PAULDING COUNTY HISTORY MUSEUM

NEWSLETTER

WINTER

EDITOR: MELINDA KRICK FACEBOOK.COM/JPHSMUSEUM DATE: JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2025

2025 EVENT SCHEDULE

These are the Paulding County History Museum events planned for 2025. Please be aware events may be added, canceled or rescheduled. Check future newsletters, museum Facebook page or local media for updates.

- **February 18 – Tuesday**
  Museum Reopens for 2025; Directors Meeting 1 pm
- **February 23 – Sunday**
  Annual Membership Meeting & Program 3 pm – Public welcome
- **March 25 – Tuesday**
  General Meeting & Program – 1 pm – Public welcome
- **April 5 – Saturday**
  Spring Tea & Quilt Show – 1 pm
  Quilt Show open to the public April 8, 12 and 15
- **April 8 – Tuesday**
  Special Presentation: Quilt expert Lois Levihn at 1 pm – Public welcome
- **April 22 – Tuesday**
  Directors Meeting – 1 pm
- **May 20-June 24 – Celebration of the Arts & Artists of Paulding County**
  Local Art Exhibit with theme "Water"
- **May 27 – Tuesday**
  General Meeting & Program – 6:30 pm, Public welcome
- **June 7 – Saturday**
  Event TBA
- **June 9-14 Open daily during Paulding County Fair**

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Quilt show, Spring Tea set

A special community quilt show is planned for this spring.

The quilt show will be open to the public on Tuesdays, April 8 and 15, and Saturday, April 12. Admission is free.

An estimated 60 quilts, old and new, will be displayed throughout the museum. Several are part of our collection.



Quilt expert Lois Levihn, owner of Born Again Quilts in Fort Wayne, will give a presentation on the history of fabric and quilt care and restoration at 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 8. This special event is free and open to the public.

The museum's annual Spring Tea is planned for 1-3 p.m. Saturday, April 5, and is an exclusive preview of the quilt exhibit. Guests may view the quilts before and after the tea.

Tea and refreshments will be served. Each table will be uniquely decorated, most with heirloom and collectible tableware. Bring your sister, mom, grandma, daughter, granddaughter, aunt, friends; wear a hat or spring-themed accessories and enjoy a charming afternoon.

Tea tickets must be purchased in advance. Ages 12 and older are welcome to attend. Because previous events have sold out, those interested in attending are encouraged to purchase their tickets early.

Presale tickets are $20 each, and will be on sale at the museum Tuesdays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. or by calling 419-399-8218 (leave message), or Eileen Kochensparger at 419-399-5818.

The tea is an important fundraiser for the museum, which is a nonprofit 501c3 organization.

We would welcome a few more table hostesses. Anyone interested in decorating a table for eight may phone one of the above phone numbers or email jphs45879@yahoo.com.

More details will be released in coming weeks. Watch our Facebook page and local media for updates.

You're Invited! Join Our

ANNUAL MEETING

What's new at your museum? Discover for yourself by attending our annual membership meeting at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23.

After a short business meeting and election of board members and officers, a guest speaker will present a program. As of this writing, details are pending. We will post announcements online and in local media.

Bring a friend or two – it's free and open to everyone! Refreshments will be served following the program.

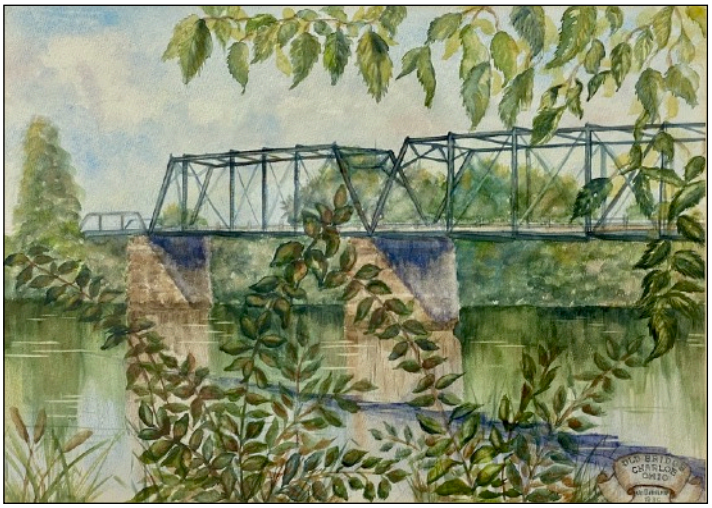
In case of bad weather, check the historical society's Facebook page at facebook.com/jphsmuseum for cancellation notices.

