

Affiliated with the City of Beaver Creek

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



Fall 2025

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BeaverCreekHistoricalSociety.org

Greene County Women's Hall of Fame Honorees 2025

The Greene County Women's Hall of Fame was established in 1981 by the late Alice Mae Warner Halle and is endorsed by the Greene County Commissioners. The purpose of the Hall of Fame is to celebrate and honor women of varied backgrounds and talents for their dedication to making Greene County a better place to live.

This year Marsha DeWeese and Amy Rohrback were inducted in the Hall of Fame for their community service with the historical society. A committee reads through applications and letters of recommendation to select the honorees. Below are some excerpts from these recommendations:

I'm writing as the current president of the Beaver Creek Historical Society to lend my enthusiastic support to the nomination of Amy Rohrback and Marsha DeWeese for their vital contributions in managing our Living History program. Over the past five years I have witnessed their dedication to our educational program. They have demonstrated exceptional leadership. For example, during the COVID lockdown period they took the initiative to produce video presentations to take the place of our in-person instruction. In addition to that for both spring and fall programs, they organized, procured and managed all of the materials, volunteers, and coordination with the schools. Their efforts are an example of their professionalism and character that result in a high-quality educational experience.

Amy and Marsha would secure six volunteers (in addition to the two of them) for each date. This meant they had to recruit volunteers to fill anywhere from 72-84 slots for each fall or spring session. The day was divided into six activities: spinning, finger knitting, making rag dolls, quilting, making butter,

and gardening which are run by the volunteers. If a volunteer had to be absent at the last minute Amy or Marsha would fill in for that activity. The introduction, lunchtime, schoolhouse time (what a classroom was like in the 1800's) and playing with outdoor toys from the time period were all supervised solely by Marsha and Amy alongside the classroom teachers and chaperones. Third grade students spent the day immersing themselves in hands-on learning and making history come alive in a way that textbooks simply can't replicate.

Dear Volunteer,

Thank you for teaching us about pioneer times and teaching us to do the things pioneers did, and volunteering. You helped us knit, sew, make butter, make rag dolls, make yarn, make cornmeal and planting. You were patient and kind. I hope other people go on this field trip.

Because of you guys I feel like a pioneer.

Thank you for making my trip the best field trip! I love Wartinger Park, it made me smile.

Marsha DeWeese had devoted 28 years to education as an Intervention Specialist for Beaver Creek City Schools. Throughout her career, she actively volunteered in various roles, striving to positively impact students and colleagues. In 2022, her commitment was recognized when she received the Outstanding Educator of the Year Award. Upon retirement, Marsha continued her passion for service, volunteering with Greene Optimist and the Beaver Creek Historical Soci-



L to R: Marsha DeWeese,
Amy Rohrback

ety. As co-coordinator for the Living History Program, she organizes engaging materials for more than 600 third graders who visit Wartinger Park, making local history accessible and alive, fostering curiosity and understanding in young Learners.

Amy Rohrback has served as the Fall Living History coordinator since 2017, following her mother, Gerry Jetter-Smalley’s legacy in the role. After retiring from a 27-year teaching career in Xenia Community Schools. During the 2020-21 school year, she created a video series to showcase local history when third graders could not visit Wartinger Park due to COVID-19. In spring 2021, Amy brought the program to Beavercreek elementary schools, making history come alive. Today, she collaborates with the Beavercreek Historical Society to inspire curiosity and deepen students/ understanding of their community’s past.

Former inductees from BHS:

Roberta “Bobbie” Carpenter	Becka Perales
Jo Ferguson	Diane Phillips
Carol Graff	Julie Vann
Grace Hagenbuch	Nancy Wagner
Jill Kincer	Deborah Wallace
Wendy Kirchoff	Laura Bader



Hall of Fame Recipients receive Resolutions from Greene County Commissioners.

Shared History

Retold by Bobbie Carpenter, BHS Vice President

Bucky Beaver, the high school mascot, probably appeared at a football game in the 1950s. Someone made a beaver suit for a young man named Kenny McFarland. Well, he was young then. Most probably he was the first Bucky Beaver.

