

Log by Log

**Beavercreek
Historical Society**



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BeavercreekHistoricalSociety.org

SYNOPSIS OF BYLAWS CHANGES FOR OCTOBER MEMBER APPROVAL

Your Board of Trustees voted at the September 14, 2017 Board Meeting to submit updates of the Society's bylaws to the General Membership for approval. These changes are not major and in general are housekeeping measures, some of which have already been put into place and are now belatedly being submitted for adjustment in the official document.

This information is shared with you in accordance with the current requirements of our bylaws that require providing a synopsis of the proposed changes a minimum of 20 days in advance of a vote by the General Membership to approve those changes. We plan to vote on the proposed changes at a short business meeting prior to the program at our October 24, 2017 Quarterly Meeting. We will have a membership sign-in form at the front table at that meeting, and you will be given a paper ballot at that time. An affirmative two-thirds vote of those present at the meeting (Trustees and general members) is needed to amend or alter the bylaws. Family and Preservationist (lifetime) memberships have one vote for each active adult family member.

Changes being recommended are:

1. Simplifying the number of membership categories to four: Individual, Family, Group/



Organization, and Preservationist (lifetime) members.

2. Establishing the period of January 1 through December 31 for annual dues.
3. Eliminating several references to the liaison with the Flower Trail Garden Club, which sadly was discontinued in recent years.
4. Combining the two positions of External and Internal Vice President into one, to be known simply as the Vice President.

To read the entire bylaws document with these above Board-recommended changes, it is available in hard copy at the Beavercreek Parks and Recreation Office located at **850 Alpha Road**, or it can be sent to you electronically by sending a request to our email account: **bhsohio@gmail.com**. A copy will also be available at the front desk at the October Quarterly Meeting; please arrive early if you wish to read it then.

If you have questions you may contact either **Wendy Kirchoff (429-1520)** or **Zelma Robinson (426-2850)** who served on the Bylaws Review Committee.

Do you have an article, photo(s) or item(s) of interest you want featured in the Log by Log? Deadline for submissions into the next issue is **December 15**. Email submissions to **b.joh88@gmail.com**.

A PERSONAL NOTE TO THE MEMBERSHIP

From Jill Kincer, President

When my current term of office expires in July of next year, I will have served six and one-half years as President of the Society. The time has flown by, and it has been such a very positive experience. I have gotten to know so many interesting and knowledgeable people, and have learned so much from so many of you. However, by next July it will be time for a new person to take the lead in our organization, as I do not plan to continue in the role of president after that.

It seems a good time to share this with all of you now, as time rolls by quickly. We have many talented people within our organization, and hopefully members will take time to give some serious consideration about becoming involved in a leadership role, whether it be for the office of President or for another position as needed.

We are not a static group, but an ever-changing one, doing our best to meet the goals of our organization in a society undergoing major shifts and changes, too. Please give some thoughts as to how you might become more involved to keep our organization fresh and ready to continue the efforts to share Beaver Creek's history in our community and keep the Society on target toward our goal of "Preserving the Past for the Future."

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome new members Anita and Tim O'Neal, who joined while attending the Barn Sale held on August 26th (read more about the event on page 7). We also welcome Roberta "Bobbie" Carpenter as a new member and Living History volunteer. Thanks for joining and we're glad to have you!



BE A RECRUITER FOR THE BEAVERCREEK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Have a neighbor, friend or relative interested in preserving local history? Pass along the membership form included in this newsletter (located on the bottom of the next page) and encourage them to join. All new members joining this fall season will automatically be enrolled as members through December 2018.

And just in case any of you want to send in your renewal early, our Membership Chair Zelma Robinson would be happy to receive yours soon. Your newsletter label will give you the date your current membership expires—many of which are 12/31/17. Our membership year runs January 1 through December 31 annually.

