

HISTORICALLY SPEAKING

December 2012

The Newsletter of the Pioneer & Historical Society of Muskingum County

MUSEUMS OF THE PIONEER & HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MUSKINGUM COUNTY

The Stone Academy
115 Jefferson Street
Zanesville, Ohio

Dr. Increase Mathews House
304 Woodlawn Avenue

Both museums are now closed for the winter. For information on scheduling a group tour during this time, please call the office.

The Historical Society office is located at the Stone Academy
740 454-9500
www.Muskingumhistory.org

Like us on Facebook

A SALUTE TO OUR SUPPORTERS

A heartfelt *Thank You* to everyone who has renewed their membership and to all of you who have responded to our plea for donations to help us preserve our buildings and collection. Maintaining two buildings that have passed their 200th birthdays along with the irreplaceable artifacts contained in them is an expensive proposition. Not maintaining them is even more expensive in a met-

aphysical sense for if they are lost, we lose the collective history that binds us together as residents of southeastern Ohio.

We recognize the following members who have given donations above their basic membership. The list is complete as of November 28:

Carolyn Spencer, Milman & Lynn Linn, Sandra Turner, Susan Williams, Tina Wickline, Mary Jane Cain, Bill Barrett, Susanne Ray, Charles & Marcy White, David Buxton, Jennie Zeek, Brent & Susan Stubbins, Christiana Fulk, June Straker, Terry & Karin Kopchak, Fred Grant, Jane Cleek, Judy Spiker, Rob Nicholas, Lolita Burt, William Thomas, Nancy Hodous, Cary Agajanian, John & Chris Matesich.

Some members donate their time to support the organization. This includes the Trustees who attend monthly Board meetings and whose names are listed on another page of this newsletter.

Some members do physical labor on behalf of the Society. Whitey Barnes, Sandy Turner, Ann Burkhart and Jim McDonald have all been working on the grounds of the museums.

There is no use having the museums open if we do not have docents to conduct tours. Adrienne Nowels, Jim McDonald, Bob Jenkins, Tina Wickline, and Lois Freeman have helped the Director by serving as docents.

Working quietly behind the scenes are volunteers such as Treasurer Donna Taylor, Floyd Felumlee who manages the Society's endowment, and others who research queries and review articles for publication.

In the March newsletter we will print our annual list of people who have helped the cause by donating artifacts of our history.

There are many opportunities to support the Pioneer & Historical Society. We invite you to work with us to keep our history alive.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Happy Holidays to the members and friends of the Pioneer and Historical Society of Muskingum County.

We have had a good year thanks to the support of our members and the hard work of our Director Jim Geyer. Mr. Geyer was able to secure some grants and help us to maintain our buildings and our mission to preserve the historical artifacts, traditions, documents and way of life of the people of Muskingum County and Ohio who have come before us. We have had more walkup visits to the museums during the fall then in the past and Dixie Wyler has also brought in a number of tour buses to visit our museums. These have been successful in spreading the word about us and our mission.

There has been some excitement about a Boston TV Station making a special dealing with the Underground Railroad. They have contacted us and PURE about the role that Putnam played in those historical events and the people who came to participate in them. They are in the process of making three episodes that will appear on American Experience on PBS sometime this winter. Mr. Geyer's hard work with the National Park Service to get us official recognition as part of the National Underground Railroad has probably been significant in that recognition.

We removed the top part of the brick wall on the East side of the Stone Academy after it partially collapsed last winter. About two feet of the wall has been preserved. We are also very concerned about the front brick wall on Jefferson Street. It is in bad shape and moving towards the street. We will have to address that concern at some future time unless it too collapses this winter. The north wing of the Stone Academy roof is bowing inward and we are looking for grants and other assistance to strengthen it and return it to its former condition.

We will be hosting a Holiday Tour of both our Museums on December 15 and 16. The Buckingham House, PURE Center, and Putnam Presbyterian Church will also be open. Our buildings will be open on Saturday from 10-5 and Sunday afternoon from 1-5. The Mathews House will be decorated for

Christmas. Hours of the other buildings vary, please call our office at 740-454-9500 for more information. Please come out and visit with us during that weekend if you can. This season is always very busy for everyone, so we need to offer a special thanks to our volunteers who have agreed to clean and decorate our buildings for this event.

Thank you once again for your involvement in our efforts to continue to operate this Society that was founded in 1890. It simply could not be done without your continuing support.

Wishing you all a Happy Holiday and Prosperous New Year.