Every year in the fall, new students move into Beavercreek. Some families are military; others have bought new homes in the new plats that have continued to spring up in Beavercreek. Beaver schools had continued to be added to the district and by the 1980s there were five elementary buildings, two junior high schools (grades 7-9) and of course the high school.

A new student entered one of the junior high schools. Let’s call him “Bucky”. Teachers were made aware of the new student, “Bucky”. He had some learning difficulties at his previous school as well as some other issues. He was put into the tutoring program. “Bucky” proved to be a very friendly, outgoing boy who fit in v ery well. Even though he was new, someone suggested he run for Student Council. He did, and ran a good campaign with signs, homemade badges, and possibly a few cookies. “Bucky” became a Student Council member. He was a good member who attended meetings, contributed, and worked his turn at the Student Council snack shop. The snack shop was in the cafeteria and was open twice a week after the school day.

A few weeks before Homecoming, “Bucky” presented Student Council with a plan. He had arranged to use a workshop located on Dayton Xenia Road. He had a farmer who would deliver a farm wagon and someone with a truck had agreed to pull the wagon in the Homecoming Parade. All that the members of Student Council hads to do was build a float on the wagon! Wow, what a great idea!

The members and their advisor worked several evenings a week on the project. Work had to be done in the evenings when the shop closed for business. The float had a beaver sitting on a chair kicking the other school’s mascot toward a goal post. During the parade most of student council members rode on the float. Their junior high school had their own float! It was a great success.

The school year went well for “Bucky”. There was a slight problem for “Bucky” over adverbs, but it

was resolved. Summer came early that year. It was extremely hot even in April. “Bucky” was upset. All five of the elementary buildings, the other junior high and the high school students could wear shorts. “Bucky’s” building could not.

It was explained to him that it was the principal’s choice and he did not want to get involved in shorts that were too short. “Bucky” claimed it should be a school policy. Also, the girls could wear skirts that were cooler than long pants. It just wasn’t right. Someone suggested since he was a Student Council member, why not start a petition. “Bucky” did and it was signed by every student who saw it. “Bucky” gave the petition to the secretary to give to the principal. Fortunately, “Bucky” was not in the office when the secretary gave the petition to the principal. However, other students were there and saw what happened. The principal glanced at the petition, wadded it up and tossed it into the waste can! Word got around quickly.

“Bucky” was furious! He was reminded that there were only a few more weeks of school. Next year he will be at the high school and could wear shorts every day, even through the winter. He had worked hard and had a good year. Don’t mess it up now! “Bucky” was still not happy. He kept saying that the girls could wear skirts and they were cooler than pants.

A few mornings later, “Bucky” and three of his friends appeared in school wearing skirts they had borrowed from their female friends. The students thought it was the funniest thing ever and everyone knew why they had done it. Actually, some of the teachers did agree with him, quietly of course. The principal was furious! He told his secretary to bring the students to the office and call their parents to pick them up. They were being expelled!

The secretary, a very nice, hard working lady said, “I can’t!” She handed him the school rule book that every student received at the start of the year. Does anyone ever read it? Who knows? The secretary commented that there was nothing in the handbook saying boys could not wear skirts. They could wear them every day. The principal grabbed the book, stomped into his office and slammed the door.

The next morning the assistant principal announced over the PA that the building could wear

Bermuda shorts. Of course, there were cheers! Did anyone think that the boys had read the rule book and knew they would not get into trouble? Hmmm???

Now it would be nice if someone had followed “Bucky” through high school and beyond. Did he become the CEO of some big company? Did he become a Senator or perhaps Mayor of a town? However, we’ll never know!

I am sure that wherever he is, he is doing well!

Regarding The Harshman Gift to Our Historical Society

Maurveen Harshman bequeathed a large sum of money to BHS over \$600,000. This gift has allowed us to do several key things; first, we were able to complete the restroom project at the barn at Wartinger Park, Second, we were able to establish a cash reserve to support our operations, Third, and most significantly, we worked with Greene Giving to establish a long-term endowment. These strategies will produce significant benefits for BHS, Wartinger Park and the Beaver creek community.

