

# Log by Log

**Beavercreek  
Historical Society**



**Spring 2015  
Volume 24  
Number 2**

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

BeavercreekHistoricalSociety.org

## **A Special Invitation:** *An Evening with Whitelaw Reid, Journalist, Diplomat and Politician (1837-1912)*

The Greene County Historical Society cordially invites members and friends of the Beavercreek Historical Society to join them for dinner on **Friday, April 24, 2015** at the home of the Honorable and Mrs. Whitelaw Reid. Your hosts for the evening will be Attorney General and Mrs. DeWine, current residents of the home at 2587 Conley Road, Cedarville, Ohio.

A tour of the Reid home will be followed by a catered dinner at 6:30 p.m. After dinner, Mrs. DeWine will share anecdotes of Mr. Reid's life and times. Dinner will cost \$50 per person, and as seating is limited to 70 people, advanced reservations and payment are necessary by Friday, April 17, 2015. Payment is to be made to **Greene County Historical Society, 74 West Church Street, Xenia, OH 45385**. Please be sure to include with your payment: **(1)** number attending, **(2)** names of those attending, **(3)** a contact address, telephone, and email.

## **Oops! Have you forgotten to renew?**

As we go to press, we find that we still have some members who have forgotten to renew their memberships for 2015. If the upper left hand corner of your newsletter label reads Exp 2014, then you have not renewed. We hope you'll fill out the membership form included in this newsletter and send it off to us with your check soon. Your membership helps insure that our organization can continue to operate and preserve Beavercreek's past for the future. Unfortunately, if we don't receive your renewal, your subscription to the Log by Log which is included in your membership dues will expire.

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**Become a  
Member  
Today!**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Memberships (check one):** **Or Lifetime Memberships (check one):**

☐ \$5 Student (age 18 and below)

☐ \$500 - \$999 Preservationist

☐ \$15 Individual

☐ \$1000 (and above) Historian

☐ \$20 Family

**Additional donation appreciated \$** \_\_\_\_\_

☐ \$50 Club/Organization

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

## Saluting Our Volunteers: Kathy & Art Bauer

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

When you sit down to chat with Kathy and Art Bauer, it becomes immediately evident that they each have a deep interest in history. More importantly, it is evident from their many involvements that they care deeply about insuring others have opportunities to learn about and appreciate local history, too. Beavercreek residents since 1967, they have seen many changes in the community over the years. Art was a civilian employee at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, and Kathy taught at Kirkmont Preschool, later becoming an elementary teacher for Beavercreek Schools. Both are now retired, but they continue to contribute to our community.

They believe it was around 1995 when they first became members of the Beavercreek Historical Society. We are grateful that they have a Lifetime membership. Friends Glen and Evelyn Nelson (both now deceased) as well as Bob and Laura Bader played a role in getting them involved. Kathy, Evelyn and Laura were all active 4-H leaders. The Bauers were interested in learning more about the history of the community.

Both have been very involved as longtime volunteers for the Society's third grade Living History program. Kathy has led many of the pioneer activities over the years and continues to volunteer to present the opening remarks with students upon their arrival at the park, sharing the story of the journey of the Harshman family to Ohio and relating the history of the 1803 cabin. It never gets old as the students' eyes light up with each telling. Art often lit the fires in the fireplaces in early mornings in advance of students arrivals to keep everyone warm inside what can often be very chilly cabins (to say the least!). And, prior to the recent development of physical limitations, he also led the gardening activities, helping students with the potato crop and teaching them the importance of corn to our early pioneers. As a docent at Heritage Day 2014, he had the opportunity to hear young students recalling with enthusiasm their field trips to Living History as well as adults recalling their visits as young students.



These comments confirm to him that the program promotes a significant sense of community among those young third graders that doesn't go away, and both say they are happy to be a part of it.

Kathy plays the dulcimer with three groups, the Hithergreen Strummers, Gospel Light and the Mountain Dulcimer Society of Dayton, so she has often been part of the beautiful music wafting through the air at Wartinger Park events. Always involved with Heritage Day, Kathy has often demonstrated quilting, and Art has often worked the Food Tent. Kathy and BHS member Wilma Stafford were among an early group of Master Gardeners to plant native plants in the flower beds at the park. Kathy and Art generated the first compost pile there. Both Bauers have volunteered at Carriage Hill in various tasks since the 1970s and continue now to volunteer there. Art has also volunteered with the Greene County Parks' Sugar Camp at the Narrows for many years, reducing the sap to syrup.

We could not be a successful organization without the willingness of people like Kathy and Art who give of their time and talents. We thank them and all of you who contribute in any way to preserve our past for the future!

