

## Wish List

**High School Yearbooks:** Revista (PC), Totem (Danbury), Harborlites or Spyglass (Oak Harbor), Lime-light (Genoa) and Reflections (Elmore). We have a number of Revistas, so please call or e-mail before dropping off yearbooks.

**Still looking for donations** of histories of the county, e.g.: *The History of Elmore* by Grace Luebcke, *History of Marblehead* by Marie Wonnell, NW Ohio Volunteer Firemen's Association Annual Convention Yearbooks

**New Volunteers to help out during the busy summer. We need help sorting and filing news articles from the past and identifying old photos. Meet and greet visitors and talk about "the good old days!" We also have computer tasks—learn a new skill—we will train you! Call Wayne Walter at 419-797-0186 or 419-732-2237.**

**More Visitors!** Our best "open" days are when we have lots of visitors. Call Peggy at 419-732-1039 to make an appointment for a visit outside of normal open hours.

**More Members—please encourage your friends and family to help preserve Ottawa County history.**

### OUR BOARD MEMBERS:

President Jim Rusincovitch  
Secretary Dianne Rozak  
Treasurer Janie Zeis  
Natalie Bredbeck  
Susan Hany  
T. Park McRitchie  
Tom Priesman  
Lock Zeis

## OTTAWA COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

126 W. Third St., Port Clinton, OH 419-732-2237 ochm@cros.net

### NEWSLETTER

Spring 2009

Greetings from the Curator!

The first flight I ever took was in a Ford Tri-Motor from Port Clinton to South Bass Island. I sat next to the door in a jump seat that they took out when they were loading passengers and cargo. It was a very breezy flight since the air came in through the door seams, which did not sealed tightly. One girl on the flight sat at the door to the cockpit, facing the rest of us—my recollection is that there was no seat for her, so she sat on the floor or in the doorway. Those days are gone, but we all have great stories to hear and tell about the "Tin Goose." Please join us at the Ida Rupp Public Library at 2 p.m. on May 2nd to hear from Dale Hartlaub, a Tri-Motor enthusiast and collector—he has old reels of film to show us, too.

*Peggy Debien*, Curator

**Thank you for Memorial Donations in Memory of:  
Virginia Turner:** Lock and Janie Zeis, James C. Russell,  
Edward and Kathleen Stover

*You can help preserve our past by designating the Ottawa County Historical Museum for a memorial donation in honor of a friend or loved one.*

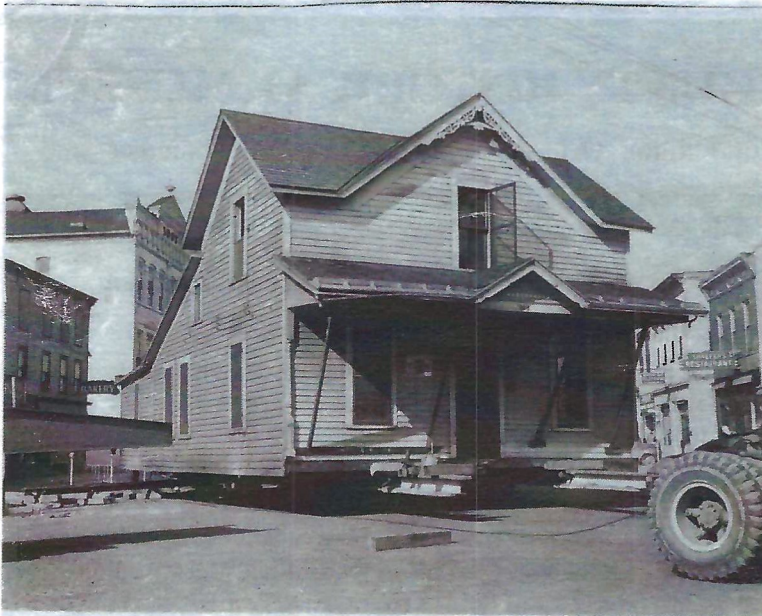
### THANK YOU for the following recent donations:

- Lakeside Heritage Society**—book *Our Ottawa County* asked for in the Winter newsletter
- Bob Reynolds**—1921 photo of PC elementary class (children born in 1909-10)
- Mary Alice Streeter**—Photos and local business ads
- Rosemary Schramm**—two of her watercolors: *Miller Ferry* and *Red Witch* depicting Ottawa County views. They are on display in the front room of the museum
- Clarabelle Bothe**—Newspaper cuttings and photos
- Tom Evans**—Newspaper spread on Will Rogers
- Kevin Hermes**—Photos of and info on the Slackford family and steamer R.B. HAYES
- Jane Bracken Ruster**—photos of the burning of, documents related to, and a piece of the hull of the convict ship SUCCESS, donated in memory of her father Lee, who collected them
- Dave Sorg**—Magruder Bank personal account book, items found in the wall of the house formerly located where the Pitman, W.R. Thomas stores were and now at 120 Linden Street. (See other side of newsletter for more info and photo)

### EVENTS:

- April 22, May 20, June 17th. 10am to 12. Stop by for coffee and a chat!**
- May 2, 2pm, Ida Rupp Public Library—Ford Tri-Motor collector and historian Dale Hartlaub will display and discuss his collection and the history of the Tri-Motor, as well as show some old film footage of the "Tin Goose." Free and open to the public. Renew your membership at this meeting or take out a new one!**

**It's time to renew your membership for 2009-10. See the enclosed letter—and thank you!**



### History Mystery Solved in One Day!

Ah! Would that all mysteries were this easy to solve. On the morning of March 18, Dave Sorg came to "Coffee with the Curator" and brought along several documents and letters belonging to Ed Wenger that he found in the walls of a house he had owned. Dave said that at one time the house had stood where Dean's is located on Madison Street. That evening, Lock Zeis, attending a meeting of the museum board, looked at the documents and said that they had belonged to his great-great uncle, Ed Wenger. Lock remembered visiting his great uncle, Elbert Wenger, who lived in a house on Madison Street before Mr. Pitman bought the property and built Pitman's store there (now Dean's). In those days, they sat on the swing on the front porch of the house and watched the world go by along Madison St. in the evening. In the museum collection, we located this photo of the house being removed from Madison Street (at the left) and Lock confirmed this was his uncle's house. If you drive by the house at 120 Linden, you will find the old house, looking very nice with new siding on it!

### What's been happening in the museum?

**Coffee with the Curator**—for the March 18 coffee, Bob Owen, Bill Gordon and Dave Sorg stopped by. We learned a lot from Bob about Standard Products, the fishing industry and Jake's Ark. Bill told how he came to Port Clinton and became an active member of the community. We also discussed—what else—photographs! Dave brought in various letters and papers from early PC businesses, having found them, in the wall of a house he once owned. Please join us next month! We always have coffee and goodies to enjoy.

PCHS History teacher Eric Zeitzheim brought his "History of Port Clinton" classes to the museum. Curator Peggy Debien with volunteer and computer guru Wayne Walter took museum photos on the road to show at Edgewood Manor. One resident was thrilled to be able to identify her grandfather among our old photos.

## HISTORY MYSTERY!!

Do you recognize any of these workers from the Matthews Boat Company?



## Last month's HISTORY MYSTERY!!

We had no response to our request for information on the diary from Heineman's Lake Shore House donated by Paul Moon.

**Winter Hours: Wednesdays  
Noon to 3 p.m.**

**Memorial Day to Labor Day:  
Tuesdays, Wednesdays and  
Thursdays Noon to 3 p.m.**

**Anytime by appointment.  
Call Peggy at 419-732-1039**