

FULTON COUNTY PIONEER



Volume XXI., No. 2.

Summer 2014

From the President

Dear Society Friends and Members,

Since our last newsletter, our future Museum & Welcome Center of Fulton County, Ohio has been awarded \$1,000,000 from the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission. These funds will not be available until 2015. In the meantime, we have been working with our local officials to design the facility.

The main façade is currently proposed to be a replica of the first Fulton County Courthouse as it looked from 1851 till it was destroyed by fire in July of 1864. The original courthouse was “a large, commodious and airy building, presenting a tasty appearance with the large dome on its top” according to Aldrich’s 1883 History of Henry and Fulton Counties. The courthouse was built by Amos Jordon of Royalton Township and cost somewhere between five and six thousand dollars (\$2,620.00 value in 2014 comparison w/prevailing wages, and \$150,000 if non-union). The opening of the courthouse was celebrated with a ball held in the second floor courtroom.



Artist's Rendering of possible facility

A sister courthouse in Mariposa County, California is still standing, and is being used for measured drawings. The south wing of the new facility, which will house museum exhibits, mimics typical area Civil War era barns.

Soon, a “coming soon” sign will appear at the proposed site (just north of the Robert Fulton Building on State Route 108. More funding will be needed before any construction can begin, and our development committee is actively developing a giving plan. Visit us at our existing county museum, or at our buildings at the 2014 Fulton County Fair to learn more about how you can be part of this exciting project.

Carl Buehrer,

President

Museum Hours **thru November:**

Tuesdays - Fridays 10am - 4pm
Saturdays 10am - 2pm

\$4 General Admission
\$3 Seniors
\$2 Students

Train Depot Tours
scheduled through the Museum



This year's Hell & Homefront guests were treated to finger sandwiches and mini scripts to play 1864 Georgia visitors on their way to Johnson's Island prison to see their loved ones. Bev Ernst played Mrs. Hayes, Kalli Hintz portrayed Mrs. Hill (both husbands were POWs), and Chad Borton presented James Borton who was a Union guard on the island.

Heritage Alliance Events:

Bean Creek Valley "Sentinel Project" Over 70 Fayette Union Cemetery Civil War grave site placards with biographical information. Open daily through Labor Day.

Sauder Village Fiddle Contest

Date/Time: Saturday, July 12, 10am – 5pm

Location: Historic Village

Bean Creek Valley "Seasons Luncheon"

Discussion of the Civil War 150 and upcoming group projects.

Date/Time: Wed., July 16, 10am—Noon

Location: Historic Fayette Opera House

Registrations: Colleen at 419-388-3518

Sauder Village Vintage Baseball Tourney

Date: Saturday, July 26

Location: Historic Village

Sauder Village 31st Annual Doll & Teddy Bear Show

Date: Sat. & Sun., August 2-3

Time: 10am - 5:00 pm

Location: Founder's Hall

Sauder Village 18th Annual Rug Hooking Exhibit

Date: Sat. & Sun., August 13-16

Time: 10am – 5pm

Location: Founder's Hall

Sauder Village Barbershop Sing

Date/Time: Saturday, August 23, 10am—5pm

Location: Historic Village

Fulton County Fair

Dates: Fri. August 29—Thurs. Sept. 4

Times Historic Buildings Open: Fri., 1—7pm, Sat. & Labor Day, 10am—8pm, Sun, Noon—8pm, Tues. & Thurs, 1- 5pm, Wed., 9am—4pm

Location: Fairground Historic Buildings

Sauder Village Preserving Our Memories

Date: Sat. September 13

Time: 10am – 5pm

Location: Founder's Hall

Metamora Area Lecture, "Buried Treasure Indian Artifacts in Fulton County: Tips on Where to Look by Reading the Landscape"

Date/Time: Wed. Sept. 17, 6pm potluck, 7pm speaker Mr. Rob Dick showing his 20 year collection. Guests may bring related items

Location: Evergreen Community Library

Registration: Alice Herrick 419-644-2485

Sauder Village Apple Butter Making

Dates/Time: Wed. Sept. 24—Sat. Sept. 27, 10am—5pm

Location: Historic Village

Distance Learning at the Museum



Many schools, like Wauseon Exempt are no longer taking field trips, which has hurt many museums in the United States. Through a generous grant from the Baumker Foundation, our group was able to test a new distance learning museum tour with every third grade student in Wauseon, OH this spring.

Mrs. Nafziger and Mrs. Bernath received a box with reproduction local history primary sources, i.e. photographs, documents and objects. Using a Skype computer account, the teacher's classroom Smart Boards were able to see real objects and compare them to the hands-on materials as Judy Warncke and "Siebring the Squirrel" gave the kids a tour of the Native American and early pioneer gallery.

Learning what worked best for the tour, including timing, question sessions, and e-mailed post-tour communications were part of this initial tour test. In the future, additional galleries will be added to make connections to other time periods of Fulton County's rich history.