SPECIAL THANKS FOR SPECIAL DONATIONS

Our sincere thanks go to Bob and Vicki Darden of Beavercreek for their recent generous monetary contribution to the Beavercreek Historical Society and to Mavourneen Harshman, a direct descendant of Phillip Harshman whose home stands at Wartinger Park, for another generous donation on her part. We are most thankful and appreciate these gifts to our organization.

HAVE IDEAS FOR 2018 ACTIVITIES & SPECIAL EVENTS?

The November Board of Trustees meeting will be a planning meeting for 2018 Beavercreek Historical Society activities. We're interested in receiving input from our membership as to what special events you would like to see scheduled, either at Wartinger Park or other locations. We of course plan to continue our long-standing Living History educational program, which reaches over 600 households each year through direct contact with all third graders attending Beavercreek City and St. Luke Schools. Feel free to send your ideas via email to **bhsohio@gmail.com** or call **Jill Kincer at 429-0291**. You are also welcome to come to the meeting in person to share your thoughts. It will be held on **November 9, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.** in the Beavercreek City Park's Office located at 850 Alpha Road. We'd like to hear from you!

HARSHMAN FAMILY GENEALOGY AVAILABLE

We now have some 3-volume sets of detailed Harshman Family Genealogy available for purchase. The cost is \$30 for the set, which contains a wide-range of information on the Harshman family lineage. This price is very reasonable when you consider the amount of work and dedication involved in pulling together this detailed collection of information. Call **Nancy Wagner at 937-426-1272** for more information.

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

"TWO GENERATIONS AGO"

An excerpt from a column that begun in the Beavercreek News-Current; Submitted by David Shumway

The Beavercreek Historical Society began sending a monthly article to the Beavercreek News-Current called "Two Generations Ago," about things of interest in Beavercreek fifty years ago. The column, written by member David Shumway, draws heavily on the Society's archives of the old Beavercreek News. David also tries to "bring it forward" with observations, comments, and comparisons with today. This is a shortened version of the first three monthly articles, covering July, August, and September of 1967:

Nationally in 1967 the country was in the throes of the Vietnam War, with its attendant protests here at home. That is a history in itself, and still affects many of us today.

On the home front, Beavercreek was five years into what would eventually be an eighteen-year incorporation battle in response to Fairborn's intent to annex land. Petitions by Apple Valley and Woodhaven residents to incorporate as "Valleywood" as a defensive measure were just determined invalid by the court. Lots more to come on the incorporation history, and how it affected our City today.

Greene County Regional Airport received final state approval for construction. We don't often hear much about that airport; it probably has a very interesting history with so much concern for aviation in the Beavercreek area. I'll have to look into that.

For grocery shoppers, Lofinos Grocery advertised Maxwell House coffee for 59¢ a pound (a real 16-ounce pound can). And for Fourth of July picnics, hamburger (not "ground beef") at 49¢ a pound and watermelons at 69¢ each (the whole melon).

And speaking of the Fourth, the brand new Beavercreek Chamber of Commerce hosted its first holiday celebration at Frank Zink Field with Tom Toy as grand marshal.

It's interesting to see these iconic Beavercreek names again that many of us remember; Beavercreek's history includes many dedicated men and women who contributed heavily to what the City is today.

In August 1967, 57 Beavercreekers were among the

first enrollment of the new Greene Joint Vocational School (GJVS).

And other fall registrations were picking up. Two ever-popular dance schools, Danettes & Barbara Miller, were accepting registrations. Ah yes, my daughter (two generations ago) and granddaughters (one generation ago) enrolled ... seems this dance thing is a rite of passage.

On groceries, that iconic grocer Charles Lofino (and his son Mike studying business) advertised cans of beans & hominy for 9¢ a can. (Note: these are great go-togethers with tortillas, although the Tex-Mex craze hadn't yet hit in 1967).

BHS announced 1967 football season tickets for \$7. First game is scheduled against Troy with Paul Martin as head coach. Look down to September to see who won.

