

HISTORICALLY SPEAKING

September 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

Hours: Wed, Thurs & Fri 1:00 - 4:00

Saturdays 10:00 - 1:00

April through October

By appointment only Nov. 1—March 31

Dr. Increase Mathews House
304 Woodlawn Avenue
Closed October through May

Both museums may be visited at other times
by appointment.

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear members and friends of the Pioneer and Historical Society of Muskingum County:

Fall has arrived and we are in the process of preparing the museums for another winter. The costs of maintaining buildings that are two hundred years old are high. We still feel we can meet the challenges as they arise with your continuing help. We had a good summer as far as attendance goes with more walkups than we expected. We always ask these visitors how they found out about us. Friends guide many here, others find us on the Internet or some are guided here by their mobile GPS

that lists attractions along the line of travel. Others have lived nearby all their lives and just never got around to visiting us. However they find us, most leave with the feeling that we are working hard to preserve our buildings and our collection of artifacts and documents and that what they saw was worth their time.

A Christmas exhibit that will include the Mathews House and Stone Academy is in the planning stage. Last year's turnout has encouraged us to increase our activities at that time of the year and we hope you will find time to visit our decorated buildings during the Holiday Season.

Some pressing issues are taking up much of our time right now. We are removing the eastern brick wall from the yard of the Stone Academy. We have no choice; the wall partially collapsed last winter, and the rest could fall down at any moment. The building inspector for the city has been around several times to see what our plans are to remove the wall. This wall was made from street pavers and apparently a poor quality of mortar. Exactly when it was made we are not sure but we think sometime around the mid-20th century. On September 22 a local church group, Bethel Mission, will take the wall down. They specialize in repairs or renovations in the Putnam neighborhood. Director Jim Geyer was able to secure assistance from this group at a very reasonable cost. They are not doing it for free but at a much lower cost than anyone else we could find. After most of the wall is removed it will be capped with concrete a few inches off the ground. The Board of Trustees is debating what to do with that border in the future. The cost of replacing the wall far exceeds our resources at this point so a number of things are being considered such as shrubbery of some type. At one time a brick wall surrounded the entire Stone Academy. The alley side collapsed long ago. The front wall by Jefferson Street is also in bad shape and something

(continued on page 3)

Preserving, Restoring, Rehabilitation

Jim Geyer, Director

The by-laws of the Society define the purpose of the organization. Included is a mandate to “collect articles of historical interest and **preserve these intact for future generations.**” The National Park Service defines preservation as **the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of historic property.** The “historic property” of the Society includes two 200 year-old buildings, many important documents and photographs, valuable samplers and works of art, antique furniture, clothing, and hundreds of artifacts.

A **partial** list of our “historic property” **in need of attention** includes:

- The Society’s portrait of Dr. Mathews is currently in storage. It is torn, dirty, and in need of suitable framing.
- The portraits of Mr. and Mrs. McHenry, Lydia Taylor’s parents, currently on display in the Stone Academy, need cleaned and restored.
- A portion of the roof of the Stone Academy is sagging and in need of rehabilitation. Many slates are damaged and should be repaired or replaced.
- We have three valuable 19th century samplers, including one made by Amelia McIntire, in need of restoration.
- Many of the documents in our archives need preserved if we expect them to be around for future generations.

Remember, the above is a **partial list**. It includes a couple of terms that need additional explanation.

Restoration refers to the act or process of “accurately depicting” the features of a property or artifact as it appeared at a par-

ticular period of time. Our McIntire portraits on display at the Stone Academy and that of Lenard Perry Bailey at the Mathews House are examples of **restored** works of art. It is possible to **restore** the slate roof of the Stone Academy because the type of Vermont slate used in the original roof is still quarried. Thankfully, complete restoration is NOT needed. But it would be possible to replace the entire roof with new slate identical to the original, accurately depicting the way it looked circa 1840.

Rehabilitation can involve repairs, alterations, or additions that preserve the historical value of an object, or the historical and architectural features of a property. The remedy for the sagging area of the roof at the Stone Academy calls for **rehabilitating** the underlying structure of the roof. Up to 145 slates would be removed, as well as some of the roof deck. A total of eight new rafters would be added and the slates reinstalled. Damaged slates would be replaced with similar salvaged slates.