# Living History Goes Live in May!

Submitted by Amber L. Carlos, Living History Co-Director

A balmy May morning in the park ... close your eyes and imagine it. A cool breeze carrying the scent of new Spring grasses. Come sit by the fire in a genuine log home from the early 1800s—you could be there! **The Spring Living History Program** is gearing up and we need you. Leave the stresses of our modern time and come with me! It's time, once again, to step back in time and show Beavercreek's third graders what it was like to live as a pioneer. Watching and learning from you last year was a wonderful experience. I'm ready to do it all again! The dates for this Spring are as follows: May 1 (set up), May 4-8, May 12-14, May 18-19, May 21, and May 22(Close Down). Yes! ALL IN MAY! That means we won't find ourselves trooping through those April snows like last year. It should be much nicer weather.

The chores this year are Barn/Garden, Butter Making, Finger Knitting, Quilting, Rag Dolls and Spinning. Each group of about 5-6 children will spend 25 minutes at each chore and then they have five minutes to transfer to the next chore/location. Volunteers arrive around 8:45 a.m. and wrap up at 12:00 p.m. when the children break for lunch. YOU are the key to the success of this wonderful program. It can't go on without you. We need you to show these kids just how interesting Beavercreek's history can be! (All the supplies are provided for you.)

I truly enjoyed working with everyone last Spring and hope to see you again this year. And, if you've never volunteered with us before, have no fear—It's not hard! We provide the information you'll need to unlock the past. We are always looking for new faces. You can feel free to shadow our veteran volunteers to observe the process prior to actually working with the children yourself. So, go on! Choose something you'd enjoy teaching and let me know what days work well for you. You can reach me to reserve your preferred days/activities at **bhsohio@gmail.com or (937) 912-5766.**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Living History SET UP	2
3	4 Living History Shaw	5 Living History Shaw	6 Living History Shaw	7 Living History Shaw	8 Living History Shaw	9
10	11	12 Living History Parkwood	13 Living History Parkwood	14 Living History Parkwood	15	16
17	18 Living History Fairbrook	19 Living History Fairbrook	20	21 Living History Fairbrook	22 Living History CLOSE DOWN	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	May 2015 Living History					



## A Chautauqua is Coming!

*Submitted by Jill Kincer*

If we head to the internet to Wikipedia, we learn that a Chautauqua was an adult education movement in the United States that was highly popular in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Named after Chautauqua Lake where the first was held, Chautauqua assemblies expanded and spread throughout rural America until the mid-1920s. The Chautauqua brought entertainment and culture for the whole community, with speakers, teachers, musicians, entertainers, preachers and specialists of the day.

Stop and ponder how life would've been pre-internet, pre-television, pre-radio, pre-movie studio—you get the picture! The Chautauqua would've been a remarkable social and educational event unlike anything else at the time.

There will be an Ohio Chautauqua this summer right here in Greene County! It will be held in Clifton, OH from **June 30 through July 4**. The week includes an exciting mixture of education and entertainment. Ohio Chautauqua 2015 will explore the transformative journeys taken by a variety of historic figures. The presenters take on the persona of a famous person in a reenactment, the come out of character at the end to take questions from the audience. The Ohio Humanities Council pulls together the program entitled Journey Stories which this year will feature five historic figures: Titanic survivor Edith Russell, Eighteen Forty-Niner J. Goldsborough Bruff, civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Indian captive Olive Ann Oatman, and philosopher Henry David Thoreau.

While interviewing Kathy and Art Bauer for the volunteer article which appears in this Log by Log on page 2, Art asked me to share with our membership how much both he and Kathy have enjoyed attending previous Chautauquas that were held in Centerville and Xenia. He says, "If anyone loves history, they will love attending the Chautauqua this summer."

We have been seeking more detailed information on the event, but unfortunately were unable to have it for you as this newsletter went to press. We anticipate that the sponsors may be asking for volunteers to help with various tasks as the event rolls out, but we have not yet been contacted about that. Please watch the paper as the date nears, and mark it on your calendars now. We will do our best to communicate via email for those of you who have shared your email addresses with us to receive electronic BHS eNotes communications. If you would like to be on that list, but have not given us your email address, you can send it to us at [bhsohio@gmail.com](mailto:bhsohio@gmail.com). To learn more about the event, you can visit **Ohio Humanities** via the internet: [www.ohiohumanities.org/ohio-chautauqua.html](http://www.ohiohumanities.org/ohio-chautauqua.html)

But what's a Chautauqua?

## Nominating Committee Seeks Secretary

Thanks go out to Becky Jarvi and Edie Keast who have consented to serve as chair and vice-chair respectively of the 2015 Nominating Committee for officers of BHS. Our current Board Secretary Donna Lawson has announced that she will be stepping down from that position in July. Thus, the Nominating Committee is actively seeking a member willing to become the nominee for Secretary, whose major duty is to keep records of Board Meetings. Please give serious consideration to step into this role.