The restrooms and support space are making the barn rental much more attractive, and we are already seeing an increase in income for the Parks Department. This income will go into an account to be used to improve the park and maintain the houses.

Although BHS has been operating with a slim cash flow, we will now be able to make better long-term spending decisions. Obviously, this will be controlled directly by the BHS board. The modest charge that we apply to our schools to provide our outstanding Living History program will remain very low.

Finally, we have established an endowment that has been invested in a professionally managed fund (Edward Jones) to provide long-term income to support our operations. The strategy for this endowment is to maintain the original \$500,000+ dollars and use only the interest and appreciation to provide BHS income. This account will be monitored by The Friends of Beaver creek Historical Society. The Friends board will work directly with the BHS Board to provide transparency and control over the investments.

The Friends Board currently is comprised of Mark Wiley and Mary Jean Henry. We are seeking a third member to serve on the investment board.

Historical Footage Donated

Many thanks to member Amy Hess, daughter of BHS founding member Nancy Wagner, for donating five valuable videos illustrating the history of the creation of Wartinger Park. These will be preserved in our archives.

1990 History Panel

Discusses current activities and future plans at Wartinger Park.

Hosted by Myra Jackson, Recreational Programmer for Beaver Creek Parks Recreation and Culture Department. Guests: Marie Wartinger, Flower Trail Garden Club, and Lorraine Wagley and Nancy Wagner, BHS.

1995 Wartinger Park History and Fundraising

A fundraising video detailing the beginnings of Wartinger Park as a home for preserved early log cabins and the Tobias-Zimmer Barn, and the importance of sharing Beaver Creek history.

Written and narrated by John Webster, produced by Gary Deis, and directed by Joe Marler, Continental Cablevision.

1994 Beaver Creek Today Interview

Discusses Heritage Days, Farm/Garden Tour and the plan to move the Tobias-Zimmer Barn to Wartinger Park to be used as a community center. Hosted by Gary Deis, Beaver Creek Today. Guests: Marie Wartinger, Flower Trail Garden and John Rhodehamel, BHS.

1996 Tobias-Zimmer Barn Relocation to Wartinger Park

Film of the process of preparing and moving the 1850's barn to the park. Includes interview with owner/donor Bob Zimmer; Nancy Wagner, BHS Acquisitions Chairperson; and Glen Nelson, BHS President.

(Undated) BHS Living History Program

An early film of Living History Program activities featuring Beaver Creek third-grade students.

Treasured Collection of Gardening Articles

BHS recently received a wonderful notebook featuring gardening articles specific to Beaver Creek that were written by longtime Beaver Creek resident Bob Hamilton. The donation was lovingly made by his wife Phillis Hamilton, and included this note:

Enclosed are 122 articles written between 1975-1984 by Bob Hamilton for the Beaver Creek News under the heading "Beaver Creek Gardens." Compiled by Bob's son-in-law, Tim Dean, Lt. Col. Bob Hamilton would be proud to have them included in the archives of the Historical Society.

Bob was a Lt Col in the United States Air Force, flying 100 combat missions, and serving in the Wild Weasel specialized forces. He was awarded the Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross, 20 Oakleaf Clusters, Air Medal, and 10 Oakleaf Clusters. Locally, he was well-known for co-founding the Beaver Creek Florist with his wife Phillis in 1975, which operated under their ownership until 2021.

The notebook of Bob's articles is on file and available for viewing at the History Center. Please contact bhshio@gmail.com to see this and any other BHS archives.

BHS Bylaws Revision

BHS Bylaws require a review/revision every two years. The most recent revision was in 2022, as no revisions were necessary in 2024. Summarized below are current changes proposed by the Ad Hoc Bylaws Review Committee (Chrisonna Anderson-Lutz, Mary Henry), that were approved by the board on September 2, 2025, and will be presented to the membership for vote at the Annual Meeting on October 28, 2025:

- Add language incorporating the creation of the Friends of Beaver Creek Historical Society established in affiliation with Greene Giving Community Foundation regarding the management of the Beaver Creek Historical Society endowment.
- Add language noting that BHS operates on a fiscal calendar year.
- Add language establishing a gift acceptance policy.

