

# From The Friends' Front Porch

Spring 2008

Volume 6, Issue 1

## Museum Efforts Honored by Local Foundations

### Greater Cincinnati Foundation grant assists windows project

The Museum has received a \$20,000 grant from The Greater Cincinnati Foundation (GCF) to fund the ongoing window restoration project in our 100-year-old building.

The grant will be used to help repair and restore the 64 windows in the building, replacing storm windows where needed. This ambitious project will improve the structure of the facility, increase energy efficiency, and provide a more hospitable environment for the delicate items on display. The estimated \$80,000+ project has been generously supported by Museum members, but much work needs to be done to fund the remaining repairs. These donations played a big part in providing matching funds to qualify for this grant and show the Museum's credibility in the community. Thank you!

The GCF is a charitable organization that builds and preserves endowment funds, identifies opportunities to enhance the quality of community life, and responds with grants addressing six key areas: arts and culture, community and economic development, education, environment, health, and human services.

The Museum continues to accept donations for this ongoing restoration work. Repairs on the north side of the building will begin this spring.

### Noteworthy Notes

Interested in saving postage and trees by receiving our newsletter via email? Let us know: [info@friendshomemuseum.org](mailto:info@friendshomemuseum.org)

Or, if you'd rather not receive our communications any longer, let us know that as well (via mail, phone or email) and we will update our mailing list. We never want to be a bother! Thank you for your consideration ~

### Vectren Foundation offers continuing support

The Vectren Foundation has notified the Museum that our request for grant funding to support the ongoing window restoration project has been approved. Details are still being finalized, but it appears a new Foundation initiative in Ohio may give us a yet-to-be-determined amount for several years to help in preserving our building, as well as assistance with an energy audit and professional evaluation of our structural needs.

Thank you, Vectren Foundation!

### IMLS Federal funding aids Museum conservation efforts

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the primary source of federal funding of the nation's museums and libraries, and its cooperator, the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH), has selected the Museum as one of 2,000 nationwide recipients in 2008 of their IMLS Conservation Bookshelf collection. This core set of conservation materials will assist the Museum in better preserving its artifacts for future generations.

The IMLS Bookshelf focuses on collections typically found in art or history museums and in libraries' special collections, among others. It addresses such topics as the philosophy and ethics of collecting, collections management and planning, emergency preparedness, and culturally specific conservation issues.

### Thanks & Praise to Those Who Help

Thank you, thank you, from the Museum Board to those members and friends who give of themselves to keep things running smoothly:

- Miami Valley Communications Council for the continuing airing of our *Waynesville Wanderings* DVD on cable-access television

## ***English Garden Tea Party at Quaker Heights May 3rd***

Ladies, dust off your hats and gloves - it's time for tea! The Museum tea party fundraiser will be held Saturday, May 3, from 1 to 3 p.m., at the beautiful Quaker Heights Community Center. Lots of scrumptious delicacies, pots and pots of tea, musical entertainment and spring gardening tips, plus the ever-popular silent auction, make for an afternoon you won't want to miss.

Tables of 10 can be reserved for groups and personally decorated for a light-hearted competition. Each table will reflect a different flower; pink roses, hydrangeas and lilacs are already spoken for, so get your reservations in early! Individual tickets are also available at \$15 each. Contact Program Chair Linda Morgan at 513.383.0071, or the Museum office at 513.897.1607, and join the fun!



## **Trash 'n Treasures Yard Sale tradition continues May 16-17**

Our annual Trash 'n Treasures Yard Sale will offer the usual exciting array of unique items Friday and Saturday, May 16-17, rain or shine! Plan your shopping now and visit us from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day – there's always something new to see!

The garage still has a little room left for donations to stock the sale. Items may be left at the Museum during regular operating hours Wednesday and Sunday, 1-4 p.m., or under the canopied walkway. Please, no clothing. Thank you all for supporting this event.

