

Log by Log

**Beavercreek
Historical Society**



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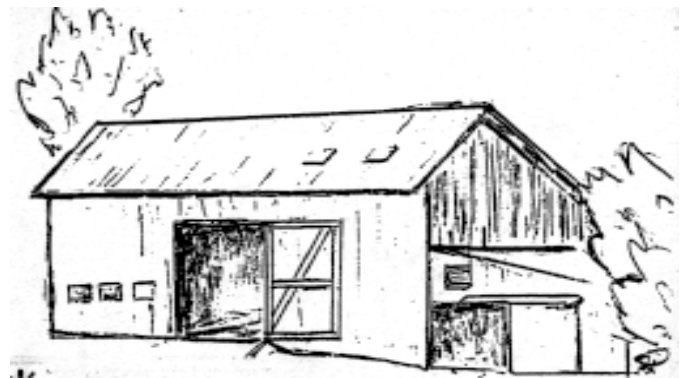
IT'S OFFICIAL ...

WE'RE HAVING A BARN SALE! SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 2017

Wartinger Park has a barn. It has a lovely barn! It is surely not for sale! But we are going to use it to hold a BHS fundraiser—selling as many donated items we can collect from our members and friends. The date has been set for Saturday, August 26, 2017.

Amber Carlos has graciously consented to chair this event, and she is hoping others step forward to either serve on a planning committee or help at the time of sale. This decision was just made at our June 8 Board of Trustees' meeting, so more details will be worked out as a committee gets underway. If you are willing to serve on the planning committee or to volunteer to help with the sale, please contact Amber at ambercarlos@hotmail.com or at 912-5766.

Please begin now as you clean out closets, basements and garages to set aside good quality items you may wish to donate. Can't wait until August to get rid of your stuff? We even have a member who is willing to allow us space in her garage if need be. Exact days and times for dropping off donations at the barn closer to the time of the sale are yet to be determined.



Additionally, our Acquisitions Chair Nancy Wagner and others will carefully and lovingly comb our inventory of Beavercreek Historical Society items to determine if it is best to de-ascension some items that may be duplicates or are no longer an appropriate fit in our collection in addition to items that were purchased by the Society but are no longer needed. Please be assured that all agreements with former donors for disposing of donated items will be honored.

Just for clarification, we will be unable to accept any baby items as Ohio law forbids reselling many types of them for safety reasons. We will also not be accepting clothing, mattresses or upholstered furniture.

Thanks for participating to help us fund the expenses and projects of the Society.

ATTENTION BHS MEMBERS!

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting and Ice Cream Social to be held Tuesday July 25, 2017 at 6:15 P.M. in the Zimmer Barn at Wartinger Park. You will make your own sundae, enjoy the company of fellow members and attend a brief business meeting to announce future plans of the Society, as well as vote for next year's slate of officers. We hope to see you and your family there!



SALUTING OUR VOLUNTEERS: *Cathy Coy Robinett*

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.

It is with pleasure that we introduce **Cathy Coy Robinett**, a newer member of the Board of Trustees, serving as co-chair of the Archive Committee.

Cathy is the third of six children (two sons and four daughters.) She was born in Montgomery County, OH and grew up in Centerville. Interestingly enough, she now lives just six houses away from the home in which she and her siblings grew up. As an adult, Cathy moved out of state for about six years, and other than that, she has always lived in Centerville.

Cathy shares that growing up there was not a strong sense of urgency about learning your ancestral lineage, and that her father passed away at an early age, not having shared much information about his Coy roots. As she and her sisters grew older, they began to search more closely for information about the Coy family. They discovered that a large number of Coy relatives lived in the Beaver Creek area, some already passed and others alive and well. One of their aunts asked if they had been to Mount Zion Cemetery in Beaver Creek, so they came for a graveyard visit. Cathy laughingly shared that with every step, they were "literally tripping over Coys" at Mount Zion. She and her siblings are direct descendants of J. Jacob Coy, who gave the land for the first schoolhouse in Beaver Creek and for whom Beaver Creek's new Jacob Coy Middle School is named.