New faces are always welcomed! If you are willing to serve the organization, have questions or would like more information, please phone **Becky Jarvi at 937-427-1751 or Edie Keast at 937-429-1793**. The election of officers will be held at our **July 28 Annual Meeting/Ice Cream Social**. Elected officers include President, Internal and External Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer.

## Officers & Board of Trustees 2015

<b>President</b>	Jill Kincer (429-0291)
<b>V.P. Internal Ops</b>	Bob Wagley (426-8325)
<b>V.P. External Ops</b>	Nancy Wagner (426-1272)
<b>Secretary</b>	Donna Lawson (434-3004)
<b>Treasurer</b>	Wendy Kirchoff (429-1520)

<b>Acquisitions Chair</b>	Lorraine Wagley
<b>Archive Co-chairs</b>	Carolyn Fourman Donna Lawson

<b>Education Co-chairs</b>	Amber Carlos Becky Jarvi
<b>Long-range Planning</b>	John Rhodehamel
<b>Membership</b>	Zelma Robinson
<b>Newsletter</b>	Brianna Johnson
<b>Programs</b>	(open)
<b>Publicity</b>	Gerry Petrak

Have an article you want in the Log by Log? Deadline for submissions into the next issue is June 15.

We're always looking for volunteers! To inquire about available opportunities, email [BHSOhio@gmail.com](mailto:BHSOhio@gmail.com).

## Membership News

We are happy to welcome these new members to the Beavercreek Historical Society: **Joan Burdeshaw, Mary Hamer, Robert Gooding, Kirk and Patricia Dunker, and Pam Stevens**. Thank you for joining, and we invite you to become involved in our organization!

*It is with sadness that we report the passing of several of our members. We extend our condolences to their families and friends.*

**Shirley Coy**, who was a Lifetime Member and is survived by husband Roger Coy. **Richard Little**, who was a long time member who served his community as an outstanding teacher at Shaw Elementary School as well as a Beavercreek Township Trustee for many years.

## Acquisitions

Recent donations to the Beavercreek Historical Society include a *popcorn popper, curtain stretchers and a cobbler's shoe repair last* from **Sandy and Ted Clark**. **Roberta Shellabarger** donated a *hand made lantern*. We are always grateful for these contributions to our collection. If you have any items you would like to donate, please call **Lorraine Wagley at 426-8325**.

# Before the Settlers Arrived:

## *An Excerpt from the Beavercreek Chronicles Vol. 1*

Long before the white man first came to Beavercreek Township, other groups of men lived here. The prehistoric Indian cultures began in this area as early as 11,000 B.C.

The first group, known as Paleo-Indians, were followed by the Archaic, the Adena, the Hopewell, the Cole and the Fort Ancient Indians. (Note: Owing to the great length of the original text of this article, almost none of the information on the prehistoric Indians has been printed here. If you are interested in the Beavercreek Indians, the original copy of *The Indians of Beavercreek* can be found in the *Beavercreek Collection* at the Beavercreek Library.)

With the coming of the white man to southwestern Ohio, the era of the historic Indian began. The initial historical data is scarce and incidentally collected and reported.

It is believed that the Shawnees were the first historical Indian tribe to inhabit Beavercreek. (The early French records indicate that a small Siouan tribe known as the Mosopolea lived here before 1675, but this may not be true.) It is difficult to say at what times the Shawnees were here; they were continually scattered, from the early seventeenth century to the mid eighteenth century. They were observed at various times in Kentucky, Ohio, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Virginia, North and South Carolina, and in the far southern states, principally Florida. Those Shawnees who were in Southwestern Ohio over this period of time probably moved in and out of Beavercreek, moving with the seasons, following the animals, and away from their enemies.

While the Shawnees scattered themselves across the country, another tribe was migrating towards what we now know as Beavercreek. These people, who came from Wisconsin and migrated through the Great Lakes area into our land, were the Miamis. French missionaries, travellers, and officers documented the journey of the Miamis, which carried them into what we now call the "Miami Valley." They arrived while the Shawnees were absent. In the mid eighteenth century, a group of Shawnee Indians, "hungry and naked," arrived from Florida to seek the Miamis protection against the Creeks and Seminoles. The Miamis apparently gave the Shawnees some of their land at this point (see "Early Roads" map), and the two tribes lived in peace together until around 1770, when the Miamis abandoned their territory to the Shawnees. The Shawnees, in the meantime, had built their famous village, "Old Chillicothe" (now called "Oldtown"); since Old Chillicothe was so close to what is now Beavercreek, it is safe to assume that hunting parties, including the great Shawnee warrior, Tecumseh, came to our township to hunt and fish. It is traditionally believed that there was a Shawnee summer hunting ground in the area of Fairground Road.