Sustaining “historic property” in “existing form, integrity, and materials” for future generations is a major challenge for most, if not all, local historical societies and museums. It is especially difficult for our organization given the lack of financial support from the City of Zanesville, Muskingum County, and the State of Ohio. At its September 2012 meeting, the Society’s Board of Trustees approved a proposal to address this challenge, both short-term and for the foreseeable future. The approved proposal includes the following provisions.

1. Two “restricted” accounts will be created, one for the **preservation of our buildings** and the other for the **preservation of our collection**. Money from those accounts can only be used for the stated purpose of the account.
2. The Curator, in consultation with the House & Grounds Committee, will prepare a prioritized list, for Board approval, of projects to be funded by the new account for the **preservation of the collection**.

3. The Director, in consultation with the House & Grounds Committee, will prepare a prioritized list, for Board approval, of projects to be funded by the new account created for the **preservation of our buildings.**

4. The above prioritized lists will be reviewed and revised on an annual basis, or more often if directed by the Board.

5. The Director will renew efforts to secure funding from the City of Zanesville, Muskingum County, and the State of Ohio.

6. The Director will seek grant funding from the Taylor-McHenry Foundation, the Cora E. Rogge Charitable Trust, the Muskingum County Community Foundation, the History Fund, the Ohio Arts Council, the National Park Service, and other outside funding sources.

The adoption of this proposal re-enforces the Society's mission by **addressing the long-term viability of our historic property.** It adds clarity and purpose to what we do and enhances the stature of the organization as **the community's primary advocate for the preservation of our local history.**



WOULD YOU LIKE A CUP OF COFFEE...DO YOU HAVE A FEW HOURS?

Mother used to make coffee in the percolator. It made a decent cup of coffee but it took a while to brew. In 1972 Mr. Coffee and Joe DiMaggio sold us on a better, quicker way to make coffee. In time, waiting for Mr. Coffee to produce his pot of Joe took up too big a chunk of our lives so we switched to Keurig K-cups. A few years down the road and we might decide even those take too long and just start eating coffee straight out of the can. To put all of this in perspective let us look at what great grandmother had to go through to get her daily caffeine fix. The recipe comes from *The Housekeepers Friend: A Practical Cook-Book Compiled by a Lady of Zanesville* which was published in Zanesville in 1876.

COFFEE

Roast it quickly in the oven of the stove until it is a light-brown color, stirring it constantly, and when half cold stir in the beaten whites of two eggs to every two pounds of coffee. Let it stand until it becomes quite cold and dry, and put away in a tight box for use. When you are ready to boil it, grind and mix with a little cold water, allowing a heaping tablespoonful of coffee and a teacup of boiling water to every person. Let it boil rapidly from twenty minutes to a half hour, in a covered tin-pot stirring it from the sides occasionally. Put in a teacupful of cold water to settle it, and after standing for five or six minutes pour it off carefully into another coffee-pot, and send to table. If coffee is not browned well you cannot have good coffee.

(Conclusion of President's Report from page 1)
will have to be done with it in the future.

We are also having problems with the roof of the Potwin Addition to the Stone Academy. That part of the building that runs north and south has a roof that is moving where it joins the original building. When the building became a private residence some time around 1840, this addition was connected. The trusses holding up the roof are deteriorating. Director Jim Geyer is very busy seeking grants to make repairs on that part of the building. The slate roof will have to be removed, the trusses repaired and strengthened and the roof returned to its original condition. So far we have acquired only one estimate but we are seeking others. Any grant we do receive will require matching funds from us.

A comprehensive plan to address the needs of maintaining our collection and a list of priorities was recently prepared by the Director and approved by the Board. We have a plan to address different needs including the restoration of some of our paintings and other parts of the collection as money becomes available.

I wish to thank all of you for your continuing membership and support.