Bob Jenkins, PRESIDENT P&HS



Father Christmas, not P&HS President Jenkins



The Pioneer and Historical Society of Muskingum County is partnering with AMERICAN EXPERIENCE on a new project called the *Abolitionist Map of America*, an interactive website that explores events, individuals, and locations connected to the anti-slavery movement. An extension of the three-part series *The Abolitionists* (premiering Tuesdays, January 8-22, 2013, on PBS) the map engages communities around their local history, expanding upon the stories told in *The Abolitionists* and connecting them to real geographic locations. The map brings events from the past to life and integrates them into present-day America.

P&HS joins dozens of organizations, museums, libraries, archives, and PBS member stations in populating the map with geo-tagged historical photos and documents, as well as more than 30 video clips from *The Abolitionists*. The goal is a map that reflects the shared history of the movement and its indelible mark on local communities and the nation.

A narrative of the anti-slavery movement in Putnam in the 1830s and historic photos from the Society's collection will be uploaded to the map. Included will be pictures and descriptions of the Stone Academy, site of Ohio Anti-slavery Society state conventions in 1835 and 1839, the homes of noted abolitionist brothers A.A. and George Guthrie, and the Putnam Presbyterian Church.

The Abolitionist Map of America is currently a "work-in-progress" but should be fully operational by early January. The map can be viewed at: <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/interactive-map/abolitionists-map/>

Zanesville CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE AT THE STONE ACADEMY

More than 30 years ago former P&HS director Roy Gillespie invited several local enthusiasts to the Dr. Increase Mathews House to discuss the Civil War. Over the years the group has thrived under the strong leadership of people like Dale Curry and Don Moody. Many of our members are also active participants. Civil War enthusiasts from Muskingum and surrounding counties meet at the **Stone Academy on the 4th Monday of the month at 7:30 pm.** (There are no meetings during the summer or in December.) Meetings feature news and updates about Civil War related activities and events, lectures covering a wide variety of Civil War topics, and friendly conversation around the refreshment table. Meetings are free of charge and open to the public.



Above, local attorney and Roundtable member Peter Cutlice shares information about his favorite topic in a talk entitled: ***Abraham Lincoln: Change of perspective 1860-1861.***



The Buckingham

405 Moxahala Avenue

Sunday 2-4 Open House
Musical Performances

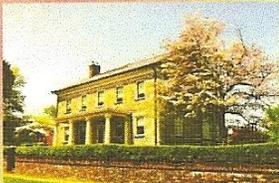


Dr. Increase Mathews House

304 Woodlawn Avenue

Saturday 10- 5 Open House

Sunday 1-5 Open House



Stone Academy Historic Site and Museum

115 Jefferson Street

Saturday 10-5 Open House

Sunday 1-5 Open House

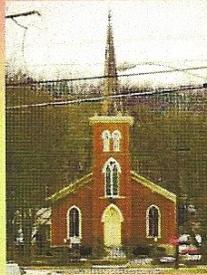


Putnam Underground Railroad Education (PURE) Center

522 Woodlawn Avenue

Saturday 2-4

Kwanza Celebration



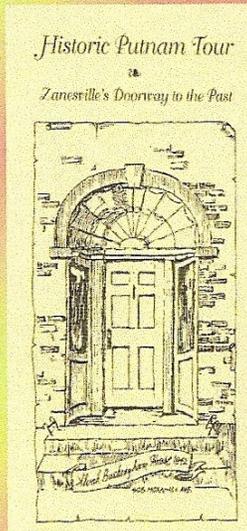
Putnam Presbyterian Church

467 Woodlawn Avenue

Saturday 2-4 Open House

Sunday Worship at 10:00 am;

