

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 historical education.



Tobias-Zimmer Barn Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, July 19, 5:30pm



The Barn is Back!!

So much has happened since our last update in the spring issue of *Log by Log*! After the groundbreaking ceremony on March 16, the mortised and pinned framing for the

reconstruction of the 1858 Tobias-Zimmer Barn went up quickly, followed by the siding and roofing, and then interior finishes.



During the process, the barn was visited often by Society members, interested community members, students in the spring Living History Program, and members of the Zimmer family. Special activities included the opportunity to sign the solid wood "pins" used to join the

framing. Members of the Zimmer and Tobias families signed pins and walls, as did schoolchildren and Society members. The pins were inserted into the beams and some are identifiable by special end markings. The students were also treated to a lesson on historical barn building by Jamie Seitz (Rogers Lumber & Millwork, Inc.) providing interesting details such as wooden pins held the massive beams together, not nails!

Please plan to join us on Tuesday, July 19, 5:30 p.m., at Wartinger Park for the long-awaited ribbon cutting for the barn. It has been three long years since the 2019 Memorial Day tornadoes destroyed the barn...a huge loss for the community and those using the park for educational purposes.



The City of Beavercreek Parks, Recreation & Culture Department is planning the program, which will include comments by Beavercreek city officials, Society president Mark Wiley, and Bob Zimmer, who, with his wife Agnes, donated the barn to the park in 1996. Mr. Zimmer is very pleased with the city's commitment

to rebuilding the barn, confirming its importance in present-day Beavercreek for its use as a unique gathering place for the community, as well as its role in educating schoolchildren about early farming in Beavercreek through the Living History Program.

The Society thanks those involved in the rebuild and for their collaboration with our Society President Mark Wiley: McGill Smith Punshon, Inc., Architect; Jagger Construction, LLC, Rogers Lumber & Millwork, Inc. (especially Jamie Seitz!); Carter Concrete, Reese Electric; and Beavercreek Park Superintendent Kim Farrell.

Tobias-Zimmer Barn Fund

The Society is seeking contributions to help fund additional amenities for the Tobias-Zimmer Barn such as A/V equipment, a prep kitchen, and restrooms that would be useful for gatherings and meetings. Anyone interested in contributing and learning more can contact the Society at bhsohio@gmail.com, mail a check to **Beavercreek Historical Society** (1368 Research Park Dr., Beavercreek, OH 45432), or donate online at <https://greenegiving.ejoinme.org/donation> (specify designation as "Beavercreek Historical Society Tobias-Zimmer Barn").

Revisiting the Past: 1964 Plane Crash at Beavercreek High School. As I Remember...

Submitted by Roger Coy, Retired Beavercreek City Schools Asst. Superintendent

As Assistant Principal of Beavercreek High School (1962-68), my office was located about mid-building facing Dayton-Xenia Rd. I thought I was the only administrator in the building that day (January 3) as Roger Sweet, Principal, had surgery planned over the winter break and was recovering at home.

The schedule that week was: New Year's Day on Wednesday with school to be in session on Thursday and Friday. A heavy snowfall on Wednesday evening changed those plans. School was closed on Thursday due to inclement weather and only one, seemingly normal school day, was to take place on Friday. A social studies teacher had requested that I cover his classes for two days as he had planned to be out-of-state over the break and needed extra time. I agreed. His classroom was conveniently located one door east of my office.

The class had just returned from lunch around 11:00 a.m. and were getting seated when a loud "boom" was heard,



and the room shook. My first thought was that a furnace had blown. I got up and stepped into the hallway. Almost directly across the hall from the classroom was a set of double glass exit doors to a u-shaped parking lot. The shape was formed by a kitchen and lunchroom on the west, two stories of classrooms on the southside, and three stories of our newest classrooms on the east. The rooms were occupied.