Museum announces art show theme

We are pleased to invite artists to submit their artwork for the annual **Celebration of Arts and Artists of Paulding County** exhibit this spring.

Instead of focusing on a particular medium, such as painting, this year's event has a new twist. All types of media may be submitted for the theme of "Water." Entries will be accepted for works including pottery, sculpture, textiles, wood carving, printmaking, painting, drawing, photography and multimedia.

Water is often a subject in art, through depictions of rivers, streams, beaches, waves and waterfalls, but the inspiration doesn't end there. "Water" also can include ice, rain, aquariums, underwater scenes and pools as well as swimming, boating and other activities.



This year's Celebration of Arts & Artists of Paulding County will focus on the theme "Water" and will be open to all types of artistic media. The old Charloe Bridge over the Auglaize River is the subject of this watercolor by Jo Dunlap.

"Whether someone works in clay, glass, wood, oils or fabric, this is an opportunity to share their creativity," said Melinda Krick, museum president and chairman of the Arts & Artists show. "The museum's goal is to raise awareness about the talented people who have called Paulding County their home and increase an appreciation for the fine arts."

The exhibition is set to open May 20 and continue through June 24.

Current and former Paulding County artists will be invited to bring their artworks to the museum later this spring. Students ages 14-18 may enter a special youth division.

This invitation also is extended to anyone who owns water-themed works by county artists, living or deceased. There's no entry fee.

Contact us at jphs45879@yahoo.com to join the mailing list to receive updated information by email.

Check our Facebook page at facebook.com/jphsmuseum for updates and registration information.

Have you paid your dues?



It is time to pay your dues for the year 2025!

Your annual dues run from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31. We do not send out dues statements to save postage costs.

Please make your check payable to Paulding County History Museum and mail it to P.O. Box 93, Paulding OH 45879. Be sure to write "membership dues" on the memo line on your check.

We are including a membership form with this newsletter. Fill out the form and return it with your check so we can keep our records up to date with your address, phone number and email address.

Did you know Family, Individual and Life memberships make ideal gifts!

We DEPEND on your membership – please take time to pay your dues today in order to help us continue our mission of Preserving the Past for Future Generations!

Events

Continued from Page 1

- **June 24 - Tuesday**
  Directors Meeting – 1 pm
- **July 22 – Tuesday**
  Directors Meeting – 1 pm
- **August 2 – Saturday**
  Chicken BBQ
- **TBA – "Movie Night at the Museum" in August**
- **August 26 – Tuesday**
  Directors Meeting – 1 pm
- **September 21 – Sunday**
  Annual Antique & Classic Truck Show 9 am - 4 pm
- **September 23 – Tuesday**
  General Meeting & Program – 6:30 pm, Public welcome
- **October 28 – Tuesday**
  Directors Meeting – 1 pm
- **November 8 – Saturday**
  Christmas Tea & Preview Event
- **November 14-22**
  Festival of Trees – Theme: "Sparkle and Shine" – Times and details TBA
- **November 25 – Tuesday**
  General Meeting & Program – 1 pm – Public welcome
- **December 9 – Tuesday**
  Last day museum is open in 2025; Directors Meeting – 1 pm
- **February 17, 2026 – Tuesday**
  Museum Reopens for 2026
- **February 22, 2026 – Sunday**
  Annual Membership Meeting & Program 3 pm – Public welcome

I have heard it said that a historian is a person old enough to have lived it.

Nearly 3,000 attend Festival of Trees

Paulding County History Museum has named the winners of its recent Festival of Trees and the dates and theme for next year's event.

The annual Festival of Trees ran Nov. 8-16 with nearly 2,900 people attending.