Re-purposing our Existing Museum

The Museum committee has been working on a plan to re-brand and re-utilize our existing county museum building if the museum moves to Dover Township.

(right) Dressed for 1905, the museum will be a perfect for events



The historic site will be re-named "The History Manor" and will become what is known in the museum world as a "house museum". Similar to Thomas Edison's Birthplace in Milan, OH, and Rutherford B. Hayes' home in Fremont, OH, The History Manor in Wauseon, OH will contain period rooms that will reveal the many layers of history within the 1868 Romanesque building.

One room is proposed to be a restored Wauseon High School classroom as it would have appeared in 1885, One half of the downstairs rooms will appear the way they did when Frank Mercer lived here twenty years later in 1905, most of the second floor will contain Wauseon Hospital rooms from two decades later in 1925, and the remaining half of the first floor will step forward in time another 20 years to 1945 when Ruth and Rease Campbell bought the building from Doctor Murbach and started renting apartments.

The remaining outbuildings and storage rooms in the existing building will continue to house off-site storage for artifacts in the collection.

Membership/Sponsorship Form

Name _____ Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ Phone _____ E-Mail _____
 Category of Membership _____ Check Amount Enclosed: _____

Payable to F.C.H.S., C/O Membership, P.O. Box 104 Wauseon, Ohio 43567

If above is a gift membership, then the gift is from: _____

2014 Giving Categories:

Historian (\$1,000) Includes: Name listed on all educational programs and a plaque at fair & museum for a year, admission for 2 adults and children to all sites, and name in quarterly newsletter and at annual banquet.

* Fulton County Commissioners

Council Oak (\$500) Includes: Name listed on a plaque at fair & museum for a year, admission for 2 adults and children to all sites, and name in newsletter and at annual banquet.

Pioneer (\$250) Includes: Admission for 2 adults and children to all sites and name will appear in newsletter and at annual banquet.

* Marvin Leatherman *

Native (\$100) Includes: Admission for 2 adults and children in immediate family under 18 to all sites and name in annual banquet program. * Carol Hackett * M&M Jim Beck * Carlan & Lois Badenhop * M&M Steven Brannan * Jim Gype * M&M Richard Mull * M&M Don Merrill * Wauseon Machine & Mfg. * DeFord Schwall * Charles & Joyce Meyer *

Patriot (Couple/Family) (\$30)

Individual (\$25)

Senior Couples (\$20)

Students/Senior Individual (\$15)

New 2014 Acquisitions

The County Heritage Alliance (Sauder Village, Lyons & Area Historical, Metamora Area Historical, Bean Creek Valley Historical Center, and the Fulton County Historical Society) are now working to define their collective "Fulton County local history stories" so that each group can make collection policies and priorities for museum space allocation. Donors approach all of our museums throughout the year, and a good collection policy will help us decide what we can, cannot, and should not collect. Defined local history stories being told throughout the county will also re-direct collections to the museum where they will be most useful.

At the Fulton County Museum, recent acquisitions include: The Randolph Pence WWII Navy Collection, the uniform of Lowell Warncke, the Ayers Family Bible, Civil Defense Shelter supplies, the photograph collection donated by Rick Volk, Civil War Records via the Wauseon Public Library, The Herbert Zieman Barney Oldfield Collection, and the upright grand piano of the Oldfield family when living in Wauseon.



C. 1888 upright grand piano of Henry Clay and Sarah Oldfield. This piece, a bedroom suite, and a library table stayed in Wauseon with Grant Yarnell (Sarah's brother) when the Oldfields moved to Toledo, OH.



Above, this trade card from the store of J.J. Waffle in Wauseon, OH was donated last year to the archives (2013.25.18). Note the similarity between the Sohmer piano in the trade card and the Stoltz & Bauer piano that was purchased by the Oldfields. The opera singers and pianists in the trade card were all popular in the late 1880s.

FULTON COUNTY PIONEER

Fulton County Historical Society
PO Box 104
229 Monroe Street (Museum)
Wauseon, OH 43567

419-337-7922

Email: museum@fultoncountyhs.org

www.fultoncountyhs.org

SAVE THE DATE NOW!

FULTON COUNTY Haunting History Tours

October 17, 18, 24 and 25, 2014



**FULTON
COUNTY
MUSEUM**

229 Monroe St. Wauseon, OH 43567 (419) 337-7922 fultoncountyhs.org

2014 Trustees

Carl Buehrer	President
Marv Leatherman	Vice-President
Kay Roth	Fiscal Officer
Bev Ernst	Co-Secretary
Chris Beck	Trustee
Ed Gajdostik	Trustee
Henry Pelton	Trustee
Judy Warncke	Trustee
Chad Borton	Trustee
Kalli Hintz	Trustee
Carol Steck	Trustee
Jim Spieles	Trustee

Director: John Swearingen, Jr.