

### *We're looking for:*

- Photos we can scan
- Old Photos espec. interiors of old-time businesses and outdoor activities
- Old brochures and printed material
- Commercial fishing photos and info for researcher
- Local D.A.R. programs, minutes

### **THANK YOU!**

**Bill Streeter**—Whenever Bill travels from his home in Racine, Wisconsin, he brings us great items from his family, one of the “oldest” in Port Clinton, including: a ribbon from 1894 reunion of Buckeye Band Association in PC; Tadsen Agency Papers; brochures and papers from the PC Chamber of Commerce, Magruder Hospital; 1st and 2nd day issues of The Daily News, stained glass from an early Trinity Methodist church and more!

### **Our Board**

Jim Rusincovitch,  
President  
Melanie Watling,  
Treasurer  
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Natalie Bredbeck  
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Tom Priesman  
Park McRitchie  
George Wight  
Janie Zeis  
Lock Zeis

## **OTTAWA COUNTY MUSEUM**

126 W. Third St., Port Clinton, OH 43452 419-732-2237 ochm@cros.net

Labor Day until Memorial Day, Open Wed. Noon to 3 pm

Memorial Day to Labor Day: Tues/Wed/Thurs, Noon to 3pm; or by appt. (Call Peggy at 419-732-1039)

### **NEWSLETTER**

**Spring 2019**

#### **Dear Members and Friends,**

I would guess that many of you are not aware that the Daughters of the American Revolution were instrumental in the founding of this museum. Here is a quick history of the D.A.R. chapter in Port Clinton: In one of the local papers, a small article appeared in 1929 announcing that the first unit of the D.A.R. in Ottawa County had been organized in Port Clinton. The name chosen for this chapter was the DeLery Portage. The twelve charter members were: Miss Grace Ward, regent; Mrs. Geo. F. Meyer, vice regent, Mrs. Ralph Wedekind, recording secretary, Mrs. Lee Doles, corresponding secretary, Mrs. Henry A. Cowgill, treasurer; Mrs. Robert Gill, registrar; Mrs. C.B. Finefrock, historian; Mrs. Fredrick Zeis, Mrs. Harley Clausen, Mrs. J.S. Bredbeck, Mrs. W. H. Althoff, and Miss Charlotte R. Ward. In 1965 the chapter disbanded. With the end of this local chapter some of the records may have been lost or just misplaced. Museum volunteers going through old records are still looking to help re-construct this chapter's history. If you have any information, no matter how insignificant, let me know.

Why the chapter name DeLery Portage? The stone pillar on Perry St. opposite Fulton St. marks the north end of the trail known as the DeLery Portage. An identical pillar at the south end of Fulton marks the south end of the portage from the Sandusky River to Lake Erie. Although this is also called the location of Fort Sandoski, a fair amount of speculation as to the correct location of Fort Sandoski still exists.

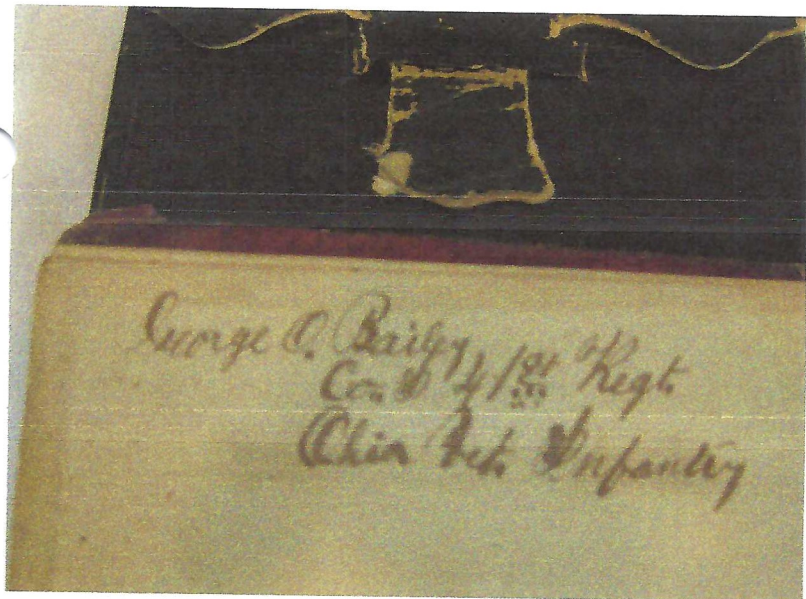
I've been told that a new group, named the Daughters of the War of 1812, is being formed. Now, this is a group I might join. My ancestor Jean Baptiste Velliquette fought in that war. When Kim Bender came into the museum to check her ancestor on our 1812 soldier list, we realized that her ancestor John B. Velliquette and my ancestor Jean Baptiste were one and the same! *Peggy*

**P.S. We have just received applications for Daughters of Union Veterans. Please call if you would like us to send you one.**

Farewell to board members Susan Hany and Alex Thomas. Susan was a member of the board for many years and held the office of secretary. Alex joined the board about two years ago to fill the vacancy of treasurer, and he will now continue his involvement with the Port Clinton Lighthouse Conservancy. **MANY THANKS TO SUSAN AND ALEX FOR THEIR DEDICATION TO OUR MUSEUM AND OUR HISTORY!**

**Memorial donations honoring anyone who has passed or “in honor of” anyone living may be made by sending a check payable to the Ottawa County Museum, P.O. Box 845, Port Clinton, Ohio 43452**

This issue contains a letter requesting renewal of your membership or a new membership if you are not already a member. Your board and curator thank you in advance for your continued support!



◀◀ **History Mystery!** Our newest acquisitions include the 1863 and 1864 Civil War diaries of George O. Bailey of the 41st O.V.I. His parents George W. and Mary E. (Bearss) Bailey are buried in Catawba Island Cemetery. He married Margaret Kleinhans of Port Clinton and he died in 1888. The diaries were donated by his great granddaughter Nancy Melkersen. Jim Kleinhans is looking for his family connection and we are looking for any other info on this man and his family.

**Ottawa County Museum  
Area Heritage Foundation  
P.O. Box 845  
126 W. 3rd Street  
Port Clinton, OH 43452**



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**Melanie Watling** is the new treasurer for the Area Heritage Foundation, the board that oversees the Ottawa County Museum. We first met her when she donated some desert camouflage uniforms from her husband, who is now retired from the Navy. She is a nurse at Magruder Hospital, where she met two of our board members. They hit it off and she decided to join us! She lives with her husband, son and daughter in Portage Township near Sandusky Bay. She is originally from Amherst and her husband is from Toledo.

**Welcome Melanie!**



We have quite a nice collection of dolls in our museum, and these are our latest additions. Many of you will remember "Patches and Pockets." Bev Schwind (Patches, on left) and Sue Donner (Pockets on right) were local women who appeared on Toledo TV and were, perhaps, also filmed in Port Clinton at first. These dolls are in pristine condition and were loaned by Vicki Gresh, who bought them when she was in her twenties. Toni Garrett appeared on their program demonstrating exercises. We would love to have your memories of these two ladies. Please send them by e-mail to [ochm@cross.net](mailto:ochm@cross.net) or via mail to P.O. Box 845, Port Clinton, Ohio 43452.