During this period DP&L was strongly pushing electric heat for homes. This was before natural gas was available, and most of us had oil furnaces. What happened: soon cheaper natural gas came in. And, if you were to switch from oil and had your tank removed, it was a good idea to tell Duncan Oil so they wouldn't pump 200 gal of oil into your basement.

Suburban road names have sure changed in fifty years. The original road-namers apparently weren't very imaginative; they just connected two places, like New Germany-Trebein, Bellbrook-Fairfield, Dayton-Xenia, Alpha-Bellbrook, etc. Some of these places don't even exist today (e.g., Fairfield combined with Osborn to create Fairborn), and it's ironic that although they crisscross Beavercreek none mention this city that now outdoes them all.

In September 1967 Ohio Bell extended "local calling privileges" for seven Dayton suburbs, including Beavercreek. (Telephone service is a major changer in two generations; some of us remember princess phones, collect calls, calling cards loaded with minutes, long distance areas that weren't very long distances at all ...) No smart phones here.

And local sports commentator Lefty McFaden called Pete Rose “obnoxious” in his popular newspaper column Southpaw Slants. (Well, he is, isn’t he?)

Dunnigan Hardware (now there’s another iconic Beavercreek name: Paul Dunnigan was later to become the city’s first elected mayor.) Anyway, Dunnigan Hardware, now Barney’s True Value, advertised your choice of a refrigerator or range for \$199.90.

And Beavercreek’s own Pamela Robinson won Miss Ohio 1967! The 1967 Beavercreek News reported that Pam “anticipates thousands of dollars for expenses and wardrobes and other expenses preparing for the National,” including “six daytime ensembles and three evening gowns.” No mention of bathing suits. Maybe

we’ll see if people stepped up next month.

8000 Beavercreek kids started skool on September 11th (a date that had not yet achieved its infamy.) Bringing it forward, I at first found it strange that enrollment is only about 7800 now, fifty years and (I believe) two schools and some expansion later. But in 1967 the schools were very overcrowded, with large classes and classes in trailers and even off-campus facilities. But why is enrollment lower now with all our new residential development? I dunno ... maybe people have fewer kids now.

Oh yes, in that first football game of the season against Troy, the Beavers trounced ‘em.

THE OLD YELLOW FARMHOUSE *Submitted by Jeanne Wensits*

Let us consider that curious bright yellow house that sits gleaming in the sunshine on Dayton-Xenia Road just east of Grange Hall Road. It seems rather incongruent with the surrounding commercial buildings and traditional houses in the neighborhood. A sign in the yard tells us the structure is called This Old Couch.

This old what? On closer inspection we find that it was indeed an old farmhouse but now it’s a shop selling repurposed home furnishings and vintage finds. This calls for some investigative sleuthing...

It seems that back in 1896 Daniel C. Coy built the farmhouse on 80 acres when Dayton-Xenia Road was just a narrow dirt road with rutted wagon tracks. After the house was built Daniel married Miss Ida Milner in the parlor and they settled into farming and raising cows, chickens, and their son, Horace, who was born in 1902. Over time the house sprouted a larger kitchen, a bathroom, summer porch,



This Old Couch today.

sun room, deck, and incorporated a wood shed that was in the back yard. There was also a chicken house behind the house and a large barn, silo and corn crib to the east. With the sale of farm acreage in the 1940s, the barn was sold, taken down board by board by Amish workmen, and trucked away to be reassembled who-knows-where. Some of the good wood from the aging corn crib was used in 1959 to

rebuild the present day garage/barn.

