

Affiliated with the City of Beavercreek

THE BEAVERCREEK HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S

# Log by Log

Our objectives as an organization are to preserve structures of historical significance, develop and present community education programs, and operate the History Center for educational outreach and historical research.

A Quarterly  
Newsletter from



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The Beavercreek Historical Society worked with Chelsea Cozad on a special school project over the summer. Chelsea is an AmeriCorps Member and worked through the Ohio History Service Corps on local projects. With the help of Amy Rohrback and Marsha DeWeese, Chelsea collected information about the 13 Beavercreek Schools (Grades 1-8) and the 1888 Beavercreek High School. This information was fact-checked as much as possible based on written documentation, photos and former students' recollections about the schools. An infographic sign was created for each of the 14 schools and a general map showing the locations of each school. The signs were printed locally and are now on display in the Jarusiewicz Cabin at Warting Park.

## Shared History

### Teaching Can Be Difficult

Retold by Bobbie Carpenter

Teaching school is not an easy job. Of course, there are those who point out all the holidays off, the snow days, and of course the summers. However, most people who teach know that to plan a really good lesson, it takes about as long or longer as doing the lesson itself. Also, there are papers to grade and grade cards to fill out. Now days, a four year college degree helps to prepare a new teacher. Sometimes things happen that are never covered in any college class.

Early teachers had many extra chores. Beavercreek can date its first one room school back to 1803 when Jacob Coy gave the township a cabin his family had outgrown. Greene County was one of the 17 first counties in the new state, Ohio. Beavercreek was one of the original four townships. Early teachers had little or no training. Often a bright student would take over the class while in their teens.

Early Beaver teachers arrived early to build the fire and sweep. The one and two room schools were closed in 1932 when Main opened. Grades 1-6 downstairs and 7-12 upstairs. Hurrah, there was central heating!

In 1947, classes held 42 to 45 students. There were going to be three first grade classes. Things were getting crowded. In 1959 West Main opened. No more Art or Music on the cart because those teachers didn't have rooms. West Main was wonderful until 1953. There were no more rooms! The 7th through 12th graders were having

study hall in the auditorium. The school got the state to wave Physical Education for some grades. Even so, there were still at least two more rooms needed. The building behind Main had an upstairs where Band, Choir and Orchestra were held as well as some Art classes. Downstairs was the bus repair garage. Sooo, pull down the garage door (it didn't quite touch the ground), cut a people size door, put a curtain across the center and wow, two more "classrooms"! The floor was rough, the ceiling was ironwork. Mr. Otto Zink taught Math and English in the front room and Mrs. Sarah Fulkerson taught Social Studies and Science in the back room. Heat??? Students remember keeping their coats on. Mrs. Fulkerson and Mr. Zink spent most of their day in the garage. There was a small window in Mrs. Fulkerson's room. Overnight it had broken and that morning there was snow on her desk. It hadn't melted! The mouse who inhabited the space seemed to prefer Math or English as he would sit on an iron bar in Mrs. Zink's room watching. After Christmas, the new bus garage opened in back of West Main. It had real floors, real windows and real doors but no real restroom.

The next year the High School opened! Hurrah! However, the problems for the teachers did not. Additions were made in 1957, 1958 and 1959. They came with all the noise, dust, dirt and plumbing problems as you can imagine!

Mr. John Bailey, the long-time business teacher, told a great story. Mr. Bailey passed away last year. He was the last teacher to teach upstairs at Main. One day, he was in the teacher's lounge grading papers when Mrs. Anna Smith came in. Smitty was an institution at Beaver for many years. She was the head of the English department, taught the junior and senior college prep English classes, directed both of the class plays and taught an all-senior journalism class that put out the Beaver Beacon. If there was a yearbook, Smitty put it out. In 1958-59, the yearbook became a class and "Beaver Tails" was born. She went into the restroom and suddenly there was a shriek! Smitty came running out with water dripping from her glasses, hair and dress. According to Mr. Bailey she was saying some very un-teacher-like words. The facility had erupted like Old Faithful!

Of course, no one can forget the jet plane that crash-landed in the parking lot behind the high school. One teacher saw it coming and told the students to get under their desks. Had the plane hit that part of the building it would not have helped. Of course, the building was evacuated, there goes another lesson plan!