***Volunteers are always needed to help with copying, tagging artifacts, cleaning, tours, and for special projects. Come join us! Our work is interesting and we have a great time. Call 513.897.1607 whether you have a few days or a few hours to share. You are most welcome!***

## ***Never say never...***

From our August 2007 newsletter: *"The first stage of our window repair project will begin soon... This will be our last major exterior maintenance expense."*

Oops – we should know better! As with any 100-year-old structure, repairs and upkeep are a continuing concern. When we began work on the windows, it was discovered the front porch is also in dire need of attention. Unfortunately, until we find someone who can actually begin tearing the porch apart, we will not know how extensive the damage is, or how much repairs will cost.

Members received a letter earlier this year explaining the situation and many of you have responded generously with donations earmarked for this major undertaking. We are currently meeting with village officials to determine the availability of local government funds through the Ohio Historical Society to help with the project. Stay tuned!

Donations for the porch repairs are still being accepted. Make checks payable to WAHCC (Waynesville Area Heritage and Cultural Center). Thank you for your continuing support!

## **Don't miss *Waynesville Wanderings***



Copies of *Waynesville Wanderings: A Video Oral History of Waynesville and Vicinity from Early Pioneers through the 1970s* are still available at the Museum for \$15 each. This collector's item highlights many areas of interest from the history of our area and will serve as a treasured keepsake for many years to come.

Our thanks to the Ohio Humanities Council for their generous funding of this project.

## Curator's Corner

~ by *Dolly McKeenan*

As we start another season for the Museum, I am reminded of how far we have come in such a few short years. We could not have been so successful without the help and support of our members and the Board of Trustees, and we all appreciate the generous support we receive from the community.

The grant committee has secured two grants this year toward window repair and new storm windows totaling \$32,000 (see page 1 for details). Construction will start in the spring on the south side of the building.

I will be attending the Heartland Conference in March to attract more coach tours to the museum. These tours are a great funding source and the Board hopes to expand our marketing efforts in this area. Also in March, several board members will attend the Region 8 meeting of the Ohio Association of Historical Societies and Museums sponsored by the Ohio Historical Society. This is a wonderful way to network with other museums throughout the state and share ideas.

April 6 is our opening day and we hope to see you this season. We are working on several exhibit rooms adding some new items, sprucing up the old, painting, etc. Stop by to see what's new! Our rotating exhibit will feature historical coverlets donated by Mary Lou Brown, including five wool/flax coverlets with one dating to 1839, along with a few loom shuttles, dating 1879. And for fall, check your closets for local election memorabilia for a seasonal exhibit. Did you ever run for political office? Share your memories!

Finally, we hope you will think of the Museum if your family, church or civic group is looking for an interesting outing. Our guided tours offer a great way to spend a few hours with friends. Reservations can be made by calling the Museum office at 513.897.1607. Hours remain 1-4 p.m. Sunday and Wednesday and by appointment. As always, please feel free to call me if you have any questions or comments on the Museum.

### Calling All Bibliophiles

The Whittier Book Club meets next on Tuesday, March 25, at 7 p.m., in the Museum's cozy upstairs courtyard. This month's book: *China Road: A Journey Into the Future of a Rising Power* by Rob Gifford. We're always looking for new readers so please join us if you are fascinated by the power of the printed word.



This is a small, highly informal gathering where each member gets a chance to choose a book for the group to read for a given month. Contact Linda Morgan at 513.383.0071 for future dates.

### Dulcimer Friends Jam!

The Dulcimer Friends of Caesar's Creek are a loosely-organized group of period music lovers. They meet at the Museum from 7-9 p.m. each second and fourth Tuesday of the month for a spirited jam session. Mountain (lap) and hammer dulcimer, penny whistle, banjo, Bohdran – all old-time instruments, and any skill level, are welcome to join in the fun.

Visit their website at [www.dulcimerfriends.org](http://www.dulcimerfriends.org) or call 513.683.4344 for more information.



