



## WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Another year is upon us. The Washington Township Historical Society will start their new season on Tuesday night, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm at the township fire hall located at 5843 Beechwood Avenue across from the elementary school. Join us for another year of history, fun, history, fellowship and more history. All interested persons are welcome to attend. The following is a list of our upcoming programs but remember some could be changed due to unforeseen circumstances.

September 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Bill Blatt, home milk deliverer
October 27 <sup>th</sup>	Jim Cassler - Lincoln Highway
November 24 <sup>th</sup>	Saluting The Veterans
December	No meeting – Merry Christmas
January 26 <sup>th</sup>	Fred Wallace – Preserving old clothing
February 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Boy Scouts
March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Bill Gill – appraising antiques
April 27 <sup>th</sup>	John Davidson – Well Drilling
May 25 <sup>th</sup>	Beechwood Playground
June 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Annual picnic at Beechwood Playground at 6:00

### THINGS WE WILL BE DOING

Other events will include having a display table at the Washington Ruritan's and the Firemen's Pancake Breakfasts, speaking to the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders at the elementary school, removing flags from the Veteran's graves after Veteran's Day, preparing food baskets for area families, work night at our museum room and maybe other things will come along. Perhaps another field trip will be taken. Will you help be part of any of these? We hope so, you will have fun, maybe meet someone you didn't know, learn something about the township you didn't know and best of all, help your organization.

### IN MEMORY

As is our policy we purchase a book in memory of a deceased member. We are saddened to report that Glen Rastetter passed away last September. In his memory we purchased the "Hawkins Genealogy". The Hawkins family lived on Georgetown Rd., the patriarch had been a township trustee in the 1800's. We place flags on the veteran's graves in the Hawkins' family cemetery at Memorial Day time. Glen was a fun member. Even though he couldn't do some things he did what he could and we appreciated that. If you wanted to know anything about Maximo, you just had to ask Glen. The society misses him very much.

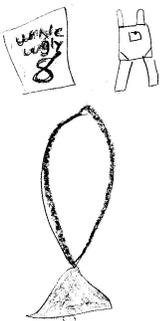
Puxatawney Phil has nothing over us. Come February some of our people come out in different clothing then they normally wear. At this time of the year the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders at the grade school are studying local history. What better way for them to hear about our locale then to have some brave souls from the historical society go and talk to them. Last February, Dan MacIntyre, Janet Moser and Marleen Grant dressed in style and talked to the students. The students were very appreciative and below are some of the Thank You notes that were received. They are typed just as the students wrote them. At the bottom are just a few of the clever drawings the students put on their notes. Enjoy!

- I loved the game's you have Played When you Went to school. I liked how you drested and how you walked to school
- Thank you for comeing to our school and teaching us how life use to be like. The thing that used to be cool at school is that you can walk to school. Did you use to have snow days?
- Thank you for talking to us. I liket your cloths back then. Exspashaly the poodle dress it is so awesome back then I would not want to miss the bus
- Thank you for coming to our school. I like when each of you all talked and about the bath rooms being outside. I bet that was horrible. I'm glad that our bath rooms are inside now.
- Thank you for coming to the school to teach us about back then. I enjoyed it.
- Dear Hisorickal Sosiity. Thank you for comeing to my school. I liked lisening to everything you had to say.
- Thank you for telling us about the school way back then. I like the story about Jaimee and his wife and how they came to our township, it was cool. I also liked how the two girls, Mrs. Moser and Mrs. Grant dressed up. Thanks. Thank you so much I love history. (Carolyn's note – could this be a future member?)

And finally:

- Dear Mr. McIntrye, Mrs. Moser, Mrs. Grant, Thank you for coming! I would love to live on a farm but my dad said I would not do the chours. I would not like to dress back then because you have to wear a dress to school. NO WAY! I would love to go to the candy shop and get a bag of candy for 5cents. I think the should still have candy for 5 cents. P.S. did you know Laura Ingalls Wilder?.

History Rocks



Thank  
You!

Mr. McIntrye

Mrs. Moser

Mrs. Grant

Thank  
You!



The thank you notes were very colorful (sorry they are in black & white here). . If you would like to see and read them, let us know as we can bring them to a meeting.

Thank you students!

## JANET'S THOUGHTS

Summer 2009 went by very fast with flowers, garden and yard work, beautiful sunrises and sunsets. A beautiful sight all summer long was to see the flags flying in the breeze over the veteran's grave. They will be removed a week after Veteran's Day in November. Did you know that protocol says to place a flag on a deceased veteran's grave for Memorial Day and for Veteran's Day you can place a flag beside a tombstone that a living veteran has already purchased? Memorial Day is remembering the deceased and Veteran's Day is also honoring the living. If you know of a veteran that has his stone and there is no standard or flag, let us know so we can be sure and have one there in time for Veteran's Day.