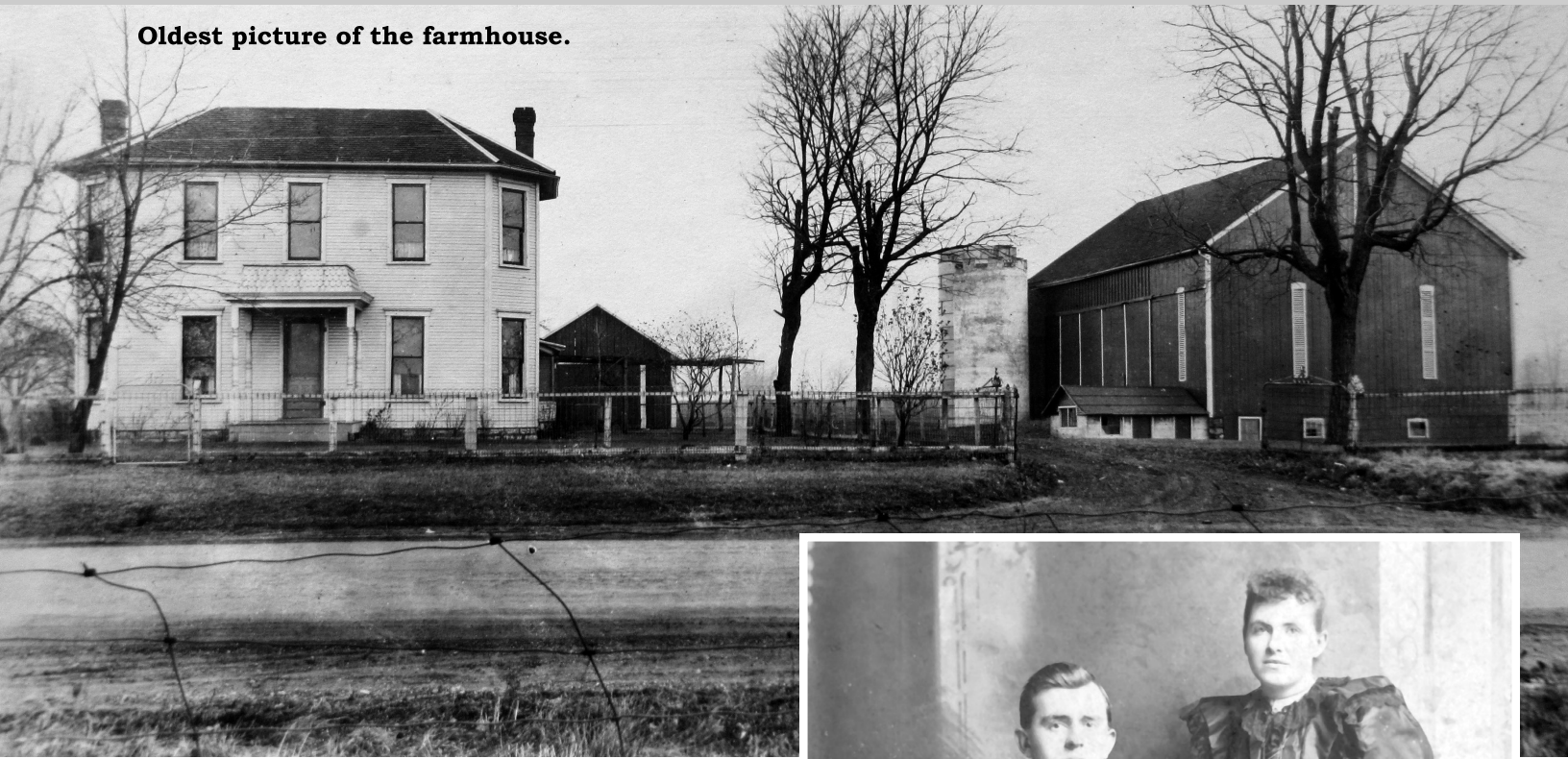
In addition to farming, Daniel had a practice of podiatry in Dayton. He passed away in 1917 at age 44 after having passed the deed to the property to Ida who lived there until 1965.

Their son Horace spent his childhood and at least his 20s living in the yellow house and then moved into a house which he’d built right next door to the west. In 1941 he and wife, Louise Treharne, were joined by son, Daniel Treharne Coy.

