

# FULTON COUNTY PIONEER



Volume XVI, No.2.

Spring 2019

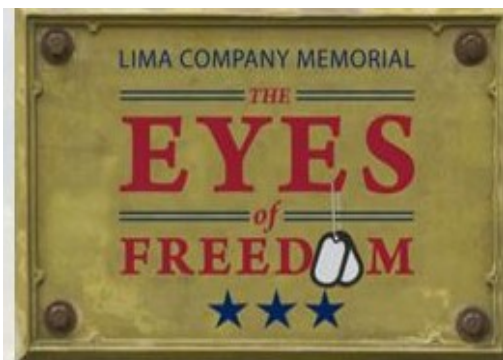
## EYES OF FREEDOM EXHIBIT

The exhibit, *Eyes of Freedom: Lima Company Memorial* was generated as the result of the vision of artist Anita Miller. With the help of the families of the fallen and those who returned from L3/25, the work was completed and unveiled in the Ohio State House Rotunda in 2008.

As of 2018, the memorial includes Anita's newest creation: a life-sized, bronzed sculpture of a serviceman seated with head down, his demeanor depicting emotions of the internal Silent Battle, as the touchable work is aptly named. He represents our nation's veterans who struggle with suicide and post-traumatic stress, as they navigate life after combat. This powerful offering brings healing through acknowledgement and hope to all who come in contact with him.

This remarkable traveling tribute is supported by a board of directors consisting of retired military, business women and men, and clergy. The full-time touring team has a personal connection to the men in the paintings. Mike Strahle is a Purple Heart combat vet who fought alongside these men and was badly injured in one of the attacks. Sean Flaharty, a personal friend of the fallen, helped support Anita as a volunteer for years before becoming part of the touring team. Both men offer personal insight into the history and experiences of this powerful memorial. This exhibit will only be on display for 8 days from May 11—19.

Opening ceremonies are on Saturday, May 11, at 10 A.M. The opening ceremonies will include music by a local high school band, the Fulton County Honor Guard and a guest speaker. Admission is being sponsored by local businesses and organizations.



## From the President

Dear Members and Friends,

Winter was cold and cruel as usual but here we are with spring all around. The warm weather always makes me want to get out and turn over a shovelful of dirt and plant a few seeds (notice I said a shovel). Anyway, warm weather signals the start of the travel season and hopefully we will see many tourists in the museum this summer.

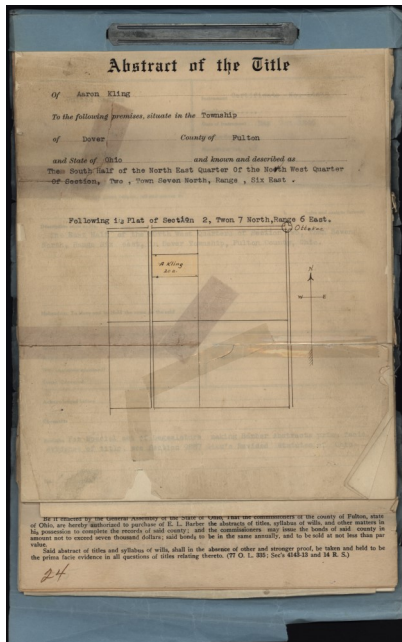
Our events include a re-enactment of the Battle of Phillips Corner (Toledo War) at the actual battle site on Saturday, April 27. Following the battle (back at the museum) the re-enactors will give "live" accounts of what their character says occurred (The stories vary greatly!). The next week May 4th is the Deja Vu Ball. Remember to get your tickets! Check the calendar of events for time and dates. Feel free to call the Museum or check out our web site for details.

I also want to thank all of the local sponsors for the "Eyes of Freedom" Exhibit. This will be the first week since we have been open that all visitors will be admitted free.

I am looking forward to a busy but exciting season, I hope you are too.

Carl Buehrer, President

## RECENTS ACCESSIONS



This is the original abstract/deed to the property where our museum sits. The first owner was Aaron Kling. He purchased it when it was still part of Lucas County. He owned it from 1846—1899. After that, parcels were sold off. In 1925, John Z. and Ella Yoder purchased the site now occupied by the Robert Fulton Building and the museum. The

Yoder children donated this document, feeling it should be a permanent part of the collection.



*This wheelbarrow was found in the Yoder barn. It was donated by Ronald Sullins.*

## PARTY TIME

It's been a year since our last REALLY big celebration so it's time to do it again. The Deja Vu Ball this year is remembering the "Roaring Twenties." It should be a fun time, with a delicious buffet and dancing to the music of the Ernst Jazz Band.

Dig out your favorite flapper dress and your double breasted pin striped suit for this special occasion.

Your invitation is included with this newsletter. Don't forget to RSVP by Apr. 26th (\$25.00 per individual, \$200.00 for a table of eight). Reserved seating will be for tables of 8 only. Individual seating will be as available that night.

Doors open at 5:30  
Buffet at 6:00  
Dessert will be in the Palm Room.  
Don't be left out, get your tickets early.



## UPCOMING EVENTS \*

- April 1-19 Shared Experiences during Grandparent's Month
- April 27 Phillips Corner Re-enactment
- May 4 Deja-Vu 1922, Gala Ball
- May 11-18 Eyes of Freedom
- May 18 Mother's Day Tea
- June 1 The Amazing Showman of Clinton Street Exhibit premiere Members only
- June 15 Wava's Wedding Tea
- June 22 Barney Oldfield Days
- June 28-29 Blacksmith demonstrations at Thresher's Reunion

FULTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
*Monthly meetings at the Trinity Lutheran Church at 7 P.M.*

- April 9 This Table Talks—Colleen Rufenacht
- May 14 Transportation and the Lay of The Land, Donna Christian Rehfeldt



# THE AMAZING SHOWMAN OF CLINTON STREET:

The World of Wauseon's Wood Campbell, P. T. Barnum, and Buffalo Bill

**Special Exhibit Premier  
Members only  
Friday , May 31st 4-7 P.M.**

Experience the Bearded Lady as you discover the world of freak shows, circuses and Wild West extravaganzas. Join us and learn about Wauseon's own showman, Woodson Campbell and his impact on the world of entertainment.