Bob Jenkins, PRESIDENT P&HS

THE OTHER COURTHOUSE FOUNTAIN



Most of us are aware, either from personal observation or from reading, of the naked ladies who once sat under the cooling waters of the courthouse fountain. When the ladies were deemed a little too revealing for the downtown crowd they were moved to McIntire Park for a time and were eventually split up. One lady ended up in the backyard of the Robbins Hunter Museum in Granville and may be living there still.

What is less well known is that there was also a fountain in front of the old 1809 Courthouse, the building constructed to serve as the Ohio Statehouse and which with two wings added served as the Muskingum County Courthouse until 1872. The fountain is visible in the Starke and Barton photograph which has been printed in many publications and newspaper articles but little has been written about it. We thank Christopher Busta-Peck for bringing a picture of the fountain to our atten-

tion via a Facebook post and thank Kristi Spinks for providing an internet link to a description of the fountain. Both picture and description are from the September 1, 1846, issue of *Ohio Cultivator*, "A Semi-Monthly Journal of Agriculture and Horticulture", published in Columbus. In one of those maddening quirks of internet archives, every page of the *Ohio Cultivator* is nice and bold except for the page that shows our fountain, which is faded out. We have tried to darken the image that we print here.

The article under the engraving reads as follows:

The above engraving is a representative of the beautiful public fountain, recently erected in Zanesville.— The yard in front of the public buildings has been enclosed with a neat iron fence, the ground sodded and planted with shade trees, and the walks paved with brick. The fountain is in the middle of the square, and directly opposite the Eagle Hotel. The expense of this very tasteful improvement was about \$1,000, and was defrayed by contributions of the citizens. As a public ornament, we can conceive of nothing that could have been done at so little expense, which would reflect so much credit on the town, or afford more pleasure to the citizens. It is the first work of the kind, we believe, in the state, but we trust it will not long remain the only one. In every town where there are or can be public water works, public fountains can and should be erected.

The ornamental parts of this fountain are of cast iron, painted white, and came from the establishment of D. L. Farnham, of New York. It is placed on a pediment of brick or stone, laid with cement, and is surrounded by a circular basin about sixteen feet in diameter, and say two feet in depth. The form of the jets of water can be varied at pleasure, by changing the apertures, which is done by screws. The water comes from the city reservoir, which is on the top of a hill, 15 feet higher than

the fountain. The reservoir is supplied from the river, by powerful forcing pumps, worked by water power. This affords a supply for all the city, and more than is needed, so that there is no lack of water for the fountain.

The engraving shows a fountain with two visible dolphins (with likely one or two more behind) around an urn-like base upon which stands a woman with an upraised vessel with water shooting several feet over her head. It is amazing that such an ornate fountain at such an early time in our town's history has not received more notice.

To view the *Ohio Cultivator* on line go to books.google.com and type *Ohio Cultivator 1846* in the search box. To see the Starke and Barton photo of the courthouse go to ohiohistory.org/ohiopix and type Zanesville in the search box. The courthouse is the second picture but take your time and look around while you are on the site. The fountain is straight out from the front door of the central 1809 section.

Christopher Busta-Peck has made us aware of many photographs, drawings and paintings of Muskingum County structures. A librarian by day, one of his projects is to find the geographic location of structures depicted in archival sources. To see some of these finds go to the Recent Posts by Others sections of our Facebook page.

