

# Log by Log

**Beavercreek  
Historical Society**



**Spring 2014  
Volume 23  
Number 2**

A Publication of the Beavercreek Historical Society. Affiliated with the City of Beavercreek.

BeavercreekHistoricalSociety.org

## Harbine Industrial Complex *submitted by Robert Bader*

The US 35 road improvement project between Factory Road and Trebein/Valley Roads has been in the planning stage for many years. A recent change in the project design near the Factory Road interchange has been determined to impact the archeological remains of the historic 19th century Harbine Industrial Complex (HIC).

The HIC remains are located in the southeast corner of Factory Road and US 35, extending east to Alpha Road and south to what is now the Yellow Brick Road. Today the HIC consists only of archeological remains and deposits associated with several mills, worker housing, the mill pond, dam and races, and the Alpha Road covered bridge abutments. Previous archeological excavations documented the distillery and a section of the mill race prior to the construction of the Beavercreek Wastewater Treatment Facility on Factory Road. The John Harbine residence, pictured to the right, located on Alpha Road south of US 35 is the only standing structure related to the HIC. The archeological deposits of the first courthouse in Greene County are located in the front yard of the Harbine House. The HIC is documented in an 1855 map of Greene County (see photo of a portion of this map on pg. 5); Factory Road is the north/south road. Note the worker housing along Factory Road, and the designation of the John Harbine House, the grist mill and the saw mill.



The John Harbine Residence on Alpha Road.

The archeological remains of the HIC have been determined to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. As a result, the Beavercreek Historical Society along with several other organizations such as ALPHA and the Greene County Historical Society have been invited to participate as consulting parties, under the National Historical Preservation Act. Consulting parties are entitled to share views, receive and offer pertinent information, participate in the data recovery process, and offer solutions in the resolution of the adverse effects on the HIC. **Article continues on pg. 5.**

## Saluting Our Volunteers: *Carolyn Coy Fourman and Donna Coy Lawson*

*(Note: This is a continuation of a series of articles that focus personally on the many volunteers that together make the Beaver Creek Historical Society a vital part of our Beaver Creek community. We thank and salute ALL who in any way contribute to the Society's mission of preserving the past for the future.)*

Proud descendants of Jacob Coy, sisters Carolyn Fourman and Donna Lawson joined the Beaver Creek Historical Society a little over five years ago. They began by attending the quarterly meetings, where one night it was announced that the organization was in need of an archivist. The two decided to make it a sister-act and now serve on the Board of Trustees as co-chairs of the Archive Committee. In talking with them, you get an opportunity to truly realize how much these two siblings enjoy and believe in preserving the past for the future—the motto of our Society.

Carolyn and Donna describe the challenges they face in organizing and sorting all the many donated papers, photographs, etc. that have been received in the past and continue to arrive. When they first took on this duty, they sat down with the head archivist at the Greene Room of the Greene County Library in Xenia, learning how best to preserve old documents. Due to limited amount of storage space in the Coy House where the Society's headquarters is located, they first determine if donations are directly related to Beaver Creek's history. Some may be more closely related to a neighboring community or to the whole county, in which case those are passed along to historical collections in the appropriate location. Those directly related to Beaver Creek which are deemed to be of historical significance are catalogued and placed into files with extreme care, as paper items (particularly newspapers) quickly disintegrate with age; thus they use acid-free liners



to store them. One of their biggest undertakings has been properly storing the Civil War-era Darst diaries owned by the Society, and they are now working on preserving the Guy Coy World War I letters. They shared with some laughter that dealing with the old papers promotes a lot of acid off-gassing into the room, and they even experience an acid taste in their mouths and lots of coughing. Gloves, they say, are a must!

A great personal discovery occurred one day when the two of them were reading through an over-sized bound collection of a county-wide newspaper covering the period of August 1885 to August 1886. Donna knew that her great grandmother was born in Beaver Creek in July of 1886, so she looked up that date, and much to her surprise, she found the birth notice. But one thing about that notice was totally unexpected. It announced that her ancestor had been born a twin—a fact neither she nor her 5 siblings knew. Donna and Carolyn have two other sisters, and they all share a love for what they describe as “cemetery hopping.” They are all genealogy buffs, and over the years have tiptoed through many cemeteries.

