

Log by Log

Our objectives as an organization are to preserve structures of historical significance, develop and present community educational programs, and to create a learning center for historic education.



Tobias-Zimmer Barn Rebuild Update

On Memorial Day evening in May 2019, a series of tornadoes were confirmed in several counties in the Miami Valley, Greene county being one such victim. Beavercreek lost the treasured Tobias-Zimmer Barn when it was destroyed by a tornado that caused so much damage to our community. Progress continues toward the historically accurate rebuild of the structure.

What has happened since the tornado

A spring 2020 community survey overwhelmingly confirmed the importance of the barn as a gathering place, educational space, and historic representation of early life in Beavercreek. The City then contracted with McGill Smith Punshon to create architectural drawings for building a replica of the original barn. A bid went out in Spring 2021, accepting proposals from construction contractors. Currently the City is waiting on confirmation from their insurance group to determine next steps. The current plan is to award the contract as soon as possible and begin construction in late June, with project completion by December 2021.

A few interesting facts about the original barn

- The barn was constructed in a one-story saltbox design with a long pitched roof that slopes to the back, a mortised and pinned white oak frame.
- From the plain style of the barn, it is thought that the carpenters were Shakers. The original siding was vertical white pine with hand-split walnut lap-sided gable ends. All materials came from the farm except the white pine siding.
- After the move to Wartinger Park in 1996, a few refurbishments and improvements were made to protect the structure, including new board and batten siding and a concrete floor. The old metal roof and wood roof shingles were replaced with a standing seam metal roof.
- Before the barn was moved to Wartinger Park, it was located in the area known as "The Big Woods," later becoming the property of Bob and Agnes Zimmer, who donated the barn in 1996.
- Barns of this type were used for every aspect of daily pioneer life: housing animals and livestock, storing farm implements and equipment, threshing and storing grain, storing hay and straw, milking cows, etc.
- After moving to Wartinger Park, the barn played an important role in the annual fall and spring Living History program which teaches local third graders about life in the early 1800s, which fulfills a state curriculum requirement. Since its origin in 1994, the Living History program, which continues today, has reached thousands of Beavercreek schoolchildren.
- An integral part of the Wartinger Park, the barn also served as a gathering place for community activities such as ice cream socials and heritage events, as well as private events.

Your help is needed. If you are interested in actively supporting the rebuild of the barn and potential enhancements, please contact the Society at bhsohio@gmail.com or by leaving a message at 937-427-5514, or mail your donation to: Beavercreek Historical Society c/o 1368 Research Park Dr., Beavercreek, Ohio 45432.

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Membership News

Living History Program Update:

Back to the Park! *Submitted by Amy Rohrbach*

Despite the restrictions of the insidious coronavirus, the Living History Program, led by the Beavercreek Historical Society, touched the lives of all Beavercreek third graders over the past school year. Students from all five elementary schools, including those who were learning virtually, benefited from the videos produced in the fall, along with hands-on activities in their classrooms or in their own homes.

We are expecting next school year to resume the traditional program held at Wartinger Park with volunteers leading the student activities. The potatoes have been planted and will be ready for harvest in the fall so Save the dates of **September 13 through October 8** to volunteer for the Living History Program at the Park. St. Luke has scheduled their park days for September 23 and 24. Main, Trebein and Valley Elementaries will also soon be setting their park dates.

We are looking for additional people to help with the chores of Gardening, Rag Dolls, Quilting, Spinning, Butter Making and Finger Knitting. If you are interested in helping, please text, call or email **Amy Rohrbach** at (937) 477-1007 or **livinghistorybhs@gmail.com**.

Volunteer Opportunities

The Society currently has vacancies in the positions of **Acquisitions, Archives, Long-range Planning, and Website**. There's lots of collective experience in most of these areas among the active members, but we need individuals to act as focal points and perform the functions.

If you have interest, or know someone who might be interested even if not currently a member, please contact Secretary, **Mary Jean Henry**, at (937) 244-5958 or refer to her at **bhsOhio@gmail.com**.

A Generous Donation

We're pleased to acknowledge a generous donation to the Society by **Art and Kathy Bauer**. The Bauers are longtime very active members, and their gift will definitely have an impact on the activities of the Society. Thank you again!

Would you like to Contribute to your Newsletter?

