

From The Friends' Front Porch

SPRING 2017

www.friendshomemuseum.org

Volume 15, Issue 1

Fascinating New Local Lecture Series Begins March 18, 2017



A new Museum lecture series will kick off this spring, featuring topics of local area history. Planned by Museum board member Linda Morgan, the lectures will be held at the **Red Brick Meeting House** at 399 High Street in Waynesville. Starting time for each two-hour lecture is 11:30 A.M.

Cost will be \$16 with a box lunch; \$10 without box lunch. Reservations can be made at www.friendshomemuseum.org or by calling 513-897-1607. Proceeds will support the Museum.

March 18, 2017: Dayton Inventors and Inventions, Jim Charters, Carillon Park Historian. Inventors from Dayton are responsible for a wide range of ideas that have changed the world. At one time Dayton was known as the City of a Thousand Factories. James Ritty's invention of the cash register led to NCR. Kettering's automobile self-starter led to DELCO. Thomas Midgley's leaded gasoline led to the Ethyl Corporation. And the Wright Brother's airplane...well, that led to nearly everything else. Many creative minds from Dayton shaped the world we live in today. Jim Charters is a highly qualified subject expert in all things involving Dayton inventors. He is a spokesperson for Dayton History and is an interpretive guide at Carillon Park and Hawthorn Hill. Everyone in attendance will receive a free adult pass to Carillon Park.

April 15, 2017: Essential Oils for Health," Dr. Patti McCormick, RN, Ph.D. President, Institute of Holistic Leadership. Dr. McCormick has been an educator and private practitioner of holistic health since 1978. She founded and directed one of the first state-approved and federally accredited holistic vocational schools in the U.S. Through IHL she now provides education and consultation for integrating holistic practices into schools, businesses and industries. She is known at the national level for her ability to empower people to make intelligent choices and become the "head coach" of their health care team. In discussing Essential Oils, Dr. McCormick will describe the many benefits of using aroma therapy, including pain relief, mood enhancement and increased cognitive function.

May 20, 2017 "Walk in the Light," Travis Cook, Waynesville Quaker Historian. Raised in the Quaker community in Waynesville, Travis is exceptionally qualified to tell the compelling story of the Waynesville Quaker Historical District. We will learn what Quakers believe, how they conduct religious services. We will learn how his ancestors left Bush River, South Carolina to settle in Waynesville to distance themselves from the evils of slavery, how they founded the Miami Monthly Meeting in the early 1800s. And how, even today, their witness for God's grace living inside each of us and their pursuit of peace and simplicity