In addition to being an archivist for the Society, Donna wears another official hat, that of Board Secretary. Also willing to make additional contributions, Carolyn has stepped up to chair the Ice Cream Social and the Nominating Committee this year. They've worked at various Wartinger Park events including Heritage Day, Harvest Dinners, and History Blooms. They contribute wise counsel to our Board, give gentle loving care to our treasured archives, and we are surely pleased to have them! We thank not only Carolyn and Donna, but all our volunteers, as we could not do what we do in our community without the willingness to serve that is modeled by so many of you.



# The Past Recalled: Albert Ankeney on the Harbine Industrial Complex

*This excerpt, found in the Beaver Creek Chronicles Vol.2, is from an interview shared by Albert Ankeney with Wendy Marshall in 1981, both now deceased.*

**Key:** AA: Albert | WM: Wendy.

**WM:** Talking about the distillery, you might tell about the one we had here on Factory Road.

**AA:** Yes. That distillery was on the opposite side of the Alpha-Bellbrook Road from the mill, and there was a big barn, where they stored the grain like the corn, the distillery, the mill and a bunch of houses; and there was also a sawmill. But a big fire occurred in the 1880s, long about 1883 or 1884. It was the biggest fire Beaver Creek Township has ever had and it started in the barn. I don't know if it was spontaneous combustion—it might easily have been—but there was a south wind blowing, and it blew the embers so that they started fires in the flour mill and the distillery, and it burnt up the barn, the flour mill, the distillery, the corn crib, and several dwellings. But there was one little dwelling that they fought to save, and they wet carpet and put over the roof, and kept wetting new carpet and they saved that little dwelling. Later they moved it to the intersection of Alpha-Bellbrook and Factory Road and it became the tollgate house there. I remember that tollgate house; it was still standing in my time. There was a row of houses along what they called the bank on the Factory Road, there on the east side where the employees of the distillery and the mill lived.

**WM:** Do you recall if they were built for the employees of the mill?

**AA:** Yes, they were built for the employees of the mill. I wouldn't be surprised if Mr. Harbine had them built so he would have a place for his help, because he built a much larger flour mill than the one that had been there. Owen Davis' was just a little mill. I'm speaking now of Owen Davis' water-powered mill. He also had the one that was hand-powered which was quite small. The mill at Alpha was, I believe, five stories high and had four run of stones and was capable of producing seventy-five barrels of flour a day on an average.

**WM:** Exactly where was that location?

**AA:** Well, as you were going towards Bellbrook and you went across a covered bridge, the mill was on your right, as I understand it. Do you remember a little mill that was there later?

**WM:** Yes, that's the one I remember. This one would be located just north of the center covered bridge, just below Alpha. Right?

**AA:** The lower covered bridge would be on the north side and west, almost on Factory Road. That's part of the reason they got the name Factory Road. And another thing about these mills, they were built long before the railroads came through and the flour had to be hauled in wagons. The flour from Mr. Trebein's mill went largely to Philadelphia and New York and, I think, from Alpha a lot of it went to Baltimore.



*The covered bridge (pictured above) mentioned in Albert Ankeney's interview spanned the Beaver Creek near Alpha as part of Shakertown Road before that road was rerouted to its current location. Spanning the creek alongside the covered bridge was the traction line that ran from Dayton through Beaver Creek to Xenia at that time.*

**Photo:** Beaver Creek Chronicles Vol. 1

## Spring Living History: A New Director and an Evolving Program *submitted by Jill Kincer*

It's a pleasure to introduce to our membership and to welcome our new Spring Living History Director, **Amber Carlos**. We also have a few changes coming to our spring program to share with you.

**Welcome, Amber Carlos!** When we began looking for a new person to be the spring leader of Living History, long-time BHS member John Rhodehamel alerted us to a young mother who often stops by the Rhodehamel farm to buy fresh eggs. Her parents live in the farm adjoining John's. We contacted her, met, toured the park setting, exchanged information, and the rest, as they say, is history.

She has a diverse background in both private and non-profit sectors of the working world and has a variety of interests that make her very well suited to this position. Amber is a graduate of Franklin University in Columbus, holding a BS degree in Marketing with a minor in eCommerce.

The Carlos Family—Amber, her husband and young daughter—lives in an old farmhouse tucked into the middle of Beavercreek. She has tapped maple trees in her yard to make maple syrup, made natural soaps in her basement, and uses organic farming techniques in her large 1000 sq. ft. garden. Amber also serves as the Secretary and the Membership Coordinator of the Board of Ohio Pug Rescue, so her home is full of furry friends that she loves and cares for as well. She is enthusiastic and engaging.