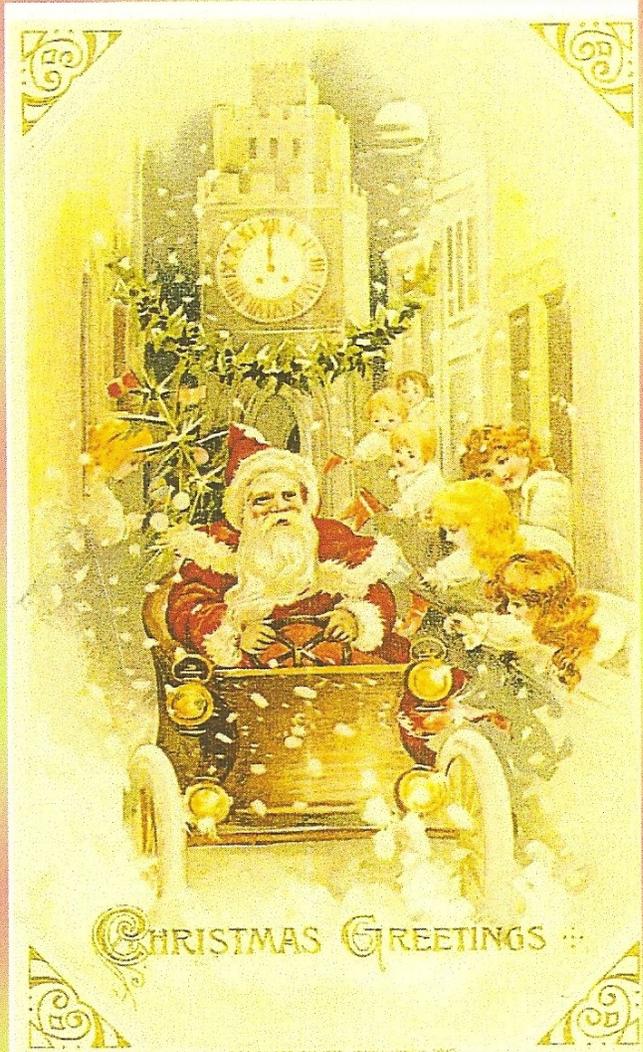
Open House/Christmas Music on the organ from 2-4 pm



Self-guided
Driving/Walking Tour:
Available at Stone
Academy and Mathews
House

PUTNAM HISTORIC DISTRICT

Holiday Tour



Saturday, December 15, 2012

Sunday, December 16, 2012

**COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS
AVAILABLE AT EACH LOCATION**

For more information call 740-454-9500, or visit www.muskingumhistory.org

PRESERVING OUR HISTORIC PROPERTY

Jim Geyer, Director

In October the Society's Board of Trustees approved priorities for preserving our historic property. New restricted line items in the budget set aside funds for the preservation and care of our collection and of our buildings. We will seek grant funding for specific items from these priority lists. Since grants usually require local matching funds, we urge members and donors to support our preservation efforts by designating gifts for our new restricted funds, or for a specific restoration project.

Priorities for preservation and care of our collection:

1. Improve storage facilities at the Dr. Increase Mathews House.

Both recent improvement projects at the Mathews House, in 2006/7 and in 2010/11, included plans for improved storage facilities. Other, more pressing issues were addressed leaving no funding to address storage issues. The biggest need is for a new, environmentally controlled storage area for our fine arts and clothing collections.

2. Conserve the portrait of Dr. Mathews by James Pierce Barton

Other paintings in need of conservation: portraits of Mr. and Mrs. James McHenry, a landscape by Karl Kappes, portraits of Mr. and Mrs. James O'Neil, and a self-portrait of James Pierce Barton.

3. Repair our reed organ (aka parlor organ or pump organ) to a playable condition.

In addition to the restoration of a valuable artifact, this project will allow the Society to offer musical programming at the Stone Academy.

4. Conserve Amelia McIntire's sampler.

The sampler is one of our most treasured and historically significant artifacts. Amelia, John McIntire's only child, completed this needlework at age 10 while attending the Moravian School in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, circa 1812.

5. Purchase document storage case.

Priorities for the preservation and care of our buildings:

1. Repair and restore sagging portions of the

Stone Academy roof.

The roof of the 1840 addition has serious structural issues that must be addressed soon. The repair involves removing the slate, sistering in new rafters and supports, then replacing the slate. In addition, approximately 150 badly damaged slates on the addition and original 1809 building need replaced.

2. Repair or remove the south retaining wall on the front side of the Stone Academy.

Originally, the Stone Academy property was surrounded on four sides by a privacy wall made of street pavers. To date only the south wall facing Jefferson Street remains intact. It is deteriorating and needs attention.

3. Landscape restoration and improvements at both buildings.
4. Improved accessibility at the Mathews House.
5. A new boiler for the Mathews House.

As was the case with storage issues, accessibility and a new boiler at the Mathews House were included in earlier projects but not funded.