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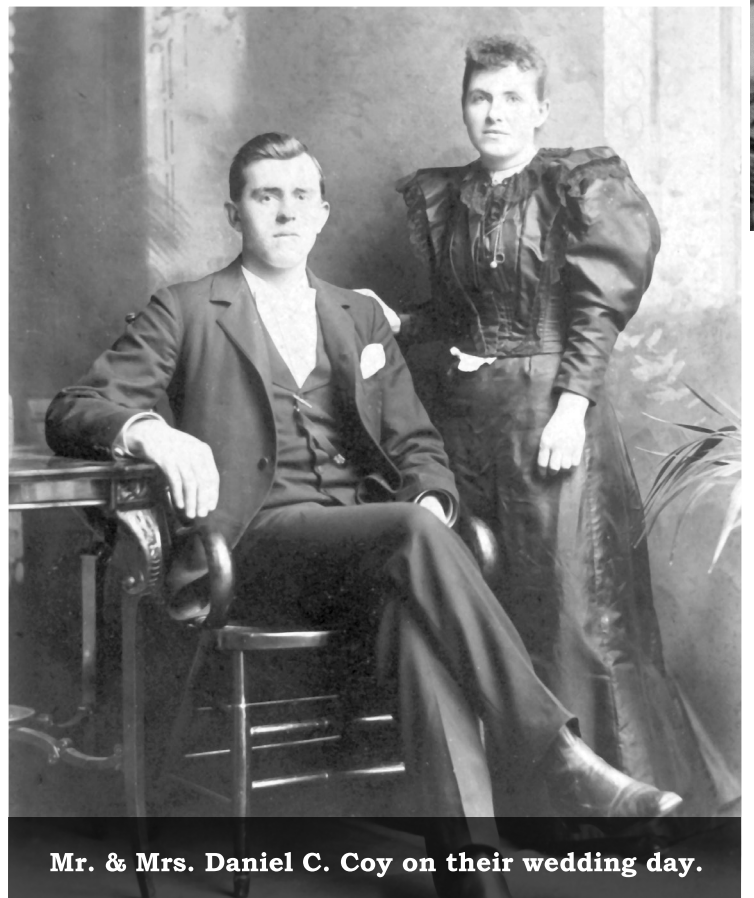
Oldest picture of the farmhouse.



In 1973 Daniel T. Coy (grandson of Daniel C. Coy) and wife Shirley Nelson bought the yellow farmhouse. Although Daniel T. Coy died at the age of 64 Shirley lived in the yellow house until 2007.

Once Shirley moved, the house languished there until Bryan and Lori Lucas bought it, painstakingly remodeled it, and gave it new life as This Old Couch in 2015. The distinctive cross-shaped bones of the original structure remain, along with the additions made over time. After extensive historical research concerning the house by the current owners, most of the house has been refreshed while maintaining the essence of the stately old farmhouse. They had the name “D. C. Coy” (showing at the top of the original barn in a 1912 photo) painted above today’s garage/ barn door out back “to honor Daniel C. Coy and keep a bit of the history of the house alive,” according to Bryan Lucas.

Another adaptation can be found beneath the house in what current classified advertisements might call a “partially-finished basement.” In actuality it’s a dug-out hole in the ground that could remind one of a cave. Now it houses a furnace, work bench, assorted handyman tools, a Christmas tree and whatnot. All in all it’s a useful subterranean multipurpose space.



Mr. & Mrs. Daniel C. Coy on their wedding day.

Some people might consider it an interesting quirk of fate that the old yellow farmhouse, designated as a Historical Structure in 2004 by the Beavercreek Historical Society, has been “repurposed” into a store selling “repurposed” goods. I’d say it’s wonderful the house has been lovingly cared for and still reflexes Beavercreek’s history.

