

What's New at the Museum?

A new Curator!

Welcome Peggy Debien!

A new Volunteer Coordinator!

Welcome Wayne Walter!

New Volunteers!

Welcome to our new volunteers: John Gibson, Wayne Walter, Ellen Frias, Bill Smith, Don and Adrienne Melena.

A new grant award!

Many thanks to the Ottawa County Community Foundation for a grant of \$2,117 for technology equipment!!!

A new building fund drive!

We're planning to expand our museum by almost twice its size! Can you help us with our fundraising goals?

New summer hours!

Come visit us on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. or call for an appointment!

OTTAWA COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM SUMMER 2008 NEWSLETTER

Greetings from the Curator:

When offered the position of curator, I was pleased and honored to accept it. For those who don't know me, I grew up in Port Clinton and I am a third generation county native. My father and grandfather were owners of the Bell Fish Company on Lakeshore Drive, part of what is now Brand's Marina, and my mother was the high school librarian for about 20 years. After graduating from Bowling Green State University, I spent 24 years as a naval officer, returning home in 1994.

My vision for the museum is that it should be an active place where people are coming in to talk and to see our exhibits, and volunteers and I are working on collecting Ottawa County history and putting it on display for the public. During the summer we are open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 12 to 3 or by appointment. I would love to see any and all of you, though I must warn you I am not always here when the museum is open. We have some great volunteers who keep the museum open while helping with the artifacts. If you want to see me, please call the museum at 419-732-2237 or call me at home at 419-732-1039 and we can arrange to get together.

A great chance to visit the museum is coming up on Thursday, July 10 at 1:00 p.m., when we are hosting, with the Ottawa County Historical Society, an Ohio Chautauqua performance by Andrew Carnegie scholar and entertainer George Dauler, who will speak on "**The Gospel of Wealth, According to Andrew Carnegie.**" This promises to be a fascinating talk, and remember, the museum is air conditioned!

Right now, I am trying to become familiar with what we own and looking for ideas for small exhibits that could stimulate interest in and discussion about Ottawa County. I am particularly interested in photos, as they clearly portray life as we no longer know it and because we can scan them, add them to the collection and then give them back to the owner without using much of our limited museum space. Of course, I am prejudiced, but I would especially like to add to the information, photos and items in the agriculture and fishing industry room!

Please give me a call any time if only just to chat. I'd like to get to know you!

Peggy Debien, Curator

OUR BOARD MEMBERS:

President Jim Rusincovich

Secretary Dianne Rozak

Treasurer Jane Zeis

Other Members of the Board:

Natalie Bredbeck

Susan Hany

T. Park McRitchie

Tom Priesman

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE IS NOW ON

If you haven't yet returned your membership application or renewal, it's time now! If you need a new application, please stop by the museum or call 419-732-2237 and we'll send you another one.

Ottawa County Historical Museum
Area Heritage Foundation
126 W. 3rd Street
Port Clinton, OH 43452

Non-Profit Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage PAID
Permit No. 118
Port Clinton, OH 43452

OHIO CHAUTAUQUA COMES TO PORT CLINTON !! Did you know that between July 8th and 12th, the following historical figures will be "visiting" Port Clinton: George Washington Carver, Andrew Carnegie, Thomas Edison, Alexander Graham Bell, Mary McLeod Bethune? That's right! From July 8th through 12th, five outstanding actor/scholars will perform historical portrayals of the lives and legacies of these famous people who helped mold today's world. A daily youth/family program will take place at 10 a.m. at Ida Rupp Public Library; a mid-day adult program will be held at sites around town (including at the museum at 1 p.m. on July 10th); and an performance will begin each evening at 7 p.m., following a musical show, in the red and white striped tent in Lakeview Park. A complete schedule is contained in the companion reader newspaper, which is available around Port Clinton, in the Ida Rupp Public Library, and in the museum. Port Clinton is one of only five sites in the state and the only one in northern Ohio selected to host this year's Ohio Chautauqua. This is a great opportunity—see you there!

Exhibit Ideas....Do you have ideas for exhibits that you'd like to see? We are thinking about: Matthews Boat Company, Island Airlines/Ford Tri-Motor, football teams and high school bands of the past, storm photos exhibit, marshes/hunting. If you have ideas or items to lend for an exhibit, call!!

Volunteers....Volunteer Coordinator Wayne Walter (also a volunteer) wants to know if you have some time you could give us. We need people to help sort and file information, scan photos, do computer entries, "man" the museum when it's open, plant flowers, sort through our archives, etc. If you can help, we can use you! Please call the museum and we'll design a schedule to fit your busy life! We need you!!!

Grants...Volunteer Wayne Walter wrote a successful grant application for the Ottawa County Community Foundation . We will use the money to purchase equipment that will help us improve the identification, cataloging, and scanning of our photo collection.

Antique Books Available for a Donation to the Museum !!!!!!!
We have a number of books in the museum that are not related to Ottawa County in any way. We will be making some of these books available for a donation in July, so stop by and see what we have.



HISTORY MYSTERY!!

This photo, lent by Bob Reynolds and scanned into the museum files, shows Matthews Boat Company 28-foot launches used in 1901 or 1903 at the World's Fair or Paris Exposition. If you know when and/or where, please call the museum at (419) 732-2237 and let us know!

Thanks, Adrienne Melena for help with this newsletter!