

## ***We're Looking for:***

***Old photos of the fishing industry and fishermen at work.***

***Old agricultural implements and photos of farmers at work.***

***Photos and stories of migrant workers in Ottawa County.***

***Standard Products items.***

***Still looking for old high school yearbooks from across the county.***

***Volunteers to help wherever interested. Hours flexible, work fascinating, pay priceless! Whether you are a "transplant," a seasonal visitor, or a local native, we can use your expertise and enthusiasm for our local history. We have visitors from all over the country and the days in the museum are interesting and pass too quickly. Please join us!***

***Please remember the museum— donations and memberships are our primary sources of support.***

### **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

**Summer Hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs. Noon to 3 pm**

**Or by appointment: 419-732-1039**

### **NEWSLETTER**

**Summer 2009**

The Board of the Ottawa County Historical Museum  
invites you to the  
**Groundbreaking Ceremony for the museum addition**  
**Saturday, July 18, 10 a.m.**  
At the museum, 126 W. Third St., Port Clinton, Ohio

*See you there!*

*Peggy Debien, Curator*

#### **THANK YOU for the following recent donations:**

- Paul Fox**—estate donation that will fund the new museum extension  
**Dan and Cathy Witter**—and the American Legion and Auxiliary—Camp Perry  
USO scrapbook and WWII newspapers and articles  
**Casey Lambert**—Lay Fisheries buoys, tool belt with handmade fishnet mending needles,  
handmade ice skates with boots used by Mary and Jack Lay as children,  
Matthews Boat Company tool box  
**Lakeside Heritage Society**—History of Marblehead requested in the last newsletter  
**Nancy Russell**—quilt embroidered by Antiquarian Society members and recently  
assembled by members of the PC Quilt Club; Virginia Turner's scrapbooks;  
Antiquarian Club documents and minutes  
**Dave Dubbert**—1887 original map of Danbury and Catawba Townships  
**Relative of Knute Morelli**—three large boxes of Matthews Boat company documents,  
working papers, correspondence, photographs and advertising brochures  
**Jack Lano**—lifetime membership donation  
**Stensen Foundation**—\$1,500 for education, preservation and outreach  
**Ida Rupp Public Library**—Sanborn maps and Holmes Little Giant Tractor info  
**Peggy Debien**—photos of the PEGGY SUE, fishing boat of the Bell Fish Company  
**JoAnn Englebeck**—panoramic photo of the Hotel Victory  
**Joanne Fleming**—Ford Tri-Motor plaque  
**Dale Hartlaub**—expert program and display in May on the Ford Tri-Motor

*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.*

#### **EVENTS:**

- Coffee with the Curator**-10am to 12noon-usually the third Wednesday  
of each month. Upcoming dates are July 15, August 19 and September  
16. Coffee, chatter and goodies (usually delish blueberry coffee cake).  
**South Bass Island** program written by past curator Tom Day, presented  
by museum volunteer Wayne Walter, Lakeside, 16 August, 2 p.m.  
**Groundbreaking for museum addition**—10am, Saturday, July 18th

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

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

**Welcome to new volunteers:** Joanne Fleming, Rosann Graves and Jeff Adams. Joanne is welcoming visitors on Tuesdays, Rosann is organizing documents, and Jeff is doing historical research.

**July 13th**—Volunteer Don Melena and Curator Peggy Debien will be representing the museum at the National Rifle Matches Shooters' Reception.

**We're expanding!** This month we are breaking ground on an expansion that will nearly double the size of the museum. How did we do this in these lean economic times? We can thank Paul Fox, who left us, in his estate, the proceeds from the sale of his home on Adams Street. We have also been able to take advantage of the current economic climate to negotiate excellent prices with our contractors. And finally, we scaled back our plans, infused our hopes with a good dose of practicality, and simplified the structure we are building. Soon we will be on to the task of planning exhibits and are looking forward to the guidance of Dennis Kennedy of Danbury, a professional exhibit designer. The new addition will allow more space for exhibits, storage and research. We're excited and hope you are too! The museum will remain open during the expansion. Please stop and check our progress!

**Joan Hickman** is coming in to tell her stories of her grandfather, who was a lighthouse keeper at the Port Clinton lighthouse. If you have any history or personal stories about the lighthouse, please let us know.

**It's time to renew your membership! If you have not yet renewed, a membership form is enclosed. Thank you!**

### !!HISTORY MYSTERY!!

Dan and Cathy Witter stopped in to donate WWII newspapers that Dan had saved plus the American Legion Auxiliary's Camp Perry USO scrapbook dated August 27, 1943, through April 1945. The USO at Camp Perry was founded on September 26, 1942, after volunteers in the area had furnished the thousands of servicemen at Camp Perry and Erie Proving Ground with temporary recreational facilities in the Port Clinton Armory, according to the Republican Herald newspaper. The donated scrapbook contains articles from local newspapers, as well as the Perryscope and Erie Proving Ground's EPG Echo. Writings called the Wolf Trail and the Wolf Call are found in the scrapbook, written by a man, maybe a serviceman or an employee, describing upcoming events at the USO and encouraging attendance by "fellow wolves." Does anyone know who wrote these columns?

(Stop by the museum and peruse this fascinating look into the past. You may find yourself or your parents mentioned in print!)

### Last newsletter's

### !!HISTORY MYSTERY!!

Jack Lano identified two of his uncles in the photo of Matthews Boat Company workers. Did anyone else find a familiar face?