### Tour Guides Needed

With the increasing popularity of the Museum's historic walking tours and the ghost tours, we are in need of additional tour guides to share the load. It's easy, fun, and a great benefit to the Museum's bottom line.

The ghost tours, which are our most popular event, are usually held only during the month of October, but what a month it is! We hosted more than 700 guests in 2007 and look to add to that roster this year. Tours are conducted each Wednesday, Friday and Saturday in October, except during Sauerkraut Festival week. Two separate groups – Main Street and Quaker Hill – can be scheduled each evening, and with each tour needing at least two volunteers (one to lead and tell the stories, and one to corral stragglers at the rear), we can use any help you may be able to offer. The Ghost & Goblet Dinners we work in conjunction with the Hammel House Inn can add up to another two tours each Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Comprehensive training is provided including sample scripts and the opportunity to work as a helper before going solo. Tours last no more than two hours, so the time commitment each night is minimal. If walking the route is a problem, we also need hosts to open the Museum for guests to visit at the end of the evening.

The tours are a wonderful way to showcase the work of the Museum, and they are great fun. Won't you join us?



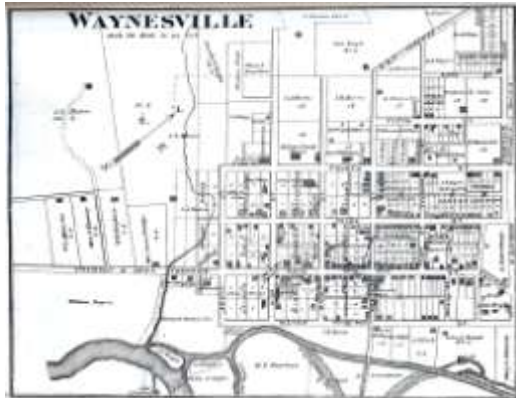
## Happy Birthday, Waynesville!

~ by *Bill Stubbs*

The first settlers arrived in Waynesville on March 8, 1797, 211 years ago this month.

This journey began in 1792 when Samuel Heighway came to this area to survey the land. Heighway, along with his cofounders Dr. Evan Bane and John Smith, purchased between 30,000 and 40,000 acres from Judge John Cleves Symmes for \$1.25 an acre. They then sold the land to potential settlers for \$2.00 an acre; town lots consisting of half an acre in Waynesville went for \$6.00 each. Buyers had to build a house on their land within an agreed on amount of time.

Heighway laid out Waynesville in 1796 based on the concept of an English village. It consisted of 11 squares, each containing 4 square acres, along with 19 outlots.



Heighway then went to Pennsylvania to buy provisions for the new village. On November 24, 1796, he with companions John Tamset and Samuel Tamset with their wives, John Culthbert, and Francis Bailey, started down the Ohio River on a raft laden with provisions. Winter overtook them and they became iced in and lost many of their items. They finally arrived in Columbia on Feb., 27 1797.

On March 4, Heighway left Columbia and started for Waynesville with a guide and three or four pioneers to clear a roadway. Two days later, on March 6, Dr. Bane and Francis Bailey along with other settlers left Columbia. This group drove wagons that carried the provisions for the new settlement and followed the roadway that Heighway had cleared. They joined up with Heighway on March 7.



On March 8, 1797, they reached the site of Waynesville.

Francis Baily, who later became a world famous scientist, kept a diary in which he recorded this adventure. In his diary he wrote, "... the next morning nothing could be heard but the sound of the axe resounding through the trees. Everyone who was an expert of that art went out to cut down trees to build our friend (Heighway) a house and before night they had got several logs laid and the house was raised several feet. While the major part were engaged in this employment, Dr. Bane and myself and two men took our guns and axes and went bear hunting."

By October, 1797, there were fourteen families living in the new village.



### Tell a Tale!

Have a story of local historical interest you would like to share? We plan to include one article in each upcoming newsletter. Period pictures or artwork are a bonus! Contact our newsletter editor, Cyndi Pauwels, by email: [CyndiGuru@GeoTechGurus.com](mailto:CyndiGuru@GeoTechGurus.com), or phone 937.542.9628, or with your ideas.