Imagine my surprise as I looked out the glass doors to see the tail of an airplane a few yards from the lunchroom and just feet from a teacher's parked car. Upon opening the first classroom door the battered fuselage of an airplane was visibly lying just behind the parked cars. Not knowing the wings containing the fuel tanks had fallen off someplace near Patterson Road and the pilot ejected, my thought was to get everyone away from the windows and into the hall. The first classroom was clearing quickly and I was headed toward the second room when Mr. Sweet's voice came over the PA for orderly dismissal to the field house. Luckily, he had arrived unannounced and took over. A small band was assembled in the field house to entertain students until busses could arrive to take them home.



Within minutes of the crash, the u-shaped lot was full of parked cars, a plane fuselage, local early responders and their emergency vehicles plus U.S. Air Force personnel with more vehicles. Thankfully, no injuries were reported, and surely all those present at BHS that day have memories of their own...never to be forgotten.

Editor's Note: Various newspaper accounts at the time reported that pilot Captain Gerald E. Lyvere (45) of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, had parachuted to safety before the crash and suffered a neck injury. The 10-ton RB-57D twin jet reconnaissance plane had reportedly broken up in mid-air and its wings, engines and several other parts were scattered over a 15-mile

radius. The fuselage and tail landed in the school's parking lot. There were some 1800-2000 students in the school at the time. No students or staff were injured and the only damage to the building was one window that was blown out. Capt. Lyvere continued his career as a pilot but later died in a plane crash in 1966.

The Living History Spring Program

Submitted by Shawnah Tibbs-Sergent

We were so glad to be back at Wartinger Park for our traditional in-person Living History Program! Volunteers led approximately 290 students from



Fairbrook, Parkwood and Shaw elementaries through six chores (butter making, finger knitting, gardening, rag dolls, quilting, and spinning). They also learned about the early history of Beavercreek, why having a herb garden was important, and experienced what a classroom was like in the 1800s.

While the Living History Program was happening, we also watched the progress as the barn was being restored. Students, teachers, chaperones, and volunteers had an opportunity to sign the barn. Everyone was so honored and thrilled to become a part of history!

My sincere thanks and appreciation to our wonderful volunteers: Bobbie Carpenter, Jill Cobb, Becky Jarvi, Denny Jarvi, Holly Linquist, Anita O'Neal, Shannon Naik, Vicki Ritchie, Amy Rohrback, Mike Self, Gerry Smalley, Janet Taylor, and Mark Wiley. All of you were amazing and such an inspiration! A special thank you to

Amy Rohrback for her guidance, encouragement and wealth of knowledge during my first experience coordinating this program.

Note from Amy

Rohrback: We have

already set the dates

for Fall Living History

2022! Main, Trebein, St. Luke and Valley schools will be visiting Wartinger Park during the weeks of September 12- October 7. The Living History Program is so valuable for the students and even their parents and grandparents who chaperone for the day. We are always looking for volunteers to help with the program. Volunteers present one of six chores to the third-grade students and do not need prior knowledge of the subject matter to help with the program, just the desire to give back to our community. Training will be available in person or by video. If you are interested in helping with the program, contact Amy Rohrback at (937) 477-1007 or email livinghistorybhs@gmail.com



Welcome New Members

Michael & Elizabeth Roberts

Shawnah Tibbs-Sergent

Carolyn Tipps

Robert & Elizabeth Zimmer

Thank You
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Looking Ahead

Wartinger Cabins Open House and Family Recess, July 20

Have you ever wanted to see inside the historical cabins at Wartinger Park? Now is your chance! Beaver Creek Parks, Recreation and Culture is presenting a Family Recess at Wartinger Park on Wednesday, July 20. Their staff will be hosting family-style games from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Things like corn hole, wiffle ball, giant games, and a special "cool" treat. In conjunction with this activity, the Society will have all cabins open for tours. Come enjoy a summer evening with us!

History Center Open House, September 11

The Society is hosting an open house at our History Center in collaboration with the Ohio Open Doors Program, created in 2016 by the Ohio History Connection to promote and inspire pride in Ohio's heritage and to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act, which established the legal framework to preserve historic buildings, landscapes, and archaeological sites.