FESTIVAL SPONSORS

Holcim
VFW Post 587 of Paulding
Paulding Fraternal Order of Eagles
Thrivent
Schlatter's Plumbing Heating and Air, Paulding VFW Auxiliary, Paulding Progress, Van Wert Vision, First Presbyterian Church, Paulding County Master Gardeners, Scott Equity Exchange, Lisa McClure, Village Apothecary and Shisler Insurance

SILENT AUCTION DONORS

Bargain Bin
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Ellie Barnes
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The Seahags
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Maumee Millworks (Roger Nicelley)
Eileen Kochensparger
Paulding Writers Group
Isabel Morisy
Mary Shafer
Sue & Bob Weible
Phil Recker/Edward Jones
Okuley's Pharmacy
Genevieve Noggle
Sue Beck
Stoller Honey
Ed Bohn
Ann Walker
Sonny Bashore
Catherine Harpster
Anonymous
Santa Claus

Visitors came from around the region and as far away as Juneau, Alaska. Towns listed in the guest book included Geneva, Auburn, Grabill and Fremont, Ind., and Grand Rapids, Cuyahoga Falls, Lima, Delphos, Leipsic, Bryan, Alvordton, Liberty Center, Rockford and McComb, Ohio.

Elizabeth Miller and Michelle Stanford co-chaired the festival. The event was another huge success this year, thanks to our sponsors, tree decorators, silent auction donors and bidders, meal sponsors, entertainers, visitors, and the many volunteers who decorated the museum's three buildings. This is the museum's largest event and largest fundraiser of the year.

The festival showcased 101 decorated Christmas trees, possibly the most ever since the annual holiday event started in the early 1990s. It became known as the Festival of Trees in 2002.

We were excited to host personalities from WANE TV in Fort Wayne twice, including a live broadcast. Thank you for spreading the word about our amazing event!



ABOVE: WANE TV from Fort Wayne visited the museum for a live broadcast during its Saturday morning show. Director Gene Olwin did a great job in his on-camera interview!

Music and entertainment were provided by Paulding High School Jazz Band, Divine Mercy kids and adults choirs, St. Paul Lutheran Church Bell Choir, Wayne Trace High School Band, Antwerp Community Band, Chris Bercaw and Santa Claus.

Lori Sponseller hosted a craft night. The kids' annual Mouse Hunt drew 248 participants.

We had several great meals this year. A big thank you goes to the Paulding County Senior Center, the Bargain Bin, and museum volunteers for the Senior Day luncheon, dessert bar, brunch, soup and sandwich meal and refreshments.

The Bargain Bin won the prize for the tree most closely following the theme, "Let's Trim the Tree!" Their spectacular "purple tree" was entirely decorated in shades of purple and violet with splashes of white. They donated the ornaments to sell to the highest bidder in the silent auction.

This year, judges selected their favorite trees in addition to the winners. The Paulding Progress tree, created entirely of newspapers by Michelle Stanford, received a blue ribbon for

See Festival on Page 4



LEFT: Each year, the Weidenhamer/Borkosky Family sponsors a raffle of OSU items in memory of longtime museum president Les Weidenhamer. Here, Amy Borkosky talks with director Dan Wilder.

A SPECIAL BONUS:

2024 Festival of Trees: 'Let's Trim the Tree!'





















A LOOK BACK ON 2024

By President Melinda Krick

The museum had an outstanding 2024, with a number of new and annual events. We thank everyone who contributed, attended, volunteered and supported our mission of "Preserving the Past for Future Generations."

Our **Annual Membership Meeting** in February included guest speaker Bryce Steiner, who talked about vintage photographs and creating the large-scale photo montage boards displayed in the courthouse.

Wine & Cheese Tasting Our first fundraiser of the year was the Wine & Cheese Tasting in March. The movie-themed night was a hit, thanks once again to chairman Lois Beamer and her great committee and volunteers!

The Spring Tea returned in May, with a special exhibit of Vintage Clothing with ladies' fashions from the 1880s to 1970s from the museum's collection. The exhibit concluded at the end of June. Elizabeth Miller is working on plans for the 2025 spring tea, **planned for April 5**, and a special quilt exhibit. Mark your calendar!