Anyone wishing additional details and/or copies of the 2022 bylaws and/or draft revision language may submit a request through bshohio@gmail.com

Please Consider Beavercreek Historical Society for your Year-End Giving

Charitable donations to the Society are critical in allowing us to accomplish our mission of preserving and sharing Beavercreek's rich history with current and future generations. Gifts can be made in a variety of ways that suit your preferences:

By Check

Beavercreek Historical Society

1368 Research Park Dr.

Beavercreek, Ohio 45432

You will receive a receipt from the Beavercreek Historical Society.

By Credit Card

Credit card donations for the Society are processed through our account with the Greene County Community Foundation by accessing their secure online portal:

<https://greengiving.ejoinme.org/donation>

Be sure to specify Beavercreek Historical Society as the recipient. You will receive a receipt from Greene Giving.

Through Required Minimum Distributions:

Are you required to take minimum distributions from your IRA. Did you know that you can forgo realizing that distribution as income by rolling it over as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) to support approved organizations like the Beavercreek Historical Society? If you would like more information, please email us at bhsohio.com. Your inquiry will be treated confidentially.

Tobias-Zimmer Barn Fund

The Society is seeking contributions to help fund additional amenities for the Tobias-Zimmer Barn such as audiovisual equipment that would be useful for gatherings and meetings. Donations can be mailed to Beavercreek Historical Society, 1368 Research Park Dr., Beavercreek, OH 45432, or made by credit card at <https://greengiving.ejoinme.org/donation>. *Whether your donation is by check or online, please be sure to specify the designation as "Tobias-Zimmer Barn."*

Board of Trustees

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bhsohio@gmail.com

Vice President, Bobbie Carpenter
bhsohio@gmail.com

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**Program Director and Special
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– consider volunteering

**Publicity Director,
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**Beavercreek City Schools Liaison,
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Archive Director, Vacant
– consider volunteering

**Beavercreek Township Liaison
Ryan Rushing**
rrushing@beavercreektownship.org

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We Need You!

If you have an appreciation for the unique and colorful history of Beavercreek 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 area: Program Director. Contact bhsohio@gmail.com

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:

James and Joy Plymer

Thank You Lifetime
Business Sponsors:

IH Credit Union

TA O'Neal & Sons, LLC

Wolf Asset Solutions - Tax Preparation

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monthly Board of Directors Meetings

First Tuesdays, 5:30 P.M.

Lofino Senior Center

Log by Log Submissions Due Dec. 5th

As always the Log by Log is accepting submissions of history, little-known-facts, interviews, and even stories about growing up in Beaver creek are welcome! Please submit articles and photos to bhsohio@gmail.com

2025 Quarterly Meeting & Program Dates

October 28, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Open Mic

Peace Lutheran Church

3530 Dayton-Xenia 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

Thank You for Your Support

THE BEAVERCREEK
HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S

Quarterly Meeting

*Tuesday, October 28, 2025, 6:00-7:00 PM Quarterly Meeting
Peace Lutheran Church, 3530 Dayton-Xenia Rd., Beaver creek*

Annual Meeting and Open Mic Nite

Do you have a story to share about living in Beaver creek? Did you walk uphill to and from school or perhaps you bought penny candy at Belfair Country Store? Bring your special stories about the people, places, and things that are part of our collective history to share with our membership and guests. Also, please bring any artifacts and memorabilia of interest.

Our own resident historian and very popular storyteller Brett Williford will host this fun evening of telling tall tales. As a near lifelong resident of the Miami Valley and local Realtor, Brett grew to know and love the Beaver creek community, its people, and its history. He'll be sharing some favorite tall tales of his own about the intriguing history of our city and the interesting people who made Beaver creek what it is today.

As always, our programs are free and open to the public. Bring your friends along to enjoy this special evening.

Note: There will be a brief member's meeting prior to the program.