

HISTORICALLY SPEAKING

March 2012

The Newsletter of the Pioneer & Historical Society of Muskingum County

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings from your Pioneer and Historical Society. An early spring has caught us somewhat unprepared for mowing the high grass, cleaning up the yards and other duties. Still, it has been a gorgeous spring and non-winter. We open for regular hours on April 1. We anticipate a good season and a lot of guests to visit our museums and activities.

The Mathews House project is coming along nicely. Most of the exterior retrofitting of windows and doors has been done. New shakes have replaced those that were split on the south side of the building and that side was re-stained. The broken slates on the roof have been replaced. New soffit, downspouts and gutters are in place. Chimney bricks had to be re-laid due to the poor condition of the mortar. Some painting is not quite finished. If you get the chance, visit the Mathews House on Woodlawn and look at the newly restored exterior. The Executive committee and Mr. Geyer are quite pleased with the results. The exterior should be good for another generation to enjoy.

The mild temperature doesn't mean that we came through the winter unscathed. The retaining wall to the east side of the Stone Academy partially collapsed on the neighbor's walk and wooden steps. Fortunately, Mr. Geyer was able to get the crew working on the Mathews House to pick up the fallen brick and make repairs on the neighbor's property. We still have to decide what to do with the remainder of the wall. No one quite knows how old the wall is but the part that collapsed indicated that the mortar was mostly composed of sand and paving bricks. Much of the remaining wall is leaning in different directions and it seems to be lacking a footer. The city has sent out an inspector and the Executive Committee is going to have to make a

decision with the advice of our architect. One of the three heating and cooling units in the Stone Academy died and will have to be totally replaced. After more than thirty years of hard work it has reached the end of its life expectancy. The upkeep of historical buildings is always expensive and never ending, but that is part of our mission and reason to exist. Mr. Geyer has spent the winter seeking funding for future repairs in the form of grants to help with the expense of replacing the thirty five year old boiler in the Mathews House with a more efficient one. Once the windows are totally resealed, re-caulked and waterproofed we anticipate lower utility bills, especially if we can update the heating and cooling systems.

The Friends had their first meeting of the season and it was well attended on St. Patrick's Day. They have also been busy with the Mathews House, already they are planning this year's garden and they have removed some overgrown vegetation as well.

The historical society has lost two of our greatest supporters with the passing of Jane Price and James Stubbins. Our sincere condolences to their families; they will both be missed deeply.

Bob Jenkins

PRESIDENT, PIONEER AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF MUSKINGUM COUNTY



Updates

from the Director

Mathews House Renovations: I am pleased to report that the work at the Mathews House has gone well. The crew from Lepi Enterprises and their sub-contractors are to be commended. The original contract amount for window & door restoration, siding and roof repairs, and exterior painting totaled \$60,295. In anticipation of additional funding, and with approval of the P&HS Board, I signed a change order on March 9 totaling \$6,724 for additional roof work and shutter restoration. I will continue to seek funding for the remaining phases of the project that address issues with the boiler, storage, and accessibility.

The Stone Academy: In 2011, the National Park Service approved the Stone Academy as a documented National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom site. In addition, *American Heritage* magazine and the Appalachian Regional Commission listed the building as a **Civil War: The Home Front** featured site. Because of this national recognition, the Stone Academy is now being promoted as a **Historic Site** as well as local history museum. We have already seen the benefits with increases in motor coach tour bookings with specific requests for UGRR and Civil War highlighted tours.

Not all news is good. Two expensive issues popped over the winter. In mid-January a portion of the side privacy wall collapsed and much of what remains is unstable and must be repaired or removed. We are working with architect Pat Kelly to formulate a workable plan of action. Also, on March 7, one of the three furnaces died and cannot be repaired. We are thankful for the mild weather; a new unit will be installed soon.

Volunteer Training: The biggest need in 2012 is to recruit and train new museum volunteers with the goal of increasing the number of hours our museums can be opened to the public. We are looking for willing individuals capable of giving tours and operating one or both of our museums

during the regular hours or for tours by appointment. Volunteers must successfully complete a training program and be willing to commit a minimum of three half-days per month of service. If you are interested, or would like more information, just call the office (454-9500).