Two of Cathy's sisters, Carolyn Coy Fourman and Donna Coy Lawson, joined the BHS Board of Trustees about seven years ago serving as co-archivists. When Donna moved out of state last year, Cathy stepped up and filled the vacancy, and we are so pleased to have her on the Board. She enjoys going through the "old stuff" at the History Center as an archivist, and particularly enjoys finding things connected to her Coy heritage. She notes that the people on the Board are dedicated, hard working and passionate about what they do.

A special education teacher by profession, Cathy earned her B.S. degree at Wright State University and her Masters from the University of Dayton. She and her husband Rob are both retired and enjoy traveling. They traveled to Australia when Cathy retired, and also visited sister Donna when she was active duty Air Force in Europe. As a blended family, Cathy and Rob share four adult children and eight grandchildren.

We thank Cathy for her volunteer efforts, and all our volunteers, as we could not do what we do in our community without the willingness to serve that is modeled by our members.

A PIONEER CHILD'S DAY, IN A FEW SHORT HOURS

Submitted by Amy Rohrback and Amber Carlos – Co-Directors Living History

Each spring and fall since 1993, the Living History program begins with lists to be completed, calls to be made and supplies to be gathered. Each finished "To Do" item gets checked off. But, when Opening Day finally arrives, all those ever-important lists and files mysteriously fall away into the background. The curious faces of children and the welcoming smiles of volunteers easily displace them all. Then, the fun ensues!

Through Living History, a light is shone upon things today's children might never know or see in this modern world of fidget spinners and video games. Initially, that light was cast each morning by the beautiful fires built in the fireplaces. Our fire-starters were the first to arrive, throwing open the shutters and warming the Wartinger Park homes with fires in each fireplace. Then our next volunteer takes over, transporting the children back in time with their dramatic tales of the Harshman family's covered-wagon journey from

Maryland to Beavercreek. (Even some volunteers come a few minutes early to sit in and lose themselves in the engaging story.) The cabins and barn are filled with authentic tools and furniture to create a wonderful sense of what it was like to live in Beavercreek during that time period.

The children then began their round-robin circuit through the six pioneer activities. Humor resonated through the Harshman house, along with instructions on creating an authentic 19th century rag doll. In the Ankeney House, our charming spinners taught how to spin fluffy, cloud-like sheep's wool into yarn. Patient knitters were able to instruct each child into creating their own beautiful hand knitted chains. Simple sewing was also taught, instilling a sense of "WOW! I DID THAT?!" And, who knew butter churning could be an event to remember! "Hey! I really did make butter!" was often heard drifting from the kitchen of the Ankeney House. Potatoes were planted and corn was ground with the help and guidance of our knowledgeable gardeners. We are so very grateful to each and every volunteer that came out to make this a trip to remember.

The children are unaware, but there is also a great deal of time and energy that goes into the Living History Program, clicking along in the background. Thank you to everyone who acquired/prepared/donated multitudes of corn, potatoes, fabric, quilt squares, yarn balls, and rag doll kits. Greene County Master Gardeners, Kim Farrell and The City of Beavercreek's Parks Department are also invaluable to the care of Wartinger Park. Thank you! Beavercreek's Walmart Pharmacy contributed hundreds of vials, for individual "butter churns". What a combined effort! Like the inner workings of an intricately crafted loom, the Living History volunteers weave lasting and positive memories for the children of Beavercreek. YOU are what it takes to make this program as highly regarded as it is today.

Many thanks to all our Spring Volunteers!

Bob Bader, Emily Burns, Jennifer Harvey, Jeri Hausman, Becky and Denny Jarvi, Sharon Jernigan, Edie Keast, Jill and Wendell Kincer, Don Kocarek, Monica MacFarland, Diane Phillips, John Rhodehamel, Shirley Richardson McCourt, Mike Self, Lisa Shearer, Gerry Smalley, Janet Taylor, Ruby Webster, Toni White

Behind the Scenes

Alexandra Carlos, Kim Farrell and Crew, Greene County Master Gardeners, John Hancock, Jeri Hausman, Bill Smalley, Wilma Stafford, Walmart of Beavercreek