As part of its community outreach, your Log by Log is now accepting short articles contributed by members and non-member Beaver Creek residents alike on topics of local historical interest. It doesn't have to necessarily relate to the early settlers; anything going back even 50-100 years might be of interest and be worthy of documentation. The Log by Log becomes part of the Historical Society archives, so tales and remembrances can become a permanent part of this valuable community record.

Pictures are appropriate as well. Send proposed articles to **David Shumway** at dashumway@gmail.com or text him at (937) 416-2911 with any questions about articles.

Remembering Kay Cohen *Submitted by Jill Kincer*

Kay Cohen, a lifetime member of the Historical Society, passed away in late April. She was a generous woman who donated her time, talent and treasures to many community organizations, including the BHS, for which she was inducted into the Greene County Women's Hall of Fame in 2003. One of her proudest accomplishments was the stone walkway that leads from the Harshman House to the garden gate. Kay personally laid the walk stone by stone. The next time you visit the park, check it out; she so loved sharing it with visitors.

Breaking News

Just as we go to press, we have learned that longtime dedicated Board member **John Rhodehamel** has passed away. Among his many contributions, John played a major role in creating, organizing and presenting the gardening portion of the Living History program. His engineering background was valued as many challenges were faced when the Tobias-Zimmer Barn and the Ankeney House were moved to Wartinger Park. We hope to share more details about his many roles in an upcoming newsletter.

JOIN THE BEAVERCREEK HISTORICAL SOCIETY TODAY!

Annual memberships begin January 1 and expire December 31 each year. We value your membership as it helps support the many activities of the organization. **Contributions are tax deductible.** Please send your check & this form to: **Beaver Creek Historical Society, 789 Orchard Lane, Beaver Creek, OH 45434.**

Name: _____

Tax-Deductible Amount: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: (Please print plainly) _____



For more info call 937-427-5514.

Annual Memberships: ☐ \$20 Individual ☐ \$25 Family
☐ \$50 Group/Organization **OR Lifetime Membership** ☐ \$500 & above

Please check one:
☐ New Membership ☐ Renewal

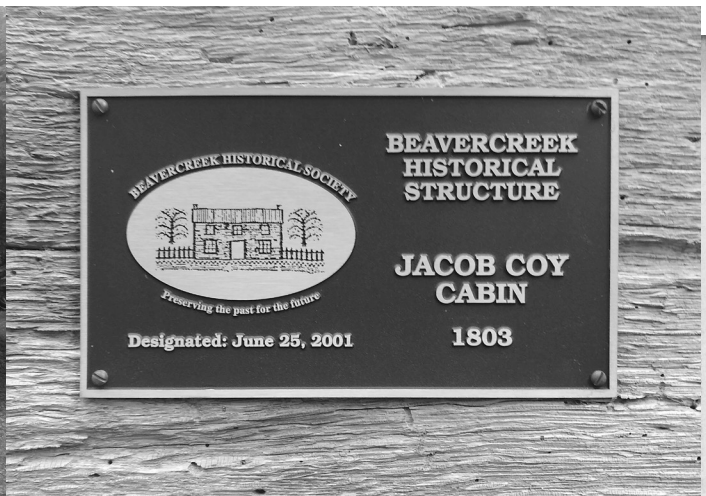
A Great History Lesson

All of Beaver Creek's historical residences are not in Wartinger Park. Our new BHS Vice-President and ardent local historian, **Bobbie Carpenter**, gave a great talk for the Board in June on a unique property in Beaver Creek with several historic old buildings. The Hagenbuch property, affectionately called "Fir Peace" by family members, is now owned by residents Christine (Hagenbuch) Martin and Doug Hull. These longtime Beaver Creek residents care for the property with TLC, and served as great hosts. They escorted us on a tour of the property, including the springhouse and a ginormous wonderfully-preserved early-1800s barn. We even enjoyed authentic corn pone, gingerbread, and applesauce served in the candlelit 1803 Jacob Coy cabin (yes, Jacob Sr., the first of the Beaver Creek Coys).

Bobbie's reminiscences started from her days babysitting for the Hagenbuchs. And since she and her family were instrumental in early Beaver Creek Girl Scouts, she started making girl-scout and cub-scout projects focused on local history and restoration, and arranged educational events.



Shoup-Schantz House (left) pictured with BHS plaque (right.)



Jacob Coy Cabin (left) pictured with BHS plaque (right.)