TREASURE IN THE TOBIAS-ZIMMER BARN! *Submitted by Amber Carlos*



The Beavercreek Historical Society's Inaugural Barn Sale of 2017 was one for the record books! What a fascinating, fun and successful endeavor. The volunteer participation was phenomenal! Without such wonderful volunteers, we would never be able to look back on such a grand day.

This particular fundraiser reminded me of the amazing cooperation of our cherished golden honeybees. Everyone was doing their small piece of one grand and good endeavor. Each donor went through their things selecting items they were willing to contribute to the greater good of the Society as a whole. Members would drop off beautiful items, tucked snugly into boxes. Then, I'd turn to see them jumping right in to help with items waiting to be placed onto tables. I wish I'd been able to keep track of everyone that delved in spontaneously! There were warm and interesting discussions between friends infrequently seen, and friendships made with people newly met. Even on the day of the sale itself, many members turned out unexpectedly to assist shoppers with their selections. It was such a pleasure to be just one worker bee in this fantastic group of people.

The public arrived early on Saturday morning and you could almost feel a tangible energy in the air. Armfuls of eagerly sought treasures swiftly made their way to the checkout table. By days end, and thanks to all of YOU, the Barn Sale was able to benefit the Beavercreek Historical Society in excess of \$3,400!

I remember really wanting to give it a try when Jill Kincer called for someone to chair this event. A barn sale sounded so lively and engaging. Never having chaired an event, I was anxious about being able to succeed. Well, all that stressing was for naught. I have NEVER seen so much get accomplished with such ease. I am convinced this dynamic group of people can make absolutely anything happen! Volunteers included but were not limited to:

Bob Bader, Roger Coy, Jo Ferguson, Carolyn Coy Fourman, Becky and Denny Jarvi, Jill and Wendell Kincer, Bob and Wendy Kirchoff, Bob Manske, Gerry and Jerry Petrak, John Rhodehamel, Cathy Robinett, Zelma Robinson, Amy and Fred Rohrback, David Shumway, Nancy Wagner, Jeanne Wensits, and Toni White.

City Parks, Recreation and Culture Liaison, Kim Farrell and her staff were also on site throughout the process, taking care of the many aspects of keeping Wartinger Park up to their high standards. Thank you all so very much!

Editor's Note: Many thanks and a bravo to Amber Carlos for all her enthusiastic leadership in making this event so successful!



Upcoming Events:

Board Meeting, October 12

1981 Dayton-Xenia Rd. — 6:30 p.m.

Board Meeting, November 9

850 Alpha Road — 1:0 p.m.

Quarterly Meeting, October 24

Peace Lutheran Church — 7:00 p.m.

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

Log by Log Article Submission Deadline

December 15 — 5:00 p.m.

Quarterly Meeting, January 23, 2018

Peace Lutheran Church — 7:00 p.m.

*LaVerne Sci, Beaver Creek resident, in a
dramatization of Hallie Quinn Brown (1854-1946),
Greene County's accomplished lecturer, world
traveler, abolitionist, & educator.*



1368 Research Park Drive
Beaver Creek, 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."

Beaver Creek Historical Society Quarterly Meeting

October 24, 2017 | 7:00 p.m. | Peace Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall

1969 LAMMERS BARREL FACTORY FIRE

Our featured speaker will be **Kip Smith**, a long-time Beaver Creek resident and retired Battalion Chief of the Beaver Creek Fire Department.

Many who were around Beaver Creek in 1969 have vivid memories of the night the Lammers Barrel Factory, located on the banks of the Little Beaver Creek, exploded into the sky over the corner of Grange Hall and Patterson Roads. The fire was visible for many miles.

Kip will share his remembrances of that event and show a video of the fire in which he narrated. It was shot by the late Robert Deal. He recently celebrated his 46th service anniversary with the Beaver Creek Fire Department, having retired from active duty in 2011 and now continuing his association as a non-fighting volunteer. He will share additional stories about other events and the history of the fire department as time and interest allow.