Amy Rohrback is beginning to prepare for the Fall Living History session. In the fall, Main, St. Luke, Trebein and Valley students will attend. Fairbrook, Parkwood and Shaw had the same experience this spring. You can volunteer one day, or as many as fit your schedule, or better yet, everyday! The time commitment is from 8:45 until 12:00. If you can help out, please contact **Amy Rohrback, Fall Living History Director at 937-477-1007 (call or text) or email at livinghistorybhs@gmail.com**. Each day requires at least six volunteers to cover each topic. Volunteers are given instructions on how to demonstrate and work with the students along with information to pass along to the enthusiastic third graders and their chaperones. No experience needed!

Mark your calendars now for these dates:

Trebein Elementary	September 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22
Valley Elementary	September 25, 26, 27
St. Luke Elementary	September 28, 29
Main Elementary	October 3, 4, 5, 6

WATCHING THE BOY AND BEAVERCREEK GROW

Submitted by Jeanne Wensits

Anyone who has lived in the Beaver Creek area for a while probably has heard the name Ankeney. There has been Ankeney Road, Ankeney Junior High, Ankeney Middle School, and a whole host of folks named Ankeney here over the years. The Ankeney clan came to the United States from Germany around 1746 and eventually settled in the Beaver Creek area in 1830. They were seeking productive farming land as well as the Little and Big Beaver Creeks, which provided good sources of water.

In the sixth generation of Ankeney's in Beaver Creek we encounter current resident Dale Ankeney as an example of how farming has been the family's focus. Dale talks about how there were mainly farm folks where he lived in Beaver Creek Township when he was growing up. As with most farm kids, their early educations included the care and feeding of animals, carpentry, digging up rocks in the fields, baling hay, shoveling corn, and most aspects of maintaining the farm. Before long, many kids could be seen on tractors in the fields and mowing lawns. Here we see Dale as an eighth-grader, on a 1962 Ford tractor in front of his farmhouse.

For a kid, a great thing about living on a farm in those days was that the Beaver Creek countryside was one giant playground. Kids were free to roam on each other's farms, climbing towering silos, scampering across barn roofs, checking out whatever caught

their eyes. When they were teens in the 1960s and '70s, "gearheads" such as Dale moved on to drag racing on Fairground Road. With a white line they marked off a 1/4-mile drag strip across the road and off they went, laying rubber to see who could get the bragging rights. It's fortunate there wasn't much traffic back then, although they had lookouts just in



Fairgrounds Road Farm

case. Later on Dale took up "flying" of a different sort, getting his license in a 140 Cherokee airplane when he was 19.

That smiling lad on a tractor in the first picture, after a while became the maintainer of that 100-acre farm on Fairground Road, shown in the second picture above. He worked on his farm during the day and worked third shift at Emery Air Freight in Vandalia loading cargo planes. Many times he worked 2-3 days without sleep, his personal record being 56 sleepless hours, at which point he started hallucinating, not a good thing for someone driving a tractor. Somewhere along the line he managed to attend Ohio University in Athens and get a degree in Natural Resources Management from Wright State University.

Dale's farm came into the Ankeney family's ownership sometime after Mary Magalena Ankeney married John D. Steele in 1832. The farm on Fairground Road (formerly Ankeney Mill Road) originally consisted of 160 acres. It was handed down and parceled out over the years until William Nelson Ankeney, Dale's grandfather, became the sole owner.

Another farm, this one on Trebein Road as shown below, came into the Ankeney Family in 1876. In 1946 William Nelson Ankeney bought the 90-acre farm from his late aunt Clara. Upon his death his wife, Lillian (Dale's grandmother), received the farm. Dale has fond memories of running over to his grandmother's house and romping on the farm when he was young. His grandmother sold the farm in 1980 to her daughter, Lucile, and Dale's older sister,



Trebein Road Farm

Joan. In 1987, Dale, Joan and their aunt sold the farm to Ervin Nutter, a local landowner of extensive acreage.

