

We're Looking for:

Photos and stories of:

- migrant workers
- farm life
- outhouses
- western Ottawa County

Memberships—Please remember the museum—donations, memorials, and memberships are our primary sources of support.

THANK YOU for the following donations:

Bob and Linda Snyder—Battle of Lake Erie print (donations requested in last newsletter)

Michael Drusbacky—Camp Perry Italian Prisoner of War carvings from WWII

Donald Gulau—Grape growing tools, ammunition loader

Linda Forster Snyder—Cochran's Majorettes albums

Joan Hickman—photos of Ottawa County

Clarabelle Bothe—photos of Port Clinton

George Mylander—donation for displaying piece from Commodore Perry's NIAGARA

Tim Royster—M-1 Garand and M-1 Carbine ammo bandoliers

Gaylyn Hofacker and Carolyn Bahnsen—Standard Products artifacts, advertising

**Summer Hours resume May 31:
Tues, Wed, Thurs, noon to 3 pm
Anytime by appt. 419-732-1039**

OUR BOARD MEMBERS:

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

OTTAWA COUNTY MUSEUM

126 W. Third St., Port Clinton, OH 43452 419-732-2237 ochm@cros.net
Until Memorial Day, Open Wed. Noon to 3 pm; Jun/Jul/Aug, Tues/Wed/Thurs, Noon to 3pm
Or whenever you want—call Peggy Debien: 419-732-1039

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2011

Greetings from the curator!

We have downsized our name!

Over the years, I'm sure most of us have encountered confusion between the Ottawa County Historical MUSEUM and the Ottawa County Historical SOCIETY. For clarification:

--The MUSEUM, 126 W. 3rd St., Port Clinton, collects and displays artifacts and holds programs documenting Ottawa County History; our board is listed at left.

--The SOCIETY supports the Keeper's House in Danbury Township, collects oral histories and sponsors history-related activities; it has its own separate board and membership.

Despite many attempts to clarify the differences in the two organizations, confusion still exists on the part of the public, the press, and even our members. Therefore, our board decided to change our name to differentiate the two organizations and make it easier for all to understand. We are therefore now: **Ottawa County Museum**

We are still under the guidance of the Area Heritage Foundation, the formal name for our governing board, and our mission has not changed--we have just removed the word "historical" from our title. We hope this will help clear up some of the confusion arising from the similarity of names. Please bear with us as we make changes to signs, letterheads, etc., and begin using our new name right away. Our new name will be announced soon, but we wanted our members to be the first to know!

Peggy Debien

Memorials, In Memory of:

Betty Quisno—Mr. & Mrs. Lockwood Zeis
Dr. Donald Loeffler—Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Tester, Mr. & Mrs. Lockwood Zeis
Marvin Grover—Mr. & Mrs. Virgil Murphy
Joanne Foxworth Dietrich—Mr. & Mrs. Virgil Murphy
Ethel Wierzba—Mr. & Mrs. Lockwood Zeis
Emmagene Belknap—Mr. & Mrs. Lockwood Zeis
Hobart Porter—JoAnn Englebeck
Harry Heineman—Mr. & Mrs. Lockwood Zeis, Mrs. & Mrs. Lee Bredbeck
Doris Rusincovitch—Mr. & Mrs. Lee Bredbeck, Mr. & Mrs. Lockwood Zeis
Robert Stevens—Mr. & Mrs. Lockwood Zeis

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!

See letter inside this packet

and Thank you!

FLASH! July 2, 2pm, Rich Norgard, a Ship SUCCESS expert, speaks at the museum!

NEW EXHIBIT!!! NEW EXHIBIT!! NEW EXHIBIT! Images of the Great Depression in Ohio

Developed by the Ohio Humanities Council (OHC), this exhibit features documentary photographs taken by government photographers, most working for the Farm Security Administration, during the 1930s. OHC commissioned a new photographic survey, revisiting many of the sites photographed during the 1930s to demonstrate how Ohio has changed since the Great Depression. We will also display photos and info about life in Ottawa County during the Great Depression. Sample below. Activities for this exhibit (all free):

- May 17, 6 pm Opening reception in the Museum with Pat Williamsen from OHC will speak about how she developed the exhibit. Peggy Debien will introduce the Ottawa County portion of the exhibit. Depression- era refreshments—applesauce cake, milk and crackers, bread and lard “canapés.”
- May 24, 2 pm Bound for Glory, movie, Woody Guthrie rides the rails, Ida Rupp Public Library
- June 6, 7 pm Ottawa County during the Great Depression, program by Peggy Debien, Museum
- June 13, 2 pm Power for the Parkinsons, documentary about when electricity came to farms, Library
- June 20, 6 pm Frances Perkins, Architect of the New Deal, program by Helen Frye, Museum
- June tba Daily Life During the Great Depression, program by Mary Jane Gibson, Library
- June 29, 8 pm The Journey of Natty Gann, family movie about a family during the Great Depression, Library
- Late June tba Readings by Ottawa County Historical Society from Ottawa County Depression oral histories

Do you have a story about the Depression and no one will listen? Call Nancy Dunham, 419-797-4642, who will record your oral history for the Historical Society and posterity!

The Great Depression in Ottawa County



1935, Asher Beach—Protein was in good supply . . .
Ulmer collection
We will be displaying a selection of photos and news articles from the 1930s in Ottawa County. Come in and see them!

150th Anniversary of the Civil War—An Ottawa County Community Foundation grant and donations from Rona Rothschild of Split Winds Gallery and former curator Tom Day helped volunteer Kevin Winters when he set up a special exhibit of the Civil War in Ottawa County. From Jay Cooke to Johnson’s Island to a Medal of Honor winner, Ottawa County’s part during these historic years is on display in the museum.

Ever wonder how Port Clinton’s Portage River was rerouted? Volunteer Chuck Grindstaff has assembled a collection of photographs to show changes in the river over the years. Come in and see the answers to our most frequently asked questions.

Coming soon to your museum!

Cochran’s Majorettes

Put Ottawa County on the National Map

Another new exhibit will be ready in late July. We will show the history of this renowned group through news articles, flyers, advertising, uniforms, photographs. If you have a contribution to make on the subject, please call Peggy at 419-732-1039.

History in the News Herald—Have you noticed that every Saturday, Catharine Hadley has two columns in the *News Herald*?—Senior Spotlight, which tells the story of one of our senior citizens, and Ottawa County History, which focuses on an interesting happening in our county’s history. Catharine writes a good story with great accuracy!



History Mystery—Remember that funny looking lollipop-shaped item in the last History Mystery? No one identified this lady’s beautification tool named “The Dorothy Gray Patter” that was donated by Marge and Bill Benedict and belonged to Bill’s Aunt Agnes Benedict. The label inside the box says: “A specially contrived instrument for stimulating the facial muscles without irritating the skin. Is particularly beneficial to the reduction of double chin. Also restores contour to flaccid muscles by the only scientific method promoting the circulation. Pat a thin face gently, a plump face firmly . . .” Dorothy Gray, 753 Fifth Avenue, NYC