On August 3, 1795, in what is now Darke County, the famous Treaty of Greenville was signed. With this treaty, the Shawnees ceded all their rights to land in Southern Ohio. Although residents of Beavercreek occasionally saw an Indian or two lurking around the area after 1795, the history of Beavercreek's Indians officially closes at that time.

- Article originally submitted into the *Beavercreek Chronicles Vol. 1* by Celeste Land

# Pioneer Corner

**Heritage Day**  
**September 19, 2015**



*This column is an addition to the Log by Log (LxL) newsletter of the Beavercreek Historical Society (BHS). It will, hopefully, feature short stories, appropriate humor, poetry, puzzles, undisclosed secrets, meaningful tidbits, topical discussions and other miscellaneous information of local historical interest to the Beavercreek community.*

*You, the reader, are urged to contribute (anonymously if desired) any information you might have regarding local structures, businesses, histories and personalities living or past which have not had their unique characteristics discussed or even noted more than briefly. Pictures, written descriptions and even oral comments are acceptable.*

*All accepted contributions will become the property of the BHS and entered into the historic record of the newsletter. Use the mailing address 1368 Research Park Drive, Beavercreek, OH 45432 or our email address: **BHSOhio@gmail.com**.*

## **Coming up in future issues:**

The covered bridge that disappeared;  
A museum or warehouse?; Just where  
were Tate and McClung roads?; Your  
story and pictures here?

Pinckney Road will be discussed in  
future LxL issues. This road was  
identified by one of our alert readers  
and mentioned briefly in the Society's  
Chronicle 11.

One of the Society's twice annual activities is to present a "Living History" program for Beavercreek third graders as part of their curriculum. The programs attempt to portray living conditions as accurately as possible for the early 1800s in Beavercreek. Food types, production and storage as might have been practiced by pioneer families is one of the topics covered. It is here that corn is stressed as one of the most important foods the pioneers learned to cultivate.

But when, where and how corn was actually introduced into the pioneer community is currently unknown. Our program suggests that the pioneers and local Indians might have bartered or traded potatoes for corn seed\*. But available data only makes several brief mentions of Indians in Beavercreek and this usually involves the forced removal of all native peoples in the 1840's to the southwest territories of America. Both the Shawnee and Miami moved repeatedly and tragically through western and central Ohio, eastern Indiana and, consequently, Beavercreek. The Miami's reportedly cultivated and traded a long slender cob with 8-10 rows of flint or undented white corn kernels. No information exists that might define the type or shape of corn grown by the Shawnee.

Historically, the corn types developed in Central America and Mexico centuries ago; and traded widely throughout the Western Hemisphere, consisted of dent, flint, sweet, flour and, yes, popcorn. Kernel colors and cob shapes for the prehistoric corn varieties which have been recovered archaeologically or by accident are typical to those sold today as "Indian Corn" albeit smaller and with fewer corn rows. (\*The pioneers may have only known about corn seed incidentally but had potatoes for trade to the Indian.)

Any additional information the reader might have to add to this brief overview is most welcome.

An oldie but goodie:

*There once was a man from Nantucket*

*Who kept all his cash in a bucket;*

*But his daughter, named Nan,*

*Ran away with a man,*

*And as for the bucket, Nantucket. - Princeton Tiger*



## Upcoming Events:

### **Board Meeting, April 9**

Coy House – 6:30 p.m.

### **Quarterly Meeting, April 28**

*Magnificent Monsters of the Ice Age*

*Presented by Bob Glotzhober*

### **Living History, Month of May**

*Refer to page 3 for schedule*

### **Board Meeting, May 14**

Coy House – 6:30 p.m.

### **Board Meeting, June 11**

Coy House – 6:30 p.m.

### **Newsletter Article Submission Deadline**

June 15 – 5:00 p.m.; E-mail submissions to the editor at [b.joh88@gmail.com](mailto:b.joh88@gmail.com)

### **Ohio Chautauqua, June 30-July 4**

Clifton, OH



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 28, 2015 | 7:00 P.M. | Peace Lutheran Church | 3530 Dayton-Xenia Rd.***



On **Tuesday, April 28**, Bob Glotzhober, Curator of Natural History, Ohio Historical Society will present *Magnificent Monsters of the Ice Age*. This will be during the Beavercreek Historical Society's Quarterly Meeting at 7 p.m. in Peace Lutheran Church, Dayton Xenia Rd. in their Fellowship Hall, Lower Level. Bob will discuss the last ice age when large mammals (the Pleistocene "Mega-fauna") roamed what is today Ohio. This illustrated talk explores what these animals were, what they looked like, and how they lived. It will highlight images of some of the rarest Ohio Pleistocene fossils held in the Ohio Historical Society's collections, as well as other fossils from around the state. A review of a very exciting recent find from Medina County will be included. Finally he will explore why and how these magnificent mammals disappeared from Ohio and the face of the earth.