After 25 years of planning the Nutter's turned the Ankeney's Trebein Road farm and surrounding area into Stonehill Village, claimed to be the largest planned community in southwest Ohio. Everything on the farm was leveled except the large barn which was re-engineered into the village community center. The revamped barn can be seen in the photo to the right. Now, instead of the stately farmhouse of yore, a swimming pool accompanies the barn at the corner of Trebein and Ankeney Roads.

When recently asked what he considers the biggest

change that he's seen in Beavercreek during his years, Dale mulled it over for a bit and replied, "Urban sprawl."

As always, Beavercreek history keeps marching on.



UPDATE ON PLANS FOR FALL 2017 SPECIAL EVENT

Submitted by Jill Kincer

It's a year for change within the Beavercreek Historical Society, as the Board of Trustees reluctantly decided against scheduling the traditional Heritage Day Festival the second Saturday after Labor Day. The major reasons were outlined in a letter sharing that decision which was mailed to the membership in early May. We held a special meeting in mid-May to gather input from the membership, and additionally the Board has spent considerable time considering various options. It is our hope that we can put together a plan for a smaller, less labor and volunteer intensive event. A tentative date of Sunday, October 15, 2017 has been set. A key requirement for any event would be a volunteer (or volunteers) to chair (or co-chair) such an event.

At the present time, we are investigating an option to join with another organization within the community to share in presenting an enjoyable event for the families of Beavercreek. As we go to press for this issue of the Log by Log, preliminary conversations are underway. Please plan to come get further information and join in the conversation at the July 25th Ice Cream Social and Annual Meeting, at Wartinger Park's Zimmer Barn. The ice cream service begins at 6:15 P.M.

Join the Beavercreek Historical Society Today!

Help preserve Beavercreek's past for the future. Please make your check payable to Beavercreek Historical Society and mail along with this form to: **1368 Research Park Drive, Beavercreek, OH 45432.**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: (Please print carefully) _____

Choose your membership type and level:

Annual Memberships (Jan. thru Dec.):

() \$ 20 Individual

() \$ 25 Family

() \$ 50 Group or Organization

Lifetime Memberships:

() \$500 and above Preservationist

Upcoming Events:

Board Meeting, July 13, August 10, September 14, and October 12

1981 Dayton-Xenia Rd. — 6:30 p.m.

Annual Meeting & Ice Cream Social, July 25

Zimmer Barn — 6:15 p.m.

Barn Sale, August 26

Zimmer Barn

Log by Log Article Submission Deadline

September 15 — 5:00 p.m.

Living History, September 15 - October 26

Wartinger Park

Quarterly Meeting, October 24

Peace Lutheran Church — 7:00 p.m.

*The 1969 Lammers Barrel Factory Fire, presenter
Kip Smith, Retired Beavercreek Fire Chief*



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 Annual Meeting & Ice Cream Social

July 25, 2017 | 6:15 p.m. | Zimmer Barn | Wartinger Park

TIME FOR ELECTION OF 2017-18 OFFICERS

It's time again for our Annual Meeting and Ice Cream Social scheduled for Tuesday July 25, 2017. We hope you will be sure to attend. An important piece of business to be conducted that evening is the election of our officers for the 2017-18 season. We are pleased to announce the following slate of candidates:

President: Jill Kincer | **Vice President:** Roger Coy
Treasurer: Wendy Kirchoff | **Secretary:** Carolyn Coy Fourman

Jeanne Wensits, chair of the Nominating Committee, will be serving as the President Pro Tem that evening to conduct the elections. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the meeting.

For you who are long time members, perhaps a bit of explanation seems appropriate here. Our current bylaws call for two Vice Presidents—an Internal VP and an External VP. Many of you are aware that Bob and Lorraine Wagley, long time hard-working members, recently relocated to Louisville, KY. Both served on the board for many years—Bob as Internal VP and Lorraine as Acquisitions Chair. Nancy Wagner has faithfully served as External VP. With the vacancy in the Acquisitions Chair slot, Nancy has enthusiastically assumed that position. Thus it seems the right time to make a change to just one Vice President rather than two, and we are most happy that Roger Coy has agreed to serve in that role this coming year. The Board will most likely be recommending a review of the bylaws in the near future which will officially address that issue.