

FULTON COUNTY PIONEER



Volume XV, No. 1.

Winter 2018

Upcoming Winter Events

Fulton County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society

February 13 Genealogy Webinar (Topic to be announced)

**March 13 Native Americans In Fulton County—
Nancy Lewis**

All meetings are at 7pm at Trinity Lutheran Church. 410 Taylor St., Delta, OH.
Parking and entry in the rear.

Sauder Village, State Route 2, Archbold, OH

February 10 Rug hook-in

10 A.M. Friday—4 P.M. Sunday

Museum of Fulton County 8848 Ohio 108

March 10, 2017 Consignment Show

10 A.M.—4 P.M. Free

Local artisans and craftsmen will display their work for consideration in the Legacy Shop of Fulton County. The Public is welcome! Call Scott Lonsdale Tuesdays or Wednesdays for more information at (419) 337-7922.

From the President

Friends and members,

We hope you all had a happy holiday season, shared wonderful memories and made new ones to share in years to come. We are making moments to share as we move into the new facility.

Watching the rooms take shape with shelves, cabinetry, and artifacts is exciting (it's also a lot of hard work).

May is fast approaching !!! Plans are being made for a private gala, a grand opening for members and donors, and a Cinco De Mayo opening to the public—all with special food and entertainment. You won't want to miss any of it.

In the mean time, we still could use some volunteers to help set up the exhibits, volunteer in the Legacy Shop, help researchers in the Spiess Research Center and be tour guides.

Thanks again to all of you who have given support in any way to this great adventure. We hope to make you all proud of your new museum.

Enclosed is the new rate structure for membership. Our budget and hours of operation have doubled and our paid staff has increased. We must increase our revenue through admissions and membership fees, store sales and special events. We hope you continue to support the museum as you have in the past.

Sincerely,

Carl Buehrer,
president



Grand Opening Ball,

AT THE MUSEUM OF FULTON COUNTY

You are invited to attend,

Saturday Evening, April 28th, 2018, 5:00pm

—◆◆◆—
Fulton County Historical Society,
—◆◆◆—

RESERVATIONS:

(419) 337-7922, OR: MUSEUM@FULTONCOUNTYHS.ORG

Buffet \$25 each or \$190 table of 8,

1851 Courthouse Dedication Ball led by Forget-Me-Not Dance Company
(1851 attire encouraged but not required)

History of the Ottokee Courthouse Re-created at Museum's Entrance:

In 1850 it was determined that a new county should be established by taking parts of Lucas , Henry and Williams counties. The name of the new county would be Fulton in honor of Robert Fulton.

The center of the county was determined and officially named "Ottokee" in honor of the Indian Chief of the Ottawas.

In 1851 a courthouse was built. According to Lewis Aldridge, "It was a frame building , two stories high, with a frontage of about forty feet and depth of about eighty feet, a commodious building made somewhat imposing and pretentious by being surmounted by a large dome."

Mary B. Howard recalled the opening, She wrote: "It seems to me but yesterday since the first court built in this county was dedicated. It was a grand affair and prominent citizens from different parts of the county were present to take part in the dedication. After listening to a number of addresses, a grand ball was given which continued until almost break of day. It was a happy, joyous assembly composed of early pioneers"

According to Frank Reighard, the leading pioneers were present at the dedication. "They were not crude and primitive as one would expect but rather men and women of noble characteristics, whole souled and high minded and thus were able to hold their thoughts on a high moral plane even though their hands became calloused by the incessant and determined hewing with the axe. The deportment of those who attended that first county ball was probably as gentlemanly and lady like as one would take pride in noting in one's kin"

A jail was built in 1853 near the courthouse. It was made of wood and construction was weak. There were no escapes except for a careless watchman who allowed two to escape by leaving the safety bar out of place. The sheriff's residence was connected to the jail. The cost of the whole building was about \$3800.00

On July 16, 1864 the courthouse was destroyed by fire along with all of the county records and other valuable material

in the offices of the county officials. A new brick building was constructed in 1865 on the same site at the cost of about \$5000.00. This building was used for court purposes only. Other offices were in a separate building.

Transacting business and attending court became inconvenient because the railroad had become a thoroughfare

for travel for people outside the county and an additional carriage ride or stage ride of 4 miles to Ottokee from Wauseon was necessary.

Propositions had been voted on in the past for moving the county seat to either Delta or Wauseon but they had been



voted down. In 1869 the state legislature passed an enabling act which allowed the seat of justice to move to Wauseon. \$5000.00 had to be raised by subscription before the move could be made. Money was raised and a site was determined by commissioners Joseph Ely, A.B.Gunn and M. O. McCaskey. It was on the corner of Fulton Street and Chestnut Street in Wauseon. The two story building was made of brick , with a tower and a belfry. Total cost of the building was \$45,772.27. The jail and sheriff's residence was maintained at Ottokee for another four years until a new facility could be built.