Another time at Ferguson, there was a bomb threat. Of course, students were evacuated. The teachers who did not have children of their own were asked to go in and check the lockers for the bomb, and they did! Fred Foskuhl taught math at Ferguson for many years, grades 7-9. One day, the bell rang as he was finishing up an Algebra class. It signaled the start of the lunch period. Students were in a rush to get out but there was a hold-up at the door. Students were pushing, shoving and pounding on the door. Mr. Foskuhl shouted over the noise to quiet down. He found that the door was stuck so he headed over to get it open. He tried the knob, but it would not open. He pushed and pounded but no luck. He was stuck in a room with twenty fourteen-year-olds. Finally, he kicked out the bottom panel, pulled away the wood and everyone crawled out.

Another time there was a fire in a trash can outside of the shop class.

No damage was done but smoke filled the building. Students were sent to the high school gym as it was a cold day. Oops, there goes another lesson plan!

Of course, Mrs. Fran Baldrige, a science teacher, will never forget the time she found "Iggie" here fellow teacher's, Mrs. Georgie Roser, two- and one-half foot iguana hiding in one of her cupboards. OOPS!

Teaching isn't for everyone. It is seldom dull. Some people try it and decide it's not for them, not their cup of tea. However, for some ... well, the poem says it all.

A Teacher's Soliloquy  
 Timmy won't stop talking.  
 Nancy wants to pout!  
 Billy's lost his math book,  
 And Betty just wants out!  
 The parents are all talking about  
 Report cards and books.  
 They worry how the money's spent.  
 They must think we're all crooks!  
 A report's due to the principal.  
 The Union wants more dues.  
 The school board's in closed session,  
 Over the pencils we should use.  
 PTO wants mor programs.  
 Some committee wants less wage.  
 The Office wants my book lists.  
 I've lost a grade book page!  
 The cooks tell me the lunch count's off!  
 Four boys were in a fight!  
 The restroom door has lost a hinge.  
 The desk drawer's still stuck tight!  
 But somehow in this hassle,  
 Something's happening, I can see.  
 A child is learning, growing,  
 There's no other job for me!

## First Annual Member Appreciation Dinner by Rebecca Blaho

On Sunday, September 29, over 40 members participated in the 2024 Member Appreciation Dinner held at The Tobias-Zimmer Barn. The rainy weather didn't dampen anyone's spirits and an enjoyable evening was had by all.

This event was undertaken by the BHS Board to show appreciation to the members for the support they provide throughout the year. A three-course meal was served including salad, spaghetti and meatballs, garlic bread, and cheesecake. The dinner was served family style and guests sat at two long tables – reminiscent of how large community dinners would have been served when the original Tobias-Zimmer Barn was built in 1858.

The tables were laid with fine China provided by Dinner Parties by Design, owned by board member Chrisonna Anderson-Lutz. Entertainment was provided by violinist Yoshiko Kunimitsu from Rosé Strings. Youshiko is also a member of the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra. Morgan Turner from Morgan Turner Photography was on site all evening capturing memories which will be shared with the guests.



Each guest was gifted a souvenir rocks glass engraved with a drawing of the Harshman House. The bouquet centerpieces, handcrafted by Chrisonna, were raffled off throughout the evening and each winner was allowed to pick the bouquet of their choice to take home. Guests were also able to tour the new restrooms that are in the final stages of construction at The Barn.



## From the Beaver Creek News, Wednesday September 3, 1986

### Cabin Restoration a Labor of Love

by Karen Scheidler, Staff Writer

Community involvement has kept the 1807 log house built by Philip Harshman alive.

The cabin, discovered under an old house on N. Fairfield Road earlier this year, was moved to Wartinger Park this summer, joining two other cabins already in place in the park. Eventually, city officials hope to establish a pioneer village at the site.

Problems with supplies and manpower delayed reconstruction of the Hashman house for several weeks after the initial move. But reconstruction has begun again, under the direction of a professional in the field of log house reconstruction, Ed Bladen, owner of Anitque Log Homes, a firm operating out of Madison, Ind., and Cincinnati.

He estimates he is halfway through the reconstruction, and that it will take one and a half weeks to complete the job.

Already the two-story cabin is assuming its original shape, and the roof is scheduled to be put back on today.

It is good to see a professional on the job, but without community involvement, he would not have had much to work with.

Nancy Wagner, chair of the Beaver Creek Historical Committee, which is spearheading the project, recently listed a number of those instrumental in moving the cabin to Wartinger Park.

They include: John Rowland, Flexicore Company, Phillips Sand, Gravel and Concrete, Daytona Mills, Tischer Hardware, Jerry Thomas Excavation, Thompson Excavating, W.H. Kiefaber, Ernst Enterprises, Snyder Concrete Products, American Fireplace, George Jarusiewicz, Kirk Elder and Committee members Myron Hagemeyer, Al Gustin, Harry Knight and Bill Kirchner.