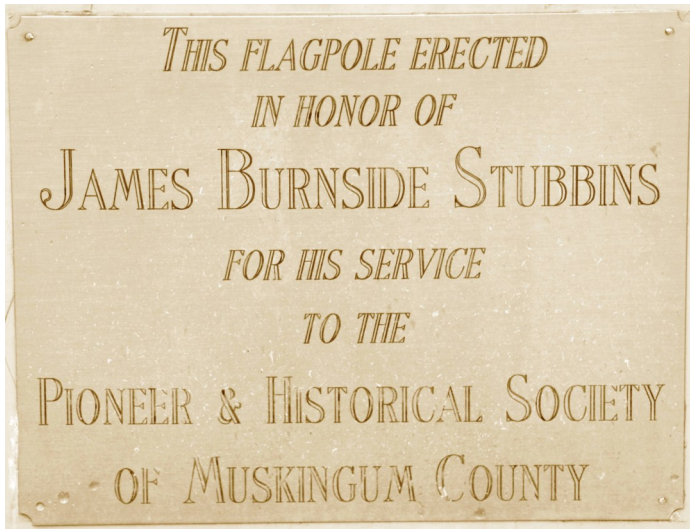
Programming: I encourage you to take advantage of the many programs offered free of charge at our museums. P&HS will continue our lecture series "**CIVIL WAR: THE HOME FRONT**" with programs about Civil War medicine and Ohio women in the Civil War. The Friends of P&HS also will present a series of programs at the Stone Academy. More information about these is included elsewhere in this newsletter. A special "re-dedication" program of some sort is in the works for the Mathews House this summer, as well as another Christmas Open House in December. In addition, the Zanesville Civil War Roundtable continues to present programs on the 4th Monday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Stone Academy.

Contact Information: If you would like additional information about these or other items I encourage you to contact me by phone (454-9500), e-mail (phsomc@sbcglobal.net), or by stopping by the office at the Stone Academy (115 Jefferson Street).

Jim Geyer

ARE YOU STILL WITH US?

Most of our members have renewed their membership for another year and for that, we thank you. Your financial and moral support is greatly appreciated. If we have not received your dues, there will be a small red dot near the upper left corner of your address label. We value every member so please renew soon. If we have done something that has caused us to lose your support, please let us know by using the "contact us" feature on our website. We like to hear from our members.



Plaque on flagpole in front of Dr. Increase Mathews House Museum.

IN MEMORIAM

The Historical Society lost a long-time friend when Jim Stubbins passed away in February. Jim served as Society president from 1972 until 1974 and again from 1975 until 1976. During his second term he played a part in the development of the first military room at the Dr. Increase Mathews House Museum. In the 1980s, Jim was Society treasurer and after giving up the daily grind of making deposits and writing checks he still looked after the Society's finances by serving as Society comptroller, preparing quarterly tax reports.

In 2006 the Society honored Jim for his work on behalf of the Society by dedicating a flagpole in front of the Mathews House to him. The location was appropriate as it is visible from the Henry Mathews house across the street, a house that Jim spent considerable time and money restoring. His work resulted in another one of Muskingum County's historic homes being preserved.

The Society is grateful to the Stubbins family for listing us as a possible recipient of memorial donations and we thank all of Jim's friends who have made donations in his memory. The money will be used to carry on the work of the organization he served and the preservation of the neighborhood in which he lived the last years of his life.

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

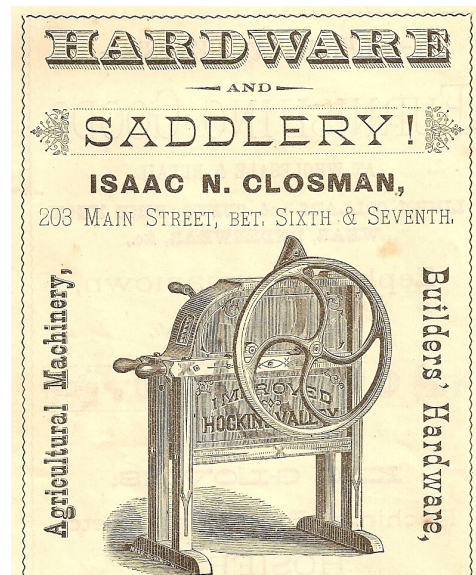
Dr. Increase Mathews House
304 Woodlawn Avenue
Hours: Sat & Sun 1:00 - 4:00
June through August

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

Like us on Facebook



NEW ACCESSIONS 2011

It makes headlines when large museums spend millions of dollars to purchase paintings, sculptures and other cultural artifacts to add to their collections. This method of acquisition is splashy and attention grabbing but it is not common. Most museums, both large and small, rely on the donation of artifacts to add to the collections. Each year we use the spring newsletter to acknowledge the donations of artifacts made to the Pioneer and Historical Society during the previous year.