Two Generations Ago: Summer '71

Two Generations Ago is a shortened form of a regular column by member David Shumway, submitted to the Beaver Creek News-Current.

Something very important! The 26th Amendment to the United States Constitution became certified this July fifth of 1971, lowering the voting age from 21 to 18. The Greene County Board of Elections is publicizing getting these new voters registered, echoed by the Commissioners and in newspaper editorials. (Coming forward with that, well, getting people registered is still a news topic.)

A great example of newest thing in retail, enclosed shopping areas with amenities and food court, called the “Upper Valley Mall” just opened. (Coming forward, we saw its closing this June of 2021, and our Fairfield Mall seems to be struggling. Is 50 years to be their lifespan?)

A massive towering “World Trade Center” opened this summer in Manhattan. (Well, we all know what happened thirty years later, as solemnly memorialized at our Beaver Creek Station on beautiful Creekside Trail.)

The big grocery store in Beaver Creek, Lofinos Foodtown on Dayton-Xenia Road, has just opened a restaurant, inside the grocery! Breakfast is featured, with two eggs, bacon, hash browns, toast and coffee for 99¢. (Moving forward, that grocery would soon be outshined by the Lofino Marketplace in the new Beaver Valley Shopping Center. Now of course both groceries are gone, and such breakfasts cost a bit more than 99¢.)

Breaking News! Live TV pictures are being received from the Moon, as astronauts David Scott, James Irvin and Alfred Warden “drive their small car across the surface.” (Coming forward, just 50 years later we’re seeing live pictures from Mars! Flying above the surface.)

Ah, here’s something interesting locally: Recently-opened Lamachy’s Danube Haus just hosted the Kenley Players entire cast, including Zsa Zsa Gabor. (A bit of history: Zsa Zsa got her start as Miss Hungary at age 15, and Kenley Players tours included Dayton from 1940 to 1996.) And I loved that restaurant with its authentic Hungarian menu by David “Frank” Lamachy’s mom.

This summer saw the formation of the “Beaver Creek Senior Citizens Club,” and those enthusiasts are already embarked on a study for a “senior center.”

And it’s already canning time at the popular Dunnigan’s Hardware: Food mills, Mason jars, canning lids, funnels (Coming forward, local canning might make a good history topic.) And in fashion, “Ann’s Polyester Palace” is advertising fabrics \$3/yd and up. (Today we wouldn’t even admit to such a store. Times change.)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Note: Future activities are tentative,
pending the COVID-19 pandemic.

Monthly Board of Directors Meetings.

First Thursday, 4:00 P.M.

Lofina Plaza Meeting Room

2021 Quarterly Meetings

July 27 & October 26

Living History

September 13 - October 8

2021 Log by Log Submission Deadlines

September 10, December 10

Send to Editor David Shumway, at dashumway@gmail.com, no later than 9:00 p.m.



1368 RESEARCH PARK DRIVE
BEAVERCREEK, OHIO 45432
BeavercreekHistoricalSociety.org

Thank You

THE BEAVERCREEK
HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S

Quarterly Meeting

When: July 27, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. | **Where:** Beavercreek Board of Education, 3040 Kemp Rd.

Quarterly Meeting and Presentation July 27th

The July 27th Quarterly Meeting, like all quarterlies, is open to the public. So bring your friends and neighbors for a presentation on *Schools in Beavercreek* by our Liaison to the Beavercreek Schools, **Ruth Wiley**, assisted by her husband (and Historical Society president) Mark Wiley. It will be held at the **Beavercreek Board of Education**, adjacent to Wartinger Park, **3040 Kemp Road, at 7:00 p.m.** The presentation looks back to the first schools in Beavercreek and forward through the most recent additions of the Coy/Trebein campus. Reliable sources say that the meeting will include frozen custard from Ritter's.

Fun fact: The first teacher at Old Coy School was an "Englishman who insisted on being known and addressed as Thomas Marks Davis, the Second." He was paid a salary of \$8-\$10 a month. The connection to history remains as one of the newest buildings was named after an early settler, Jacob Coy.

Please join us to learn more about the evolution of the Beavercreek Schools. Ruth is an appropriate spokesperson for this; she's been active in education for 27 years and employed by Beavercreek City Schools for most of her career. She currently serves as Curriculum Supervisor, coordinating the Title I program, Third Grade Reading Guarantee, Reading Improvement and Monitoring Plans, and Kindergarten Readiness Assessment.