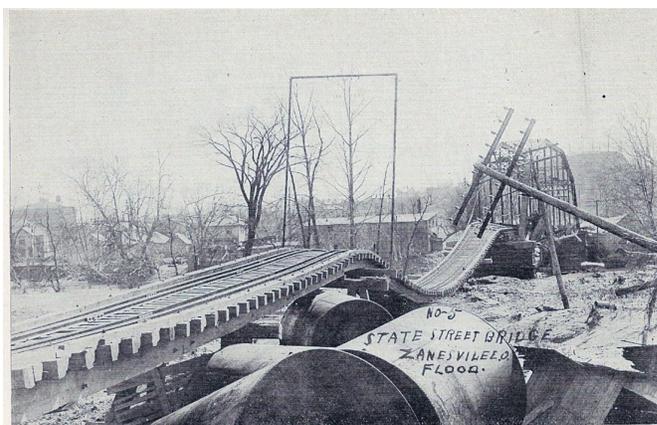
REMEMBERING THE GREAT FLOOD

Next year will be the 100th anniversary of the greatest natural disaster to ever hit the Muskingum Valley – the 1913 Flood. The Pioneer and Historical Society will mark the occasion with exhibits and a speaker with plans still in the preliminary stages. We need your help in putting together the exhibit and preparing written presentations. Many scenes of the flood were printed as postcards and are widely available but there should be snapshots of the flood that exist only in family collections that are just as interesting. Your picture of great aunt Martha leaving the family home in a rowboat carries with it the backstory that turns the flood from a regional disaster to a personal one. If you do not want to part with the photo, we can make a copy in the museum office and return the original to you.

Your family papers might also contain letters or diary entries that describe the flood. As with the photos, we can copy the documents if you want to keep them in the family. A first hand account of the rising flood waters or of the destruction left behind fleshes out the story more than any present day historian can.

Some of you might even have physical artifacts from the flood. P&HS accession #177 is a "winding spool" from Joseph Thomas' woolen mill that was found after the flood in a yard some distance away. Today we value the spindle as an artifact from the woolen mill but when it was donated it was seen as an example of the power of the raging river. Some books in the P&HS archives have mud-stained pages and it is assumed that they were victims of the flood but there is no documentation so we have no proof. Do you have an object that family tradition says survived the flood? An old bucket takes on new importance when grandpa tells how it was found 20 miles down river when the flood waters receded.

If you can add to the story of the 1913 Flood in any of these areas please contact us.



One of the common photos. Help us find the uncommon ones.

Gardens and Grounds

Jim Geyer, Director

The Memory Garden and Kitchen Herb Garden at the Dr. Increase Mathews House are skillfully cared for and maintained by the Friends of the Pioneer and Historical Society and the Muskingum County Master Gardeners. This year the Herb Garden was completely redone and new plants were added to the Memory Garden. We extend our thanks and gratitude to Marilyn Swope for her leadership of the garden committee and to all of those who volunteer to plant, weed, water, and care for our beautiful gardens.

We are fortunate to have a number of volunteers who work trimming bushes, removing fallen tree limbs and branches, pulling weeds, and keeping our grounds looking good. Trustees Lloyd Barnes, Jim McDonald, and Ann Burkhart lead this effort. They have been joined recently by some teens doing community service.

Our Grounds Committee has been busy formulating a landscape plan that addresses some short-term and long-term issues. The brick privacy wall on the east property line at the Stone Academy is scheduled to be partially demolished on September 22. Part of the wall collapsed in January and what remains is very unstable. The sight-line on that side of the Stone Academy will change significantly with most of the wall removed. The committee is considering planting trees, bushes and shrubs to create a break and retain some privacy along that property line.

Another issue at the Stone Academy involves the hedge and brick wall on the front of the property, the Jefferson Street side. The growing hedge roots are causing the wall to lean toward the street and to break apart in some places. We think the wall can be saved but the hedge will have to be removed or re-located away from the wall. At the Mathews House some of the shrubs and plants, the front hedge along Woodlawn Avenue, and the hedge on the Washington Street side of the lot need attention and may need replaced.

The committee is taking a pro-active approach to these and other issues by gathering information, considering alternatives, acquiring estimates, and keeping the Board advised. Expect to hear more about their efforts in the coming months.

CASES IN NEED OF STUFF

A museum with empty display cases can be a pretty forlorn place. This is why we are asking for your help. The meeting room at the Stone Academy has four lighted, lockable wall cases and one horizontal case that are in need of interesting displays. Many of you have collections that would be of interest to our members and museum visitors and we would like to give you the opportunity to show them off. We would prefer for the collection to have some connection to history but we are quite willing to bend the definition in order to have an exhibition that will appeal to a broad section of the public. Currently on display is part of the large teddy bear collection of Mike Kline including bears based on Jerry Garcia and the eponymous Theodor Roosevelt. Since both of these gentlemen are deceased, the collection is thus historical. The bears will soon return to their den and will be replaced by a Christmas-themed collection. Past displays have included presidential memorabilia (similar to the exhibit now on the second floor), pottery and tile, 200 years of manufactured goods from Muskingum County, cordials, Black History Month and baseball cards. If you want to put your treasures on display, how long they remain with us is up to you. We would like for objects to be labeled so visitors can better appreciate what they are seeing and we are willing to work with you on the details. If your collection exceeds the space of the meeting room we can move part of it to cases on the second floor.