Coinciding with the Vintage Clothing exhibit was our **Celebration of the Arts & Artists of Paulding County** series. The exhibition featured works by 22 local artists, past and present, showing 56 drawings and pastels. Six artists were local high school students. Thank you to everyone who participated and viewed this exhibit! Another Celebration of Arts & Artists is in the works for this spring, with a new twist. This year's focus will be open to all types of media to allow all county artists to participate! The theme will be "Water."

Local author Jeanne Calvert was guest speaker at the May **General Meeting**. A crowd of nearly 70 listened to her discuss her newest book, *Paulding County Murders*.

June 1 brought the **Purple Heart Trail** ceremony, organized by John Daeger, commander of VFW Post #587 of Paulding, and Jonathon Lichty, county Veterans Service Officer. The museum also unveiled its new Purple Heart exhibit and a Wall of Honor of military personnel who have died while serving, donated by Paulding County Genealogical Society. Also on June 1, we celebrated the **40th anniversary** of the museum opening its doors to the public in 1984.

The **Annual Chicken BBQ** featuring Andy's Knockout Chicken was held on the first Saturday of August and was another success. **Thank you to Angie Pollock** and her volunteers for always doing such a great job with the Chicken BBQ!

Black Swamp Arbor, Gleaner Life Insurance sponsored our third annual **"Movie Night at the Museum"** in August! The presentation was "Downtown Paulding: Then & Now," a new video developed in honor of the Paulding Downtown Historic District designation by the National Park Service. Thank you Black Swamp Arbor for again sponsoring this great evening.

We were honored to host the Canal Society of Indiana for its **Fall Canal Tour** on Aug. 17! More than 50 people attended the event, which started in the morning at the museum and concluded with a self-guided driving tour of the canal routes in our county.

The 23rd Annual ATHS Vintage Truck Show is always held on the Sunday of the Flat Rock Creek Fall Festival in September. An excellent turnout came to see 124 fantastic antique and vintage vehicles. **THANK YOU Kauser Family/Team Kauser** and ALL the volunteers who help put on this event each year. Also, thanks to our Treasurer, **Patti Boundy**, for overseeing the luncheon each year and the refreshments for the ATHS club members.

Last – but certainly not least – our final event of 2024 was the Festival of Trees!!! The theme was "Let's Trim the Tree!" and it may have been one of our biggest and best ever! The festival was filled with nine days of events. Almost 3,000 people of all ages viewed the 101 decorated trees and other holiday displays. WANE TV from Fort Wayne visited us twice, including for a live broadcast! Thank you to Elizabeth Miller and Michelle Stanford and to ALL the volunteers and members who donated food, time, talent, etc., to make this event such a huge success! It takes a cooperative effort by so many people to make the festival possible; we can't name everyone individually, but each of you was important in making in making our largest fundraiser happen! The 2025 Festival of Trees is slated for **Nov. 14-22** with the preview tea on Nov. 8. The theme will be "Sparkle and Shine."

The new year is already taking shape. We are excited about our many activities and events being planned for 2025! Volunteers always have made this organization pos-

See Look Back on Page 6

Festival

Continued from Page 3

Most Unique Tree. A blue ribbon for Most Lovely Tree went to the Smith Family of Antwerp. Their delightful tree shimmered in silver and gold with touches of soft blue.

The Festival of Trees committee has chosen dates and a theme for 2025. The event will be Nov. 14-22 with the theme "Sparkle and Shine." The tea and preview event will be Saturday, Nov. 8.

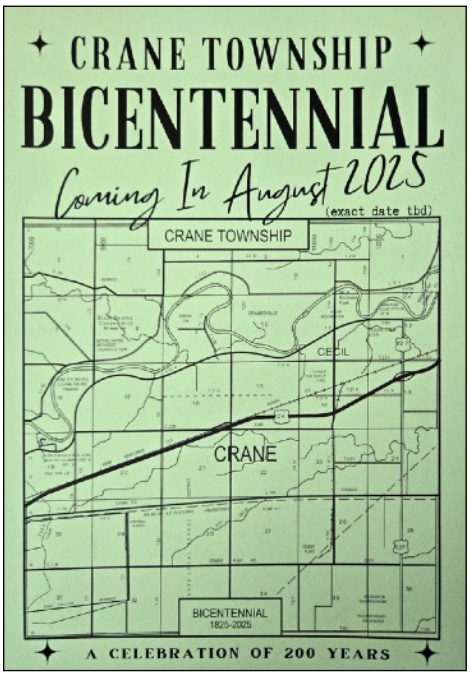
We welcome anyone interested in decorating a tree, helping to decorate the buildings, sponsoring a meal or providing musical entertainment. We would love for you or your group to join us! For more information, email us at jphs45879@yahoo.com.