With monthly meetings resuming membership dues will be due. Our year goes from September 1, 2009, through August 31, 2010 and the dues are \$10.00 per year for an individual and \$20.00 for a family. Checks can be made out to the Washington Twp. Historical Society and mailed to the society at 5843 Beechwood Ave., Alliance, OH 44601 or see Janet at the September meeting.

The goal in 2009 was to increase our membership and that goal was fulfilled with 61 paid memberships. Can we make 2010 bigger and better? You don't have to be a resident of the township now or you could never have lived in the township to be a member. We only ask that you be interested in our history and become a member of a great group of people.

Janet Moser

## OUR FIRST FLOAT

The historical society celebrated Washington Township's 188 years by participating in the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Carnation Grand Parade. Much discussion and planning started way back in the months when snow was flying and ended on a beautiful HOT summer day.

We started with an old hay wagon owned by Earl and Glenn Dickerhoof that would be pulled in the parade by a 1974 Oliver tractor owned and driven by Dwaine Brugger

Amid much fun and laughter the end product made us proud. Dedicated workers on the float were Clif Zellers, Dwaine Brugger, Jay and Kim Palmer, Ardis Rastetter, Joann Huddleston, Larry and Kay Zank, Jerry Haynam, Lou Slater, Dan MacIntyre, Ron Lefever, Barb and Janet Moser, Marleen Grant and Carolyn Caskey.

Our old school desk was an ideal place for Ardis and Jerry to sit during the parade. Ardis even had pig tails and Jerry had rubber snakes to scare her, sounds like the old days doesn't it. Marleen and Cliff were at the back of the float while Joann, Kay, Lou, Kim and Janet walked along the side of the wagon.

We had the necessary carnations in an old watering can and large coffee pot. They were beautifully arranged by Barb. Corn stalks out of Glenn's corn field surrounded the perimeter of the wagon. On the very back of the float were the names of the township's four towns and names of all the old schools. Many other items completed the float.

All the hard work paid off for the group as the float won the Parade Chairman's Award. A beautiful plaque was handed to the society just as they were ready to pull out on State St. If the participants weren't smiling before, they sure had a huge smile then as they traveled the parade route. Thank you to all that worked on this float and get ready for next year everyone.

## POLO SHIRTS

If you saw the Carnation Parade did you notice the light blue shirts the walkers and Dwaine had on? We have some of these shirts available at \$15.00 each in Medium, Large and Extra Large in ladies and mens. The shirts have our logo in dark blue on the top left front and our name in dark blue on the back. If you are interested in purchasing one of these shirts, call Janet at 330-821-7756.

## MEMORIAL FUND

The Historical Society has established a memorial fund. If you would like to donate at anytime in the name of a living or deceased individual your monetary donation will go into this fund. It will only be used to promote our original purpose "To Preserve Our History".

## CHICKEN & BISCUIT SUPPER

The annual chicken and biscuit supper/car show was held on July 18<sup>th</sup>. As usual we had our room open so that visitors could see our acquisitions. We also held the drawing for the raffle which is used as a money maker for supplies. Mary Lou Main made a beautiful red, white and blue quilted table runner, Nancy Sutton donated a Longaberger basket and Doris Gabric donated some lap throws. Thank you ladies.

The raffle was very successful with Daneen Wachsman winning the table runner and Jill Wilson of Bolivar winning the basket. Winners of the throws were Don Allison, Sue Keirn, Ron Lefever, Norma Dickerhoof, and Barb Moser.

## VALUABLE INFORMATION BY SAMUEL R. NEEL, JR.

The Germans captured many American prisoners during the Battle of the Bulge in December, 1944. More than 2000 American privates – I among them – were taken to a camp at Bad Orb, where the German Intelligence promptly went to work trying to pry military information out of the men.

One group of 200 privates, including radiomen, mechanics, tank drivers, clerks and many other specialists, refused to list anything but their names, ranks and serial numbers. So the German officers, eager to know what the men's specialties were, decided to try coercion. They marched the privates out into a snow-covered field and left them standing there, without coats or hats, in near-zero weather.

The prisoners had been given only three meals during their eight days of captivity, each meal consisting of a sixth of a loaf of heavy black bread, plus a helmet full of almost indigestible rutabaga-top soup.

Yet, in spite of their weakened condition, the men stood there stubbornly in the bitter cold without any sign of giving in. After about an hour of this torture, individuals here and there in the ranks began to pass out. And finally, when two hours had passed a spokesman for the group told the German officer in charge that they were willing to yield – ready to reveal their military specialties.

The men filled out their printed forms, and the elated Intelligence officers, having collected the documents, retired to study their valuable information. What they found was that they had on their hands 200 American cooks.

The above article was taken from an April 26, 1947, issue of the Saturday Evening Post owned by Larry & Kay Zank