If you want to share you collection with the community and give it the cache of having been part of an official Museum Exhibition, please give us a call or contact us through our website, Muskingumhistory.org.

OLIO

A Mixed Bag of Verbiage

FREE MONEY. Not for you unfortunately, but for us. Our friends' participation in the Kroger Community Rewards program has fallen off recently. We know that many organizations are asking you to link your rewards card to them but please consider helping the cause of preserving our community's history. If you have a Kroger Rewards card go to their website (the simplest way is to type "Kroger Community Rewards" in your browser's search box) and follow the instructions, selecting Pioneer & Historical Society, number 80971, to receive rewards based on your purchases. There is no cost to you.

A CHICKEN IN EVERY POT. From watching the news one gets the impression there is an election coming up. To relive presidential elections of the past, see the exhibit of political artifacts at the Stone Academy. Included are banners from the 1840 Wm Henry Harrison and 1848 Zachary Taylor campaigns, a badge with ferrotype portraits of Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson from the 1864 election, tickets to the impeachment of Andrew Johnson, tile portraits by the American Encaustic Tiling Company of the four presidential and vice-presidential candidates in the 1896 election and much more.

I VOTE FOR MR CLAUS. Somewhere the other side of the election is Christmas. A Wednesday feature on the Society's Facebook page has been a weekly item from the Society's shop at the Stone Academy. So far we have shown 16 different books, crocks, monographs and other assorted gimcracks, all of which would make excellent Christmas gifts to friends who appreciate the history of Muskingum County. Keep in mind that the Academy closes for the season at the end of October so don't delay in casting your vote for your favorite remembrance of things past.

VULCAN MIND MELD? In a previous newsletter we asked you to give us your email address, looking ahead to the time when we might have to deliver

this publication via email rather than snail mail. We might have been thinking as historians and looking at an already fading form of communication. For the present 15 minutes, Facebook and Twitter seem to be the way people communicate. We don't tweet but we do post on Facebook on a regular basis. Friends who follow us there have seen archival photos from the collection, scans of documents, notices of programs and requests for help in identifying artifacts. Given the vagaries of modern methods of social intercourse, by the time you read this we could already be on to an even newer form of communication, hence the section title, but we expect to continue to post our history alongside the cute kitty photos for a while yet and we encourage you to follow us at "Pioneer and Historical Society of Muskingum County."

OBSERVATIONS. The critters at the Mathews House have gotten smaller but they still manage to set off the burglar alarm, at the Stone Academy Mike Kline's bears keep both burglars and less friendly animals at bay, poison ivy on the museum grounds wasn't fazed by the summer's drought, if John McIntire was still alive he would be very old and some of us would have had to scramble more to find money for college. Thank you Mr. McIntire.

PIONEER & HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MUSKINGUM COUNTY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	
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Pioneer & Historical Society
of Muskingum County
115 Jefferson St
Zanesville OH 43701

Non-Profit Organization

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THE PIONEER & HISTORICAL OF MUSKINGUM COUNTY INVITES
YOU TO THE PROGRAM

Ohio Women and the Civil War Home Front

Sunday, October 7, 2012, 2:00 pm

Stone Academy, 115 Jefferson Street, Zanesville

Speaker: Kelly D. Selby



Dr. Selby is an assistant professor at Walsh University where she teaches U.S., Civil War, and Women's history. She studied 19th century war and society at Kent State, earning her Ph.D. in 2008. She recently served on the Civil War 150 interpretive committee for the Ohio Historical Society.

Free of Charge

Open to the Public

This program is funded, in part, by the Ohio Humanities Council, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