Woodson Campbell was born in 1851, the son of a minister. At age 16, he dropped out of school and found a variety of jobs. After both of his parents died, he "ran away with the circus."

In 1881, he partnered with William Hagar and bought the Woods Museum in Philadelphia running it as a dime museum of curiosities. Around 1886, they sold the museum and Hager used his funds to buy a race horse farm in Fulton County (NE corner of B and 13). This farm later raised ponies for the circus. Campbell came to visit and met his future wife, Laura Hollister.

The Campbells had their own railroad car and traveled during the summer months with the Circus. They had a winter home in Windermere, Florida where they entertained visitors from Wauseon. A potluck party for 354 people was held in April 1925 at the Campbell home.

Donald Van Buren was born in 1890, grandson of Dr. Hollister, and grew up in the Hollister home. Donald wrote about meeting Buffalo Bill and traveling with his uncle.

Laura Campbell was a close friend of Annie

Oakley who was said to have visited Laura in Wauseon.

Woodson Campbell died in Atlanta, Georgia at a health spa run by the son of a popular Wauseon photographer (Frank Blackman). He's buried in Union Cemetery (section E row4). The Barnum & Bailey Circus even stopped and paid respects at his grave with a parade through the cemetery.

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**LAWRENCE McCLARREN  
1925 -2019**

It is with heavy hearts that we acknowledge the death of our long time supporter, Lawrence McClarren. Lawrence was the great grandson of Colonel Howard, the first President of the Pioneer Society, forerunner of the Fulton County Historical Society. Lawrence faithfully continued this legacy. He helped sponsor the King Cemetery marker in Delta, was instrumental in placement of the Indian Mound marker in Winameg, served as a board member of the Society, and supported the construction of the new museum. Lawrence is the voice of Colonel Howard in one of the exhibits at the museum.

Lawrence will be greatly missed.



*Lawrence (far right) with American Indians at the Council Oak in 1996.*

## PROHIBITION IN FULTON COUNTY

Route 20 was named a federal highway in 1926 and extended from Pennsylvania to the Indiana line. It was the connecting link between the Northeastern and Midwestern States until the Toll road was built in the 1950s.

Travel related businesses of all kinds sprang up along this highway in Fulton County. Restaurants, tourists cabins and motels, gas stations and taverns were regular stops along the way. Some of the better known stops were Pinkleman's Gas Station in Assumption, The Trading Post in Lyons or Twins Curves, near Fayette. The White City Tourists Camp was popular as well as Goble's Green Gable Cabins west of Fayette. The diner at White City was an old Toledo and Western trolley car.

These businesses thrived through the 1950s. Then the toll road was built and the traffic was reduced to locals. Only those interested in local history made the detour off the super highway.

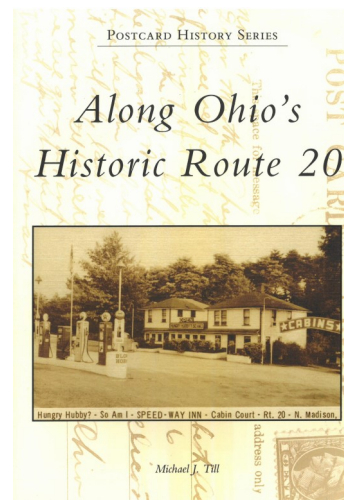
This road has another distinction during the 1920's. Prohibition had been tried in the early 19th century. (See our museum's under ground railroad exhibit) but failed to become law at that time. But by 1917, the war effort encouraged the use of grain to feed the army rather than brew alcohol and the 18th amendment passed. It was not illegal to consume alcohol; only to produce it. Some people built wine cellars, built distilleries, and bought out the inventory of liquor stores to insure a healthy stockpile. This can be seen in the period basement of the Grimm House at Sauder village.

Route 20 was a direct route between the larger cities to transport illegal alcohol. Side roads in the country were a perfect location for a distillery and then a main road like Route 20 helped with easy distribution. Many Ohio cities gained a reputation for lawlessness while prohibition was in effect. Toledo was a safe haven for mobsters from Chicago and Detroit as they smuggled alcohol into the state.

Wine makers found creative ways to stay in business. Many small breweries operated in secret or refitted their breweries to make near beer (less than 0.5% alcohol) or converted to selling spring water or soda. The Walder Brewery in Archbold did this.

The Volstead Act included a few exceptions. Sacramental wine was permitted as well as "medical whiskey" which was sold at the local pharmacy.

Ban on the sale of liquor is still in force today. Ten states still contain counties where alcohol sales are prohibited. Dover Township where the Museum is located only allows the sale of 4% alcohol.



*"Along Ohio's Historic Route 20" is the featured book in the Legacy Shop this Spring. It was written by Michael J. Till and contains many stories and lots of pictures of historic places*

## TEA AT THE HISTORY MANOR

### May 18th

The theme of this tea is based on ordinary women that made a difference in the past and continue to make a difference in Fulton County today. Bring your stories of extraordinary women in your life to share.

### June 15

The second summer tea will be Wava's Wedding Tea and her Modern Miracle of Electricity. Bring photos and stories of your special day to share.

Seating starts at 11 A.M.

Reservations needed

Call ( 419 337 7922) for available times.