The County maintained possession of the land in Ottokee and in May of 1884 necessary changes were made to build an infirmary to be maintained at public expense for those who had become a public charge. An additional 300 acres of land was purchased to establish a county farm. O. B. Verity was the first superintendent.

Note: The stone lintel from the infirmary will be in the new museum's exhibit hall.

Member / Donor Grand Opening Ball

Saturday April 28, 2018

5:00 P.M.

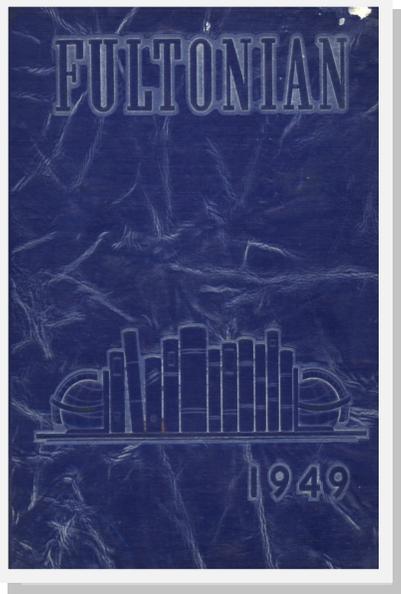
Name _____

Number attending _____ @ \$25.00 per person/ \$190 full table of 8 \$ _____

Reservations must be in by April 20, 2018. Only 200 tickets available. First paid, first served and choice of location.

Send to Museum of Fulton County, P.O. Box 104, Wauseon, Ohio 43567

Year End 2017 Acquisitions



This is a yearbook from Fulton High School 1949. It was gifted to the museum by Carol Harmon. The Ai School was opened in 1919 and had 230 pupils.

OPENING EVENTS AT THE MUSEUM

On April 28th, a catered dinner for members and donors will be held. A program followed by 1851 music and dancing will recreate the first county courthouse ball mentioned in this newsletter. Please feel free to join us in Antebellum Ohio clothing and dancing the Virginia reel and country square dances of the period. Costumes are NOT required to participate.

The May 5th official opening for the public will highlight the opening of the Latinos in rural America temporary exhibit made possible with support from Ohio Humanities, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Digital Scholarship program, the Mount Vernon-Knox County Community Foundation, and the Kenyon College Summer Scholars program. Come join the excitement! It will be a Fiesta with music and dancing !!!!! This exhibit will be included in the price of admission.



Beatrice & Soccoro Montoya, 1942 who immigrated to Fulton County in the 1950s

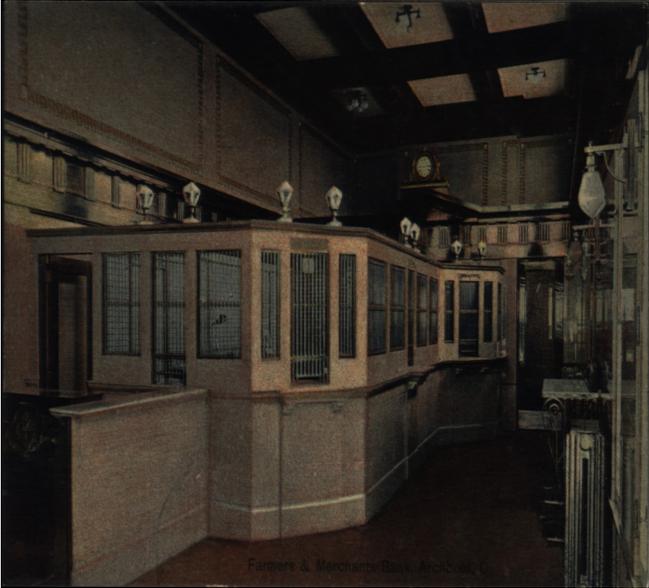


To the right is a picture taken inside The Farmers and Merchants Bank, Archbold, Ohio circa 1911. The building remains in downtown Archbold at the corner of Defiance Street and Depot. It is currently being used for a Mexican restaurant. Picture Post Card was submitted by

HELP!!!!!!

The Reighard blacksmith shop is in need of repair. One chimney needs to be extended and lined at a cost of \$2500.00.

\$500.00 has already been donated. If you would like to help with this project, talk with John or board member Richard Mull so that we can continue to have two blacksmiths working during the fair this year.



Scott Lonsdale and the Legacy Shop

Scott Lonsdale has been hired as the Facilities Operations Manager of the New Museum and Visitors Center. He has over ten years experience in historic interpretation and museum operations. His previous position was Director of Fort Meigs located in Perrysburg, Ohio where he was responsible for the day to day operations of the site as well as event planning, marketing, and managing a staff of six. Scott began his career in museums at the River Raisin Battlefield in Monroe, MI. Where he was the Chief of Historic Interpretation.