FESTIVAL WINNERS

Voters' Choice (Most Votes):
Youth: Aiden Lee
Adults: Latty Friends & Neighbors

Best Theme Tree:
Bargain Bin

Judges' Favorites:
Most Unique Tree: Michelle Stanford for Paulding Progress
Most Lovely Tree: The Smith Family





Trustees unveil new flag



Presenting the new Crane Township flag are, from left – Trustees Joe Sukup and Mike Meyer, Fiscal Officer Carol Razo, Trustee Kevin Stuart and flag designer Anna Wells.

Crane Township will celebrate its bicentennial in August 2025. As part of the bicentennial celebration, the township trustees commissioned a flag to honor the township's rich history. Designed by Anna Wells, niece of Trustee Kevin Stuart, and officially approved by the trustees in August 2024, the flag's elements are filled with symbolism that reflects the township's past and present.

The top section of the flag is blue, symbolizing the Maumee River that flows through the township. This river was once a crucial waterway for early settlers and played a significant role in the township's founding and development.

A gold band runs horizontally across the center, representing the transition from the township's early days to its modern era. This band pays tribute to key historical events such as the construction of the canal system, the 1887 Reservoir War, and the expansion of the railroads, all of which were pivotal to the township's growth and progress.

The bottom section is green, highlighting Crane Township's strong agricultural heritage and its deep roots in the fertile lands of the Great Black Swamp.

At the center of the flag, a silhouette of a wheat stalk stands proudly, symbolizing agriculture as the primary industry of Crane Township and a cornerstone of its community.

Crane Twp. spotlights nationally ranked bur oak tree

As part of the preparations for the township's highly anticipated bicentennial celebration in August 2025, officials have been diligently uncovering and documenting historical landmarks and events unique to the township. One recent discovery is a towering bur oak tree located on Road 180, a living testament to the region's abundant natural history.

This extraordinary bur oak has been recognized by Big Trees Ohio as the third-largest bur oak in the state and is ranked among the top 10 largest bur oaks in the nation.

Estimated to be over 200 years old, the tree stands nearly 80 feet tall and spans an impressive 105 feet wide. Its massive trunk boasts a circumference of 20 feet, highlighting its resilience and significance as a natural monument.

The tree is located on the property of Colin Gross, who recently purchased the farm from his grandparents, Raymond Gross Sr. and Grace (Jordan) Gross. The tree has stood witness to generations of family life, serving as a backdrop for countless gatherings and celebrations over the years. Its deep roots not only anchor it firmly in the soil but also tie it to the history of the Gross family and the Crane Township community.

Why this bur oak was

See Historic Oak on Page 6

'Grand Old Pioneer Women!'

"I would think myself ungrateful if I did not mention that one class of persons that have borne so important a part of the burden in the development of the resources of this country. I mean the great hearted, noble, self-sacrificing, never flagging ***women***! Ready for every emergency; willing to bear her part of the burden. You pioneers who are here to-day well remember how many of the women of those days wielded the ax, picked the brush, helped to log, husked the corn, waded the swales, reaped and bound the wheat and helped to haul it in, as well as cared for the sick and entertained strangers, besides raising their own families of boys and girls, and did their house work and kept their cabins neat and tidy as pins. And when the time comes that succeeding generations are building monuments to the memory of the old pioneers who are dead and gone – as they record their names on those marble shafts, the topmost inscription, I fancy, that will be read there will be – 'Grand Old Pioneer Women!'"

– Rev. H.A. Brown, tribute to the "trials and hardships" of early women settlers in his address at Pioneer Day at Antwerp, 1888, as published in the *Antwerp Argus* newspaper.