She's spent time over the winter with Becky Jarvi, learning lots about the Living History program. The Board of Trustees welcomes Amber, and we are certain that the rest of our membership will as well. (Be sure to read her related article on pg. 5.)

### Programming Changes

Since the program originated in 1993, there has been tremendous growth in the number of third grade classrooms to be served, to the point where we now have 23 classrooms of public and parochial Beavercreek students participating in Living History. The program as it has been recently conducted

requires 11 volunteer slots plus the Director each day, for a total of 252 volunteer slots to be filled annually in order to serve each classroom.

Last fall, I asked former directors Sarah Haller and Gerry Smalley plus Fall 2013 Living History Director Becky Jarvi to sit down with me to plan a way that we could simplify the program using fewer volunteers without jeopardizing its effectiveness. We came up with the pilot plan that will be in place this spring that will reduce the number of daily volunteer slots from 11 to 8: 6 for morning activities, one firestarter and one for the opening presentation. I also met and discussed this plan with Beavercreek's elementary principals, and we received their nod of approval. The plan will be piloted this spring to insure that students still receive a quality program as they learn about Beavercreek's early settlers.

The activities that will be discontinued are laundry, candle-making and rag dolls. We loved those activities, and it was truly a difficult decision to no longer offer them. However, we felt that it was critical to make adjustments to assure the program could continue. If you have been a past volunteer for those three activities that will be discontinued, we surely hope you will still want to be involved and willing to sit in on the remaining activities to observe how to volunteer in a new spot.

To volunteer for Living History, please contact **Amber Carlos** at [ambercarlos@hotmail.com](mailto:ambercarlos@hotmail.com) or **937-912-5766**. If you have questions or comments specifically about these changes, please contact **Jill Kincer** at **429-0291**.



# Spinning, Churning and Knitting! Oh my!

*submitted by Amber L. Carlos, Spring Living History Director*

Did you see it? The sun? It has been painfully shy this spring. Soon, however, it will be boldly drawing up the daffodils and drawing out Beaver Creek's third graders! It's Living History time again! I am very excited about being able to participate in such a rare and wonderful program. I can tell you the children are also excited for Living History to begin. My daughter, a third grader at Fairbrook Elementary, came home with a drawing in her Take-Home Folder. It was a hand-drawn time line each of the students had built around Jacob Coy! She bubbled over with what she's been learning. The teachers are beginning to seed their minds with all kinds of great background information on the program.

In order for Living History to be a success, we need YOU! Don't be shy like our sunshine! Come on out and volunteer a little time to show these eager minds what life was like when Beaver Creek was first settled. This year the focus has been concentrated into six activities to include quilting, finger knitting, spinning, herb gardening, butter churning and the barn garden chores. I'll confess to never having touched a true working spinning wheel before now. But, thanks to my enthusiastic mentor, Becky Jarvi, I can now say I have spun! And churned! And finger knitted! Her infectious excitement for the Living History program is as inviting as those daffodils we long to see! That's why we are all here ... to bring that excitement to the children of our community. However, to make this a reality, there is still something very important we are missing. You! Your own passion for the past and a little of your time is what we still need to have another memorable year!

The dates for this spring are April 11 (Set-Up), April 14-16, April 21-24, May 2, 12, 13, 15, and May 16-17 (clean up). Each day will really get going when the children arrive at 8:30 and will wrap up at 1:15 (wrap up would be around noon for the morning volunteers). Each group will now have an expanded 25 minutes to spend learning each activity. The children will break at 12:00 for lunch and an introduction to pioneer toys. I would love to get to know each of you better while unlocking the past for Beaver Creek's children.

You can reach me to reserve your preferred days/activities at [ambercarlos@hotmail.com](mailto:ambercarlos@hotmail.com) or **937-912-5766**.



The Harbine Industrial Complex; Reference:  
1855 Map of Greene County.

## Article continued from pg. 1.

Bob Bader is the Society's representative to this process which is administrated by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). FHWA and ODOT held its first meeting on the process in early March. If you have any information related to the HIC—old photos, newspaper articles, stories, oral histories passed down from friends and elders—you are invited to contact Bob at **937-426-4871** or by email at [baderm@msn.com](mailto:baderm@msn.com). More information related to the HIC will be forthcoming in future editions of the Log by Log.



