bible in our religion collection.

At present we have in the Willard Room the library’s collection of aeronautical and nautical materials and three bookcases full of books related to early Bedford libraries and Township government. In the future there may be some changes made to the Willard room; but Archibald Willard and his legacy will always have an honored place in our library and museum.

Obituaries

Eugene John Gould

Eugene John Gould, age 86, of Bedford, Ohio passed away Tuesday, November 14, 2017. He was the beloved husband of the late Margaret Ann (nee Jackson), loving father of Janelle Gould, John (Kathy) Gould, and the late Michael (Bev) Gould, dear grandfather of Sherlyn (Casey) Kucharson, Tom (Jamie) Gould, Jennifer (Mark) Hoeck, Daniel Gould, Sean Gould and Shannon Gould, great grandfather of 10. Eugene proudly served his country in the US Air Force. In lieu of flowers the family suggests

memorial contributions be made to the Bedford Historical Society.

Linda Elizabeth Sleeman

Linda Elizabeth Sleeman age 61 of Walton Hills, Ohio, beloved daughter of the late John Paul and Mary (nee Gerba) Sleeman, dear sister of Robert (Mary) Sleeman, Gary (Donna) Sleeman and the late Sandra (Walter) Swyrydenko, loving aunt of many. Died Tuesday January 2, 2018. Linda was the children’s Librarian at the Southeast Branch of the Cuyahoga County Library, a member of the American Library Association and the Bedford Historical Society. She Loved her pets, dogs and cats. In lieu of flowers the family suggests memorials to the Bedford Historical Society.

Betty Jane Nehez

(nee Erxleben), Betty Jane Nehez, age 85, beloved wife of the late Edward W., Sr.; loving mother of Edward W., Jr. “Lucky” (JoeAnna), Regina “Reggie” Taussig (Jeffrey), Frederick C., and Melanie (Gail Moore); dear grandmother of The Hon. Jesse J., Riki, Becky Lybarger (Troy), Susan Cunningham (Matt), Frederick C., Jr. (Whitney Shanholtz), Kelly Kohls (David); loving great grandmother of Ryan, Kyle, Addison, Jacob, Fallon, Carter, and Hunter; sister of the late Charles “Chuck” Erxleben. Memorial contributions are encouraged in her name to the Hospice of the Western Reserve, 17816 St. Claire Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44110.