Historic Oak

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This mighty bur oak in Crane Township, estimated to be over 200 years old, is the third largest of its kind in Ohio and nationally ranked in the top 10. The tree stands on property owned by Colin Gross (left), here with is father, Raymond Gross Jr.

spared during the clearing of the Great Black Swamp remains a mystery. One theory suggests that it may have been preserved as a boundary marker due to its position near a property line. The tree's enduring presence provides a rare, tangible link to the past, serving as a symbol of Crane Township's historical and environmental heritage.

"The bur oak on Road 180 is a remarkable treasure," said Carol Razo, fiscal officer of Crane Township. "As we approach our bicentennial, it's important to highlight not only the people and events that have shaped our township but also the natural landmarks that connect us to the land and its history."

Crane Township officials invite residents and visitors alike to celebrate the township's bicentennial by exploring its historical sites and landmarks. Further details about the bicentennial celebration, including events and tours, will be announced in the coming months.

For more information about Crane Township's bicentennial or to share historical insights, please contact the township at cranetwp@yahoo.com.

Look Back

Continued from Page 4

sible. But, more hands are needed to help maintain and preserve our Paulding County history and to expand programs! Without you, now and in the future, the museum may not exist.

You have a standing invitation to join us any Tuesday or for any event or fundraiser. We have many opportunities to put your skills and interests to work for the benefit of all. No special experience is needed to volunteer with us; our friendly staff will help get you started. Stop by the museum on Tuesdays to check us out, or contact an officer or director to learn more. Even if you can't volunteer, you can help support the museum through membership dues and visiting us often.

Who has fully realized that history is not contained in thick books but lives in our very blood?

– Carl Jung

New & Noteworthy

By Melinda Krick

Typically during the winter months, the museum is closed to give our hard-working volunteers a much-needed break. This year is an exception. Most of our directors and officers have been here every Tuesday, and sometimes other days, focused on **several important projects and having a lot of fun**. Our volunteers are talented, creative and resourceful, and work together to get things accomplished. **Thank You, Volunteers** – you all are amazing!!! Not everything can be 100 percent completed by the time we reopen, but you will notice some big improvements! We hope you will come and see us soon.

The museum reopens for the year on Tuesday, Feb. 18. Our regular hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission is always free, except for certain ticketed events.

We regret that our annual Wine & Cheese Tasting **fundraiser is canceled** this winter. We hope to schedule this popular event again in February 2026! A wine and/or beer themed evening may be on tap (pun intended) this summer; stay tuned for updates.

As many know by now, the annual Flat Rock Creek Fall Festival has been discontinued. But rest assured – our annual **Antique & Classic Truck Show is still a GO** this year! So mark Sunday, Sept. 21 on your calendar. The Kauser Family is already working on plans for the event and has suggested expanding it a little, such bringing in Grover Hill Lions Club ice cream! Some other ideas are being discussed to attract a wider audience. We will share details as soon as we have plans finalized. Remember, there's no admission or entry fees for the truck show.

February is **Black History Month**! March is **Women's History Month**! Do you have any photographs or information about local Black history or women's history? Please email us at jphs45879@yahoo.com. Help us add to our archives of Paulding County history.

Looking for some **gifts with local flavor**? We have museum T-shirts with our logo (taking orders for different styles/sizes, stickers, postcards and books by several local authors. Stop by our Country Store or email jphs45879@yahoo.com for information. We can ship merchandise to you for an additional fee.

We have acquired a domain name for a **new website**. We're looking for someone who can volunteer to spearhead the website project. Can you help us?

If you would like to receive your **newsletter by email**, send us a message at jphs45879@yahoo.com. We'll add you to our e-mail list. The email version comes to you in full color! It's FREE for members. Plus, you will receive it quicker and it saves paper and postage cost$!

Are there any college students who might be interested in an unpaid **internship opportunity** in the future? Stop by the museum or email us to talk more about an internship or independent study.

The museum is now **sold out** of copies of *Paulding County Pictorial History Vol. 2*! The original *Vol. 1* has been sold out for several years. We still have copies of *Vol. 3*, which we produced for the county's bicentennial in 2020. We also have reprints of the *1892 Paulding County Historical Atlas*. Visit our Country Store to get yours today!

The Crane Township story on Page 6 brings up an interesting question: **What is the oldest tree in Paulding County**? What is the largest tree? If you know, please contact us!