## History Blooms at Wartinger Park again this June!!

Mark your calendars now for **Saturday, June 7, 2014** to bring your family and friends to Wartinger Park, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. History Blooms at Wartinger Park is an event in its second year co-sponsored by our Society and the Greene County Master Gardeners. It is being held in response to requests from the community for more opportunities to have guided tours of the wonderful collection of historical log cabins and houses as well as the flower and herb gardens. We hope to have dulcimer music, a food truck, demonstrations of early farming tools, and other activities on-going throughout the day.

Planning is just now beginning with Wendy Kirchoff and Jill Kincer co-chairing the event, along with members of the Master Gardener group. If you'd like to get involved, please call Wendy at **429-1520**.

## Spring is coming and so are Elections!

Nominating Committee is gathering a slate of candidates for officers of the BHS to be elected to serve for the 2014-2015 year. Members, please ask yourselves what role you are willing to assume to be part of the team to preserve BEAVERCREEK history and its future. The election will be held at the July Ice Cream Social and Annual Business Meeting.

We also seek Program & Education Chairs, however these are not elected but an appointed position. If you are interested or have a name to suggest, please call **Carolyn Coy Fourman** at **433-5710**.

## Officers 2013-2014

**President:** Jill Kincer  
**Internal V.P.:** Robert Wagley  
**External V.P.:** Nancy Wagner  
**Treasurer:** Wendy Kirchoff  
**Secretary:** Donna Lawson

## Acquisitions *submitted by Robert Wagley*

The Flower Trail Garden Club has donated the following items: 8 chairs, a trunk, a cupboard, 2 tables, 5 benches and a broom made in Berea, Ky. We thank them for this generous donation. Most of these items can be seen in the Nicodemus Cabin.

If you are considering donating an item, please call **Lorraine Wagley** at **426-8325**.

### Have an article to submit?

If you have an article to submit for the next issue of the Log by Log, please send submissions to the editor Brianna Johnson at **b.joh88@gmail.com** by June 16, 2014.

## Welcome New Members!

Welcome to the following people who have recently joined the Beavercreek Historical Society group:

*Amber Carlos (Living History Director)*  
*R. Gayle Ferguson*  
*Judy Lee*  
*Barbara Lilly*  
*Brianna Johnson (Log by Log Editor)*  
*Stephen & Joan Tobias*  
*Sandy Koogler Hurley*

Let us also say thanks to these people that have become Life-Time Members:

*Arthur and Kathleen Bauer*  
*Roger & Shirley Coy*

# Congratulations to Vivian VanAusdal

## *Happy 100th Birthday!*

Asked to describe Vivian VanAusdal, responses include: an amazing woman, highly intelligent, an inspiration, my role model, fiercely independent, community treasure, and ... well, the list goes on.

Born on April 23, 1914 in Darke County, she, her late husband Jerry and four sons moved to Beavercreek in 1954. What a gift that was for Beavercreek! We are so pleased to have her as a member of the Beavercreek Historical Society and celebrate her 100th birthday as well as her years of outstanding service to our community.

She was an English teacher for many years at Beavercreek High School before her retirement in 1977 to care for her husband who succumbed to leukemia. Always staying informed and up to date, she is always prepared to discuss the latest governmental and political developments at the local, state or national levels. She served as an election poll worker for many, many years. The Greene County Board of Elections records show that Vivian has never missed voting in an election, be it a primary or general election, since she first registered to vote in 1954. Now isn't that amazing!

Vivian has a long record of public service, listening well and contributing wise counsel. When the city was first incorporated, she was elected to serve on the Beavercreek Charter Commission which established how our local government would be organized. She was later elected to the Greene County Board of Education (which went on to the new name of Greene County Educational Service Center) and served twelve years, four years as president. The ESC renders services to students in school districts throughout Greene County

Much of her life work gives evidence of her obvious love of books and the value she places upon education and the public's accessibility to information. She's been a longtime supporter of the Beavercreek Community Library and member of the Friends of the Library. Additionally, she served sixteen years on the Greene County Library Board, advancing the improvement and growth of the

county-wide library system over the years. She is a founding member of the Board of Greene County Public Library Foundation, and served libraries statewide as President of Ohio Friends of the Library and on the Ohio Library Foundation Board.

In 1985, Vivian was inducted into the Greene County Women's Hall of Fame for her community contributions. In addition to our Beavercreek Historical Society, she is also a member of the Beavercreek Women's League and the American Association of University Women.