The Society joins a host of other organizations throughout Ohio sponsoring free events during September 9-18, celebrating Ohio's most treasured historic places. Please stop in at our open house to see Beaver Creek's historical treasures and records on display. They are here for your use and enjoyment. Open house hours are Sunday, September 11, 4:00-6:00 p.m. at 1999 Dayton-Xenia Rd. (Come on over to see us after you visit the Beaver Creek Popcorn Festival!!)



For information about other historical activities offered during Ohio Open Doors, visit

[www.ohiohistory.org/
preserving-ohio/state-historic-preservation-office/
ohio-open-doors/](http://www.ohiohistory.org/preserving-ohio/state-historic-preservation-office/ohio-open-doors/)

Annual Meeting, October 25

Annual elections for Board of Directors and the adoption of revised Bylaws will take place at the October 25 Annual Meeting. Details will be shared in the October issue of *Log x Log* and in an email to members. (Please keep your email and contact information updated by emailing bhsohio@gmail.com)



Join us on Facebook to keep updated on Society news and activities and to post your Beaver Creek historical items of interest: Beaver Creek Historical Society

New Volunteer Opportunities

The board recently conducted a review and assessment of the support needed to operate efficiently and effectively in today's everchanging world, resulting in a redefinition of several volunteer positions. If you have an appreciation for the history of Beaver Creek and a willingness to work with other interested volunteers, you are a prime candidate! We have many exciting projects coming up and need you to join the team. The following volunteer positions are open:

Historical Buildings Director: Oversee the maintenance plan for all historical buildings and develop and maintain a long-range plan, including new ideas and concepts for the Society.

History Center Director: Maintain archives and landmark documentation for the Society, as well as oversee the acquisition and inventory of furnishings and materials of historical significance contained and displayed in the History Center.

Newsletter Director: Oversee the content and publishing of the *Log by Log* quarterly newsletter.

Program Director/Special Events Coordinator: Schedule programming for the Quarterly Meetings and oversee other special events.

Webmaster/Technology Director: Oversee all web and technology needs.

Photos

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Photo 1: Barn exterior with roof and raw siding

Photo 2: Interior barn framing

Photo 3: Bob Zimmer holding signed pin

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Photo 4 & 5: 1964 plane crash at Beaver Creek High School

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Photo 6: Living History students with Jamie Seitz of Roger Lumber & Millwork, Inc.

Photo 7: Living History volunteers back left-right: Amy Rohrbach, Mark Wiley. Front left-right: Vickie Ritchie, Janet Taylor, Anita O'Neal

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monthly Board of Directors Meetings

First Thursdays, 4:30 P.M.

Lofino Plaza Meeting Room

July 19: Tobias-Zimmer Barn Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, 5:30 p.m.

Wartinger Park

July 20: Family Recess and Wartinger Cabins Open House, 5:30-7:30 P.M.

Wartinger Park

July 26: Quarterly Meeting, 7:00 P.M.

Peace Lutheran Church, 3530 Dayton-Xenia Rd.

September 11: BHS History Center Open House, 4-6 P.M. 1999 Dayton-Xenia Rd.

September 12-October 7: Fall Living History, Wartinger Park

October 25: Annual Meeting, 7:00 P.M.

Location TBD

Log by Log Submissions due September 9

Submit to bhsohio@gmail.com



1368 RESEARCH PARK DRIVE
BEAVERCREEK, OHIO 45432
BeavercreekHistoricalSociety.org

Thank You for Your Membership

THE BEAVERCREEK
HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S

Quarterly Meeting

Tuesday, July 26, 7:00 P.M.

Peace Lutheran Church, 3530 Dayton-Xenia Road, Beavercreek

The program will be presented by The Miami Valley Council for Native Americans (TMVCNA). Founded and incorporated in 1989, TMVCNA's mission is to preserve and promote the American Indian culture, its heritage, and its religion. Please visit their website for additional information about the organization: <http://tmvcna.org>

The Beavercreek Historical Society would like to invite you to this free and open-to-the-public presentation. Bring a friend or two! Light refreshments will be served.

The presentation will be held at the Peace Lutheran Church, 3530 Dayton-Xenia Road.