Occasionally, the museum has a **vacancy** on our board of directors. Anyone interested in joining the board may email a letter of interest to us at jphs45879@yahoo.com.

PAULDING COUNTY HISTORY MUSEUM

600 Fairground Drive • P.O. Box 93
Paulding OH 45879
Phone: 419-399-8218
Email: jphs45879@yahoo.com

OFFICERS

President	Melinda Krick
Vice-President	Mel White
Secretary	Judy Wells
Treasurer	Julie Anna Densmore
Asst. Treasurer	Patti Boundy

DIRECTORS

Auglaize	Angie Pollock
Benton	Dennis Sanderson
Blue Creek	Patti Boundy
Brown	Sue LaFountain
Carryall	Dan Wilder
Crane	Mike Bevis
Emerald	Jane Stouffer
Harrison	Gene Olwin
Jackson	Guy Dasher
Latty	Roger Flint
Paulding	Elizabeth Miller
Washington	John Pier

DO YOU REMEMBER –

From the Paulding County Republican of May 8, 1919:

When there was a long row of county office buildings in Paulding between Perry and Jackson, facing on Main Street, with a frame court room at the extreme north end of the string?

When the first safety bicycle came to town? It took the owner several days to learn how to run it. Now days any real kid can learn to ride one of them in 15 minutes.

When the county seat was at New Rochester over on the Maumee River? It was one of the main stops on the stage line between Toledo and Fort Wayne and for a number of years enjoyed a good business.

When the county seat was at Charloe and the courthouse was a two story brick structure?

When four horses couldn't pull an empty wagon through the mud on the south side of the square in Paulding?

When the first automobile came to town? It created nearly as much excitement as the first safety bicycle.

When the only road between Charloe and Paulding was under water three-fifths of the time and the only way to make the trip between the two places was by [crawling across] logs?

When the biggest showplace in this section of the state was a plank road that led back into the woods from Holcombville? It was the only way they could get timber to the mill.

New Acquisitions

We are extremely fortunate that individuals and businesses continue to come forward and donate Paulding County historical artifacts and objects to the museum! As you probably know, everything you see on display here has been gifted to your museum.

Last year brought us some amazing acquisitions, and the last few months did not disappoint! Here are some Paulding County artifacts recently added:

• Hand hammered ax, invitation to Paulding Theatre opening in 1949, donated by Jeff Phlipot

• Large stained glass window (at right) from the former First Christian Church in Paulding, donated by Tom & Leigh Ann Matthews

• 1947 Haviland-Scott High School diploma, embroidered "H" and class picture composite, from anonymous donor

• Road flare, measuring tools and instruments, several Paulding County maps, 1949 roster of township trustees, photo of first county engineer's office, donated by Paulding County Engineer's Office

• Blue Creek High School jacket with pins and letters and a Comet on the back, donated by Tim Steele

• Grain and stock weighing receipts from Roehrig Feed Store in Oakwood, donated by Robert Laukhuf

• WWI victory medal, WWII medal, German Nazi soldier's eating utensil set, bank from National Bank of Paulding, heavily beaded black shawl, donated by Nicole Harris

• Letter opener from Brune Printing of Paulding,



Tom Matthews shows vice president Kim Sutton a stained glass church window he and his wife Leigh Ann gave to the museum.

donated by Jim Bissell

• Collection of military items from Paul Morehouse, who died in WWII, including a Purple Heart, 2 gold pins, 3 ribbons and history,, donated by the Dotterer Family and Louis Levy

• Latty Village centennial history, Paulding County directory, photo album, book on Nancy Lee and the Hilltoppers, donated by Ruth Ann Covey

• Ruby goblet "Souvenir of Paulding, Oh" donated by Nila Watson Mumby

• Eleven school books from 1871 to 1945, donated by Robert Laukhuf

• Vintage Santa Claus suit and accessories formerly owned by Paulding Chamber of Commerce, donated by Melinda Krick

• Abstract of vote records, election board minutes, absent war voter records, record of early bonds, donated by Paulding County Election Board

• Paulding County soil survey maps, donated by the Paulding Progress

• T-shirt from Paulding County Fair and T-shirt from Habitat For Humanity, donated by Jane Gray

• 1877 Bible connected to the Weaver Family of Paulding County, donated by Van Wert County Historical Society

• Button from Sisters of the Swish group of Payne, canceled check from Don & Perry's, donated by Sandy LeMieux

Thank you, donors! We are forever grateful. Together, we are "Preserving the Past For Future Generations!"