Donated by James Marquand

- Student debate written on stationery of The Muskingum County Teachers Association, 1911

Donated by Lolita Burt

- J. J. Hermann Elk-Wood Whiskey bottle, Zanesville

Donated by Stephanie Kline

- Fraunfelter China Company flower pot
- Bifocal eyeglasses and case

Donated by J. Aaron Chandler

- Oil on canvas painting, "Hazlett's Battery on Little Roundtop, original art by the donor
- Oil on canvas painting, "Coming to Blows" [Stone Academy at night besieged by rioters], original art by the donor

Donated by Susan Ford Steward

- Oil on canvas portrait of Harriet Jane (Lee) Ford
- Diary of Jane Ford
- The Standard Diary, 1894
- Photograph of Harriett Ford
- Family photographs

Donated by Shirley McCallister

- Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District tile by Mosaic Tile Company
- 9 Zane Trace Commemoration badges
- 5 Zane's Trace Commemoration wooden nickels
- Zane Trace Commemoration bell, 1978

Donated by Martha Ashcroft

- Two boxes of personal effects (uniforms, souvenirs, photographs) of SP4 Floyd Steven Whyde from his time in the Army, 1968-1970

Donated by David M. and Donna Taylor

- 11 pieces related to the Bailey Drug Company of Zanesville

Donated by J. William Barrett

- Three pieces of Robinson Glass, Zanesville
- Three advertising cards
- Railroad map of Ohio

Donated by Willits H. Sawyer

- Bowler hat

Donated by Joseph Rutter

- Red and green navigation lanterns from the steam launch Del Norte
- Brass steam whistle stamped S. Printz
- Single cylinder walking beam steam engine, c. 1850-52, reused on the Del Norte
- Supporting documents for the above

Donated by Nancy Elizabeth Hazlett Donley

- Tabletop water heater engraved "Hazlett".

Donated by Barbara Beckley Chaney

- Photograph of Cornelius Ludlow Voorhies taken by Starke & Barton, Zanesville
- Photograph of unknown man, perhaps brother of above

Donated by Floyd Felumlee

- Ceramic paperweight in shape of the earth made by Mosaic Tile Company.

Two recent donations can't wait until next March to be acknowledged. Life Member **Paul Fisher** donated a significant number of publications that will be added to the library and the archives including the Carskadden collection of Elijah Hart Church articles that we solicited in our last newsletter. Parts of some of the publications have already appeared on our Facebook page and an illustration from one booklet is

included in the issue of *Muskingum Journal* that is now being printed.

Life Members and former trustees **Bob and Ann Nicholas** donated three pieces of furniture that will be displayed at the Stone Academy. When John Alter was passing through Zanesville in 1807, John McIntire recognized the value of a furniture maker to his new town and persuaded Alter to stay. One of the donated pieces is a section of a banquet table made by Alter. Alter's sons were also furniture makers and the second piece is a large wardrobe attributed to Adam Kasner Alter. The third piece, a blanket chest, is from outside Muskingum County but the decorative date of 1810 on the front places it early in the history of Ohio.

If you have a part of our history that you would like to donate, please call the Historical Society office or contact us through our website. All offered items are evaluated by the Accessions Committee using guidelines of falling within the scope of the collection, not a duplication of current artifacts and in stable condition. The Society cannot provide appraisals of donated items but the donor may use the value of the donation as a charitable donation on his income tax return.

OFFICERS RE-ELECTED FOR 2012

At the January meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Historical Society, the following officers were re-elected for 2012:

- President: Bob Jenkins
- Vice-president: Jerry Simeral
- Secretary: Janet James
- Treasurer: Donna Taylor

All four offices are unpaid, volunteer positions.

At the same meeting, Trustees voted to offer Lloyd "Whitey" Barnes the seat on the Board recently vacated by Ann Nicholas. Lloyd accepted the offer and took up his duties at the February meeting.

Lloyd is new to the Board but is no stranger to the work of maintaining museums. Much of the improvement to the yard of the Increase Mathews House is the



Wardrobe attributed to Adam Kasner Alter and table made by John Alter, Sr..

result of the many hours of physical labor he put in last year. Without proper care a yard can soon be overgrown. Grass cutting is the easy part - rev up the engines and mow her down. Maintaining shrubbery involves determining what is desirable and what has to go and then separating the two while avoiding poison ivy and stinging insects who view yard maintenance as home invasion. We appreciate Lloyd's hard labor and we look forward to his participation in the cerebral part of historical society work.

As much as we enjoy seeing Lloyd coming on board we also will miss Ann Nicholas' presence at meetings. Ann served as a trustee of the Society for about 29 years (we would have to consult the archives for an exact figure) in addition to many terms as an officer of the Friends of the Historical Society and its predecessor, the Women's Board. The success of our Christmas Open Houses, Ice Cream Socials and antique flea markets were largely due to her hard work. Even though Ann will not be with us in an official capacity, we know that the activities of the Society will remain close to her heart.