PIONEER & HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MUSKINGUM COUNTY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	
Bob Jenkins, president	
Jerry Simeral, vice-president	
Janet James, secretary	
Morten Bach	Lloyd Barnes
Ann Burkhardt	Gary Felumlee
Floyd Felumlee	Alan King
Stephanie Kline	John Lear
Jim McDonald	Mitch Taylor
Mike Willey	Tina Wickline
Jim Geyer, Museum Director	
Mitch Taylor, Curator	

To see this newsletter in color visit our website Muskingumhistory.org

I READ IT ON THE INTERNET – IT HAS TO BE TRUE

Unfortunately, many people subscribe to the above dictum. Claims have been made that Wikipedia is “almost” as accurate as the standard reference *Encyclopedia Britannica*. Despite this, Wikipedia recommends that it not be used as a sole source for term papers. Other sources can be much less reliable. A case in point is the web site of the Quincy, Massachusetts, Unitarian Church. In a biography of William Howard Taft on the church web site we read, “[William Howard Taft] married Nellie Herron in 1886 in **Zanesville, Ohio**, and the young couple went to Europe on their honeymoon.” If this was true we would be featuring the site of the marriage on Historical Society promotional literature but let us look a little farther.

According to all other accounts, Taft and Helen Louise “Nellie” Herron were married at her parents’ home at 69 Pike Street in Cincinnati on June 19, 1886. The confusion about Zanesville might have arisen because the marriage service was conducted by a minister from Zanesville. The “almost as accurate” Wikipedia identifies the minister as “the Reverend D. N. A. Hoge of Zanesville, Ohio.” This same information shows up on other web sites, however, a copy of the Taft’s marriage certificate is available online. The minister’s signature is ink-smudged but it can be read as M. A. Hoge, that is, Moses Andrew Hoge.

Moses Hoge’s family tree is full of Presbyterian preachers. Hoge was born in Franklin County, Ohio, in 1818, the son of Rev. James Hoge. In 1838 he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Ohio University, where his father was a trustee, and later he learned his Doctor of Divinity degree from Princeton. Following graduation from O. U. he taught at the Ohio Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, a school whose founding was greatly influenced by his father. After his ordination, he preached in Athens, Columbus, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Granville and Zanesville. He was pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Zanesville in 1851-1852 and when the Second Presbyterian Church split off as a separate congregation he preached there from 1852-1862. From 1868 to 1871 he was pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Walnut Hills (Cincinnati). Ill health forced him to retire from full time work in

1871 and he returned to Zanesville where he occasionally filled in at area churches. He died in Columbus on August 26, 1892, and his body was returned to Zanesville for burial in Woodlawn Cemetery.

Members of the Taft family were Unitarians and the Herrons were Episcopalians so we are left to wonder what impression Hoge made on the families during his Cincinnati period that caused them to call him from Zanesville.

The Historical Society collection has another Zanesville connection to the nuptials, an invitation to the wedding reception sent to Mr. and Mrs. James Buckingham. Buckingham was married to Jane Wills whose sister, Elizabeth, was married to Mr. Hoge. The Hoge funeral was conducted at the Buckingham home with ministers from Zanesville serving as honorary pallbearers and the nephews of Hoge as active pallbearers.

The internet is a wonderful tool that makes it possible for us all to do research from the comfort of our homes. We can look up facts faster than ever before but keep in mind that erroneous “facts” can now be spread so quickly that they can overwhelm the truth. Keep researching but consider the source.

(The Buckingham wedding reception invitation did not copy well enough to print here but we will post it on our Facebook page about the time the newsletter is mailed.)

IN MEMORIAM

We express our condolences to the friends and family of Pioneer & Historical Society past-president Renee Huddleston who passed away on November 14. Renee was the driving force behind the American Girl teas sponsored by the Society, was the original editor of this newsletter and served as a docent for many tours of our museums. In addition to volunteering for the Historical Society she was also active in the Girl Scouts and the Muskingum County Animal Shelter. We are grateful to the family for including the Society as a suggested recipient of memorial donations.

Pioneer & Historical Society
of Muskingum County
115 Jefferson St
Zanesville OH 43701

Non-Profit Organization

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Zanesville OH 43701

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PUTNAM HISTORIC DISTRICT HOLIDAY TOUR

In 2011, the Dr. Increase Mathews House was decorated for the holidays and opened to the public for the first time in many years. The special Christmas Open House was widely praised and well attended. Many who attended encouraged us to include other Putnam attractions when planning for 2012. The result is being billed as the Putnam Historic District Holiday Tour and includes both of our museums and the Putnam Underground Railroad Education (P.U.R.E.) Center, the historic Putnam Presbyterian Church, and the Alvah Buckingham House. The event, scheduled for the weekend of December 15-16, is free of charge and open to the public with each site determining its own hours. Approximately 1,000 complimentary tickets will be distributed in advance, with additional tickets available at each location that weekend. A complete schedule is included elsewhere in this newsletter.