1881: Paulding County reports

From the Fort Wayne Daily Gazette of Sept. 27, 1881:

Paulding County Ohio.

The county fair was a success.

Seeding is about all done and much of the wheat is coming up.

Uncle Phil Hardesty says he can remember when Paulding consisted of four houses and a ditch.

About 250 pupils have been enrolled in the Antwerp school, a marked increase over last year's enrollment. The school continues under the able management of Mr. C. W. Prettyman,

At the Paulding furnace from 6,000 to 7,000 tons of iron have been raked up on the canal for six or seven years. It represents a large amount of money.

Mr. Boyer is erecting a two story frame building, 22x60 at Cecil, to be used as a saloon.

Timber land is now worth from $15 from $20 per acre. A year ago the best could be bought from $10 to (12. The land when cleared and drained makes the best farms.

The construction trains on the Cincinnati, VanWert & Michigan road are running to a point a little north of the county line and within nine or ten miles of Paulding. The progress of the work has been delayed somewhat for want of funds. It is hoped, however, the engines will be screaming into the county seat by the time snow flies. Paulding has raised the full amount required to secure the line.

Mallotville, on the N. Y. C. and St. Louis road, a little east of the Indiana line, is just such a place of "great expectations." It is the centre of a splendid timber and farming region. It is said that parties with capital have already located a stave factory, spoke and hub factory, and grain elevator there. Two business houses are now being erected, and a hotel has already been opened. There are those who think Mallotville is destined to be a large town on the line, between Fort Wayne and Leipsic.

Paulding is still booming. Some 55 dwellings have been put up in Dr. Dix's addition alone this season. The middle of last March the suburb was an unbroken woods. Now cottages dot the forests in all directions along the neatly cut out streets. In time there will be some delightful residences and grounds here.

On the 20th Jay Cox, a lad of 14 years, met with a sad mishap at Halcombs & Evans' hoop factory, Paulding. A number of men were engaged in putting up a section the stack or iron chimney, when a "gin-pole" fell. In its descent it came down on a platform and glancing off struck young Cox on the side of the head. The unfortunate boy was knocked senseless and up to the latest date remained totally unconscious. His recovery is scarcelp a possibility.

Rev. 12/01/24

Date:_____
New: ___ Renewal: ___

Paulding County History Museum

600 Fairground Drive, P.O. Box 93
Paulding, OH 45879
PH: 419-399-8218
Email: jphs45879@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT FORM

Annual dues are for: Jan. 1 - Dec. 31;

Please Print Legibly

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip:_____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____ Township:_____

Special interests, talents and ideas: _____

_____

May we call you for help with EVENTS? _____ YES _____ NO

Would you be interested in volunteering to help with any of the following:

_____Docent _____Greeter _____Event Planning _____Fundraising _____Research

_____ Maintenance _____Displays & Exhibits _____Working with Schools & Students

_____Other: _____

Please check type of membership desired and make check payable to Paulding County History Museum:

_____ $20 Individual - 1 year

———— $150 Lifetime Membership (per person)

_____ $10 Student (non-voting, under 18)

_____$35 Family - 1 year (Father, Mother & Children: List names and ages of children under 18 on back of form)

_____$150 Supporting Business/Professional

_____$75 Supporting Non-Profit (501c3)

Museum is open Tuesdays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. mid-Feb. through mid-Dec. and by appointment
Annual meeting 3:00 p.m. the 3rd Sunday of February.
General meetings the 4th Tuesday of March, May, September & November
Thank you.

• Please include a stamped, self-address envelope to help the museum defray costs •

Preserving the Past For Future Generations

Paulding County History Museum
600 Fairground Drive
P. O. Box 93
Paulding OH 45879

STAMP

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Do you have a suggestion for an event, exhibit or presentation topic? Your input is appreciated. Please email your ideas to jphs45879@yahoo.com or talk to any officer or director.