MUSEUMS SET TO REOPEN

The museums have been closed for the winter but the Stone Academy will reopen in April and the Dr. Increase Mathews House Museum will reopen in June. You will notice some changes at both museums. Spinning wheels that have been in storage at the Mathews House have been moved to the Mural Room at the Stone Academy and plans are being made to move the large loom. The loom was a popular exhibit at the Mathews House for many years but its large size makes it difficult to display. Three pieces of furniture donated by Ann and Bob Nicholas, described elsewhere in this newsletter, are on the second floor of the Academy. The woodworking tools that were displayed in the meeting room have been moved to the Mural Room.

Most of the changes at the Mathews House are related to rehabilitation of the exterior and will not be noticed by visitors who did not take the time to study the windows, wood shingles or chimneys. A change on the inside is the new Archeology and Geology Room. Stone tools, arrowheads and animal bones that had been on display in the Stone Academy and some geology collections that have not been on display this century can now be found in the room at the top of the back stairs.

Closing of the museums during the winter months when visitation is minimal saves the Society money in utility bills. The Director can devote his time to writing grant applications, an increasingly important part of museum management, and to dealing with government programs that give more credence to the historical society and its museums. The Curator appreciates that opportunity to make messes without having to clean up at the end of every day.

The reopening of the museums gives opportunities to our members who would like to serve as docents (tour guides). Docents are the interface between visitors and exhibits and can determine how much visitors take away from their museum visits (both literally and figuratively). When no docents are on duty, the Director has to leave his grant writing chores to conduct tours. It can be difficult

to make the transition from "Your foundation should provide financial assistance to our organization because..." to "Welcome to the building that almost, but not quite, served as the capitol of Ohio." If you are willing to serve, please call the Society office at 454-9500.



MANY THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Our members have continued to support the preservation of our history by renewing their memberships and by making monetary donations to the Society. Since our last newsletter we have received donations from:

Lace Lynch, Dean Hill, Rick Sabine, John Hoyes, Robert Reed, Lolita Burt, Jim & Ann Burkhardt, Alan King, Jim & Carole Jordan, Ellen Wiseman, Renee Show, Jean Crawmer, Richard Neikirk and Lisa Pletcher.

Memorial donations are a way to honor a deceased friend in a manner more lasting than short-lived flowers. We have received the following memorial donations:

In Memory of **Jim Brown**

Mike & Stephanie Kline

In Memory of **Jane Price**

Bobbie Rust and James Geyer

In Memory of **James B. Stubbins**

Pamela & Steve Davis; Carol Taylor; James Geyer; Helen Mae Stephenson; Mike & Stephanie Kline; Hamilton, Waltman, Hill; Mark & Shelley Gallant; Sandi Plymire; William Fenton; Wanda Welker.

The Friends of the Pioneer and Historical Society

2012 Meeting Schedule

Saturday March 17 1:00 Stone Academy

Program: A.J. Smidt – GO GREEN

Saturday April 21 1:00 Stone Academy

Program: Ardath Danford – The History of the John McIntire Library

Saturday May 12 1:00 Stone Academy

Program: DAR

Saturday June 16 Luncheon Noon Rolling Plains Church

Dulcimer presentation by Carol Cowden

Monday September 17 1:00 Stone Academy

Program: Becky Imlay Tilton - The History of Imlay Florists

Monday October 15 1:00 Downtown Zanesville

Program: Tour of Downtown Churches

Monday December 10 Noon Helen Purcell

Holiday Luncheon

Pioneer & Historical Society
of Muskingum County
115 Jefferson St.
Zanesville OH 43701

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Notice of Annual Meeting

Our By-laws require that an annual membership meeting be held "so that a twelve month report can be made to the membership." The 2012 Annual Meeting will be held on April 10, 2012, at 7:00 pm at the Stone Academy as part of the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees. The Director will present a summary of Society operations and activities in 2011. Members attending will have an opportunity ask questions and provide input for 2012 and beyond. This will be a business meeting; no program is planned. The Agenda will include current committee reports and updates. If you would like more information about this meeting or about the governance of the Society call the Director at 454-9500.

PIONEER & HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MUSKINGUM COUNTY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Bob Jenkins, president
Jerry Simeral, vice-president
Janet James, secretary

Morten Bach	Lloyd Barnes
Ann Burkhart	Gary Felumlee
Floyd Felumlee	Alan King
Stephanie Kline	John Lear
Jim McDonald	Mitch Taylor
Mike Willey	Tina Wickline

Jim Geyer, Museum Director

If you have any questions or suggestions regarding the activities of the Historical Society contact any member of the Board.