## Volunteers ~ the Backbone of Your Museum

The 12-member Museum Board of Trustees has a number of standing committees working hard to keep things humming. According to our bylaws, the clerk (chair) of each committee is a Board member, and the committee is staffed with additional volunteers. Which group could use your expertise? Give us a call!

- Executive: Milton Cook, clerk, with George Pauwels, Bill Stubbs and Dolly McKeehan
- Financial: Bill Stubbs, clerk, with Milton Cook and Eula McDermott
- Professional Concerns: Cyndi Pauwels, clerk, volunteers needed
- Membership/Trusteeship: Dolly McKeehan, clerk, with Janet Jones
- Collection/Acquisition: Dolly McKeehan, clerk, with Samantha McKeehan and Lee Philpott
- Programs: Linda Morgan, clerk, with Peg Rice, Eula McDermott and Dot Fosnaugh
- Publicity: Cyndi Pauwels, clerk, volunteers needed
- Grants: George Pauwels, clerk, with Bruce Snell
- Grounds/Building: Chad Bridgman, clerk, with Bill Stubbs
- Volunteers: Samantha McKeehan, clerk, with Ashley Bridgman

## Ohio Chautauqua 2008 – *Inventors & Innovators*

An exciting mixture of education and entertainment, Ohio Chautauqua 2008 will focus on Inventors & Innovators. In these programs, scholar/presenters will explore the lives and legacies of those who helped shape our modern world. Characters for Ohio Chautauqua 2008 are Thomas Edison, Mary McLeod Bethune, Andrew Carnegie, George Washington Carver, and Alexander Graham Bell. These characters will explore compelling aspects of their lives and help us better understand how their innovations moved America and the world toward new ways of life. Discussions with these characters will also help us examine current topics like business ethics, race relations, education, philanthropy, women's issues, and pop culture.

Inventors & Innovators begins June 17-21 in Lebanon. Ohio Chautauqua programs are fun for the entire family! Each evening, a trained scholar/performer will assume the costume and character of a historical figure, presenting an exciting and engaging living history performance. Everyone meets under the old-fashioned red and white striped chautauqua tent to learn from and talk with famous characters from our past.

In addition to major living history presentations, each scholar will present daytime workshops for children and adults in venues throughout the host community.

~ [www.ohiohumanities.org/chaut/chaut.htm](http://www.ohiohumanities.org/chaut/chaut.htm)



### *The Museum Board of Trustees ~ working hard for you!*

Milton Cook, Presiding Clerk	George Pauwels, Vice President
Dolly McKeehan, Secretary/Curator	Bill Stubbs, Treasurer
Chad Bridgman	Bill Jones
Samantha McKeehan	Linda Morgan
Lee Philpott	Cyndi Pauwels
	Peg Rice



Museum at the Friends Home  
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## *Mark your calendar!*

~ All events are held at the Museum unless otherwise noted ~

### March

6: Museum Board of Trustees meeting ~ 7 p.m.

### April

3: Museum Board of Trustees meeting ~ 7 p.m.

6: Season opening ~ regular hours Wednesday & Sunday 1-4 p.m.

### May

1: Museum Board of Trustees meeting ~ 7 p.m.

3: *English Garden Tea* ~ Quaker Heights Community Care Center 1-3 p.m.

16-17: Trash 'n Treasures Yard Sale ~ 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### June

5: Museum Board of Trustees meeting ~ 7 p.m.

17-21: Ohio Chautauqua 2008: *Inventors & Innovators* ~ Lebanon 7-9 p.m. daily

20-22: Appalachian Music Festival ~ Bicentennial Park

### July

3: Museum Board of Trustees meeting ~ 7 p.m.

~ Visit us on the web: [www.friendshomemuseum.org](http://www.friendshomemuseum.org) ~

[info@friendshomemuseum.org](mailto:info@friendshomemuseum.org)