A long time active member of Hawker United Church of Christ, her involvements include teaching an adult Sunday School class, serving on the Consistory, and singing in the choir. United Church Homes presented her with the Ben M. Herbstler Award given to outstanding volunteers honoring her involvement at Trinity Home, including playing piano for sing-alongs for residents. Yes! Even at age 100!

Still living in her own home with just a bit of family and friend drop-in assistance, Vivian attributes her longevity to not smoking. She lives by this advice: keep your interests in everything, don't let anyone baby you, and do what you can.

Over 100 years, history has marched on. And Vivian VanAusdal not only has kept the pace, but she's had a baton in her hand. Best wishes on your birthday from the members of the Beavercreek Historical Society!



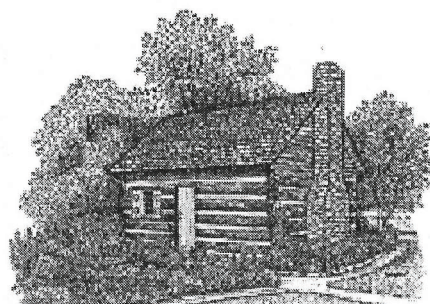
## Notecards featuring Kathy Gross art for Sale!

We are proud to introduce Kathy Gross, the pen and ink artist who recently updated our Beaver creek Historical Society notecards. The recent changes made to the notecards include:

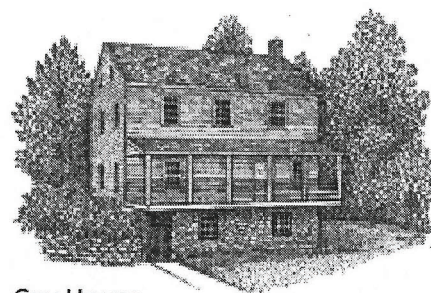
- The porch addition to the Samuel Ankeney House.
- The Jarusiewicz Cabin drawing is more exact to the original building sketch activities.
- The Tobias-Zimmer Barn now features the Beaver creek wagon used for community activities.
- The Coy House, also referred to as the Jacob Coy Homestead, sketch has been updated. The Coy House, on Dayton-Xenia Road, has been restored and is the location of our Society Archives as well as our Historical Society's Beaver creek Board of Directors meetings.

Kathy Gross specializes in finely-detailed drawings of historic landmarks, homes, businesses, and colleges. Among the most popular of her works are authentic renderings of Miami University, Wright State University, Ohio University, and the Wright Flyer I and II planes. She also produces limited-edition prints and note cards from her own original art. She has been drawing since childhood and has completed over 1,400 commissions throughout her career.

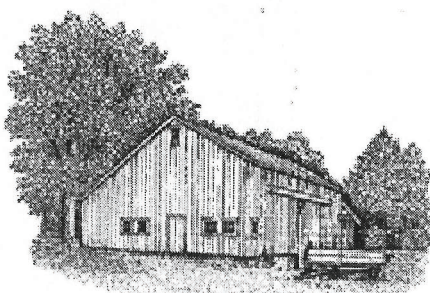
Examples of Kathy's works can be found on her website [www.kgrossink.com](http://www.kgrossink.com) as well as on her Facebook Business page "Kathy Gross Pen & Ink Originals".



Jarusiewicz Cabin



Coy House



Tobias-Zimmer Barn



Samuel Ankeney House

### Where to Buy

The Beaver creek Historical Society is proud to offer both the notecards as well as the recently reprinted edition of the Beaver creek Chronicle for sale at the following locations: **The Beaver creek Library** (3618 Dayton-Xenia Road) and **The Beaver creek Florist** (2173 N. Fairfield Road).

The Beaver creek Historical Society drawings are available for purchase for \$8 per set. Each set includes 8 notecards and 8 envelopes. The Beaver creek Chronicle details the development of Beaver creek Ohio and is \$20 per copy.

### Continue Providing Education

Your support through the purchase of these items is much appreciated and will be used to further fund our organization's mission.

For additional information on these items, please contact **Nancy Wagner** at **937-426-1272**.