Scott will be in charge of the Legacy Shop, where he will increase revenue through sales and events. Stop in and meet Scott. Let him know we are glad he is a part of the new museum. The new museum will be open Monday thru Saturday 10 am to 4 pm and Sunday 12pm to 4pm starting in May of 2018.



REVISED MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION FOR 2018:

PATRON CIRCLE MEMBERSHIPS:

Founder (\$1,000+)

Includes name listed on all Educational Programs and a plaque at the Fair & Museum for the year. Admits 2 adults and children in immediate family under 18 to all sites. Name appears in quarterly newsletter and annual banquet program. 10% discount at The Legacy Shop

Council Oak (\$500 to \$999)

Includes name listed on a plaque at the Fair & Museum for the year. Admits 2 adults and children in immediate family under 18 to all sites. Name appears in quarterly newsletter and annual banquet program. 10% discount at The Legacy Shop

Winameg (\$250 to \$499)

Admits 2 adults and children in immediate family under 18 to all sites. Name appears annually in newsletter and annual banquet program. 10% discount at The Legacy Shop

Ottokee (\$100 to \$249)

Admits 2 adults and children in immediate family under 18 to all sites. Name appears in annual banquet program. 10% discount at The Legacy Shop

LIMITED MEMBERSHIP:

(The following memberships also include 10% discount at The Legacy Shop)

Patriot (Family) (\$50)

Admits 2 adults and children under 18 (when accompanying the parent) to all sites

Patriot (Individual) (\$25)

Admits 1 individual to all sites

Senior (60+) / Student (K-12) (\$20) _____

Admits 1 individual to all sites

Room Naming Rights
(\$20,000—\$100,000)

Ohio History Connection
Historic Preservation Community Grant
Howard Spiess Family
James Van Popple
Worthington Industries
Lowell Yoder Family
Fulton County Health Center
Farmers and Merchants Bank

Display Naming Rights
(\$10,000-\$19,999)

Anderson Foundation
Dale Rufenacht Family
North Star BlueScope Steel
F.C.P. Reality, Ltd.
Edward and Carol Nofziger
Fulton Co. Processing
Fred Shininger Family
William B. & Mary Howard-McClarren
Family
Roger and Karen Cooley
Maurice & Velma Jones Family

President's Circle
(\$5000—\$9,999)

Scott Pifer
Russell Beaverson
Stephen & Loretta Brannan
Gerken Paving
Carol Hackett
Miller Bros. Construction
Bob & Kathy Morr
Wauseon Machine and Mfg.
M&R Readimix
Falor Farm Center
Gerald Grain
Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Leatherman

SPONSOR'S CIRCLE
(\$1000- \$4999)

Pat Whitmer
Scott Buehrer
Gerald Grain
Child's Investment Group
Russ & Karen Dominique
Richard Grieser Family
David Geringer
Grange Insurance Company
Kay Roth
James Beck Memorial
Lyons & Area Historical Society
Art & Paula Miller
James & Sandy Barber
Richard Mull Family
DeFord Schwall
Carolyn Short
Carl & Sharon Buehrer
Jana & Perry Rupp
Mrs. Lowell Warncke
Stapleton Insurance Group
Kent & Hong Zhu Buehrer
James Gype Memorial
Howard Torrence
Walmart Supercenter
Doris Provost
Chris Beck & James Moor
James & Deanna Spiess
Carlan & Lois Badenhop
Hilda Spiess
John & Peggy Myles
Victoria Koelsch
Suzanne Holland
Joe & Sandra Rychener
A.L.M. Heating & Refrigeration
Foundation Steel
Keith & Annette Jones
Roger Frazier
Fulton Co. Dairy Ass.
Glen Lammon
Charlotte Dymerkowski
Stanley Multhouf
Dail Stutzman
Jason Baden
Rosalee Heyman
Glen Lammon
Diane Imes
Don Merrill
Phillip Corkill
Ernst Family
Cheryl Geer

FULTON COUNTY PIONEER

Fulton County Historical Society
PO Box 104
Wauseon, OH 43567

419-337-7922
Email: museum@fultoncountyhs.org
www.fultoncountyhs.org

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage-Paid
Wauseon, OH 43567

Permit No. 6



8848 Ohio 108
Wauseon, Ohio 43567
419 337 7922

2018 Trustees

Carl Buehrer	President
Marv Leatherman	Vice-President
Kay Roth	Fiscal Officer
Chris Beck	Co-Secretary
Bev Ernst	Co-Secretary
Ed Gajdostik	Trustee
John Myles	Trustee
Richard Mull	Trustee
Judy Warncke	Trustee
Chad Borton	Trustee
Kalli Hintz	Trustee
Jana Rupp	Trustee