Eagle Scout candidate Jeff Willets has been leading a work crew from Troop 234, which is digging rock from the house's original foundation for use in rebuilding the fireplace. Scout troops have helped in all stages of the move.

Also due credit and thanks are members of the Historical Committee, which has raised the funds, organized the effort, and provided publicity, among other duties. They are coordinating their work with City Park Superintendent Tim Leiwig and have been assisted by Zoning Inspector Jim Stevens.



Photo: Cost Comparisons from 1974

Additional materials, labor and funds are still required for completion of the work. More lumber is needed for the windows and doors. Also needed are materials for the roof and the mortar chinking which goes between the logs.

## Board of Trustees

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bhsohio@gmail.com

**Vice President, Bobbie Carpenter**  
bhsohio@gmail.com

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– consider volunteering

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wike@beavercreekohio.gov

**Archive Director**  
– consider volunteering

**Beavercreek Township Liaison  
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rrushing@beavercreektownship.org

## We Need You!

If you have an appreciation for the unique and colorful history of Beaver Creek and a willingness to work with others, you are a prime candidate to join our team! Volunteers are the backbone of our organization! We need help in several areas to make our team complete and share the workload. You will not work alone—existing board members are ready to provide support. Please consider helping in the following areas: Program Director, and Historical Buildings Director. Contact bhsohio@gmail.com

## Call for Board Nominations - Beaver Creek Historical Society

Dear Members and Supporters,

Are you passionate about preserving the rich history of Beaver Creek? Do you want to make a lasting impact on the community? We invite YOU to step up and help guide the future of the Beaver Creek Historical Society by joining our Board of Directors!

This is a unique opportunity to take an active role in shaping the direction of our programs, events, and initiatives. As a board member, you'll collaborate with like-minded individuals to celebrate and preserve Beaver Creek's historical treasures while engaging the community in meaningful ways. Whether your passion lies in education, preservation, or public outreach, your expertise and enthusiasm can help us achieve our mission.

We are seeking nominations for dynamic individuals who are dedicated to community service, creative thinking, and leadership. Board members will have the opportunity to contribute to strategic planning, fundraising efforts, and the continued development of our historical archives and programs.

Don't miss this chance to be part of an organization that honors our past while building an exciting future. Submit your nomination today and help us continue to bring Beaver Creek's history to life for future generations.

Nomination Deadline: [Insert Deadline]

Historically appreciative,  
Brett Williford

## Not getting our emails?

BHS sends out periodic, time-sensitive email announcements. Send your address to bhsohio@gmail.com to make sure you are on the list. (We do not share emails.)

## Curious About Past Newsletter Editions?

Please check out our website: beavercreekhistoricalsociety.org

Welcome  
New Members:

*No new members currently.*

Thank You Lifetime  
Business Sponsors:

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Contact bhsohio@gmail.com to  
learn more about becoming a  
business sponsor

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Monthly Board of Directors Meetings

First Tuesdays, 4:30 P.M.

Lofino Plaza Meeting Room

### Log by Log Submissions Due Dec 8th

As always

Submit to [bhsohio@gmail.com](mailto:bhsohio@gmail.com)

### 2024 Quarterly Meeting & Program Dates

October 22, 5:30p.m.

Wartinger Park

3080 Kemp Rd.

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.



1368 RESEARCH PARK DRIVE

BEAVERCREEK, OHIO 45432

[BeaverCreekHistoricalSociety.org](http://BeaverCreekHistoricalSociety.org)

*Thank You for Your Support*

THE BEAVERCREEK  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S

# Quarterly Meeting

*Tuesday, October 22, 5:30-7:00 p.m., Wartinger Park, 3080 Kemp Rd.*

Join us for our October quarterly meeting and restroom dedication on Tuesday, October 22, 5:30-7:00 pm, Wartinger Park, 3080 Kemp Rd. The quarterly meeting will be from 5:30-6:00 pm. Then from 6-7 pm we will showcase the Historical Society's 3rd Grade Living History program. All Beaver Creek 3rd graders visit the park in the Fall or Spring to experience what life was like in our community during the 1800's. The downstairs of the cabins will be open for you to tour and see where and what the students learn about during their trip to the park. Maybe you would like to become a volunteer and help us with the program. As a visitor to the park that evening, you can experience the techniques of candle making (make your own candle) and washing laundry as it was practiced in the past. These hands-on activities will provide a fascinating insight into the craftsmanship and daily routines of earlier eras. Don't miss this opportunity to engage in history in a meaningful and interactive way.