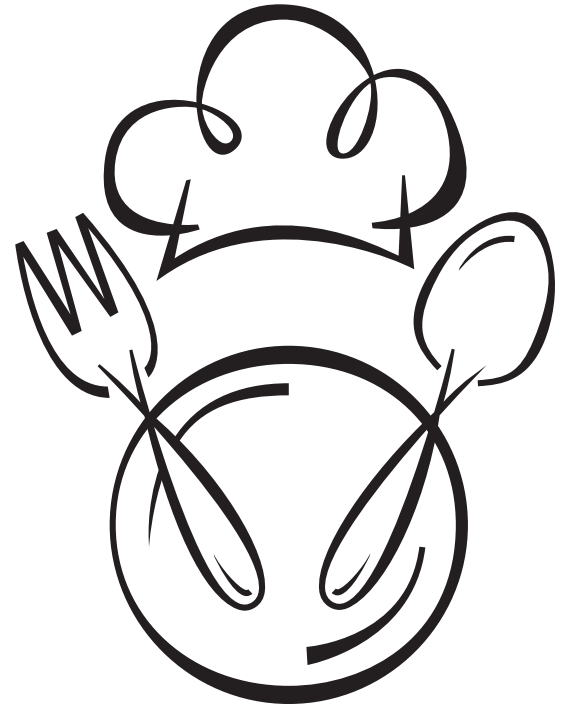


# Help Wanted: *Harvest Dinner Chef*

We are in need of a chief cook/chairperson or shared-responsibility chairpersons for our Harvest Dinners event in October!

Traditionally, we hold the dinners on a Friday and Saturday night, with approximately 96 people being served. We have one member who is willing to participate to cook a portion of whatever might eventually be planned for a menu, but there is a need for someone to step up to plan a menu and coordinate cooking the meal. If you would be willing to cook, but not to chair the event, we'd like to hear from you, too. The Board believes it can recruit other members to assist with ticket sales, obtain necessary volunteers, etc., but alas ... without a chef there will be no food, and without food there can be no dinners.

If we have no one stepping forward by **June 1**, the event will not be held in 2014. If you have ideas, please let us hear from you! Call 429-0291.



## Interested in becoming a member?

### I'd like to join!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### Benefits of membership:

- Quarterly Newsletter
- Advance Invitation to Society Events
- E-mail Updates
- Access to Vast Historical Knowledge
- Preserving the Past for the Future

### Annual Memberships (check one):

- ☐ \$5 Student (age 18 and below)
- ☐ \$15 Individual
- ☐ \$20 Family
- ☐ \$50 Club/Organization

### Or Lifetime Memberships (check one):

- ☐ \$500 - \$999 Preservationist
- ☐ \$1000 (and above) Historian

Plus, additional donation appreciated \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### How can I help?

#### Volunteers are need in the following areas:

- ☐ Developing oral history of Beavercreek
- ☐ Writing or editing for monthly newsletter
- ☐ Tours and historical programs at the park
- ☐ Craft demonstrations
- ☐ Acquisitions committee
- ☐ Working on barn or house preservation
- ☐ Creative fund-raising opportunities
- ☐ Membership committee
- ☐ Educational committee
- ☐ Hospitality committee

**Send checks (payable to Beavercreek Historical Society) and this form to:**  
1368 Research Park Drive, Beavercreek, OH 45432

## Upcoming Events:

### Board Meeting, April 10

Coy House – 6:30 PM

### Living History, April 14-16 and April 21-24

### Quarterly Meeting, April 22, 2014

Peace Lutheran Church – 7:00 PM

*Norman Rockwell, presented by  
Ruth Anne Attalla*

### Living History, May 2, 12-13, and 15

### Board Meeting, May 8

Coy House – 6:30 PM

### Board Meeting, June 12

Coy House – 6:30 PM

### Newsletter Submission Deadline

June 16 – 5:00 PM



1368 Research Park Drive  
Beavercreek, Ohio 45432

"The objectives of the organization are to preserve structures of historical significance, to develop and present community education programs, and to create a learning center for historic education."

## Beavercreek Historical Society Quarterly Meeting

**April 22, 2014 | 7:00 PM | Peace Lutheran Church**

*Norman Rockwell* was a sensitive storyteller through pictures. In his works he reflected the deeper meaning in the everyday events as well as in the extraordinary events of our lives. Come enjoy seeing photographs of several of his works and hear some interesting anecdotes about his career.



*Ruth Anne Attalla* will present this talk at the Beavercreek Historical Society Quarterly meeting on April 22nd at Peace Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, 3530 Dayton-Xenia Rd., Beavercreek, OH, 7:00 PM. Ruth Anne coordinates outreach services to the seniors and home-bound patrons of the Washington-Centerville Public Library. She presents book talks and puts together collections of library materials for the residents in the assisted living facilities in

the Centerville area. Ruth Anne holds a B.S. in Biological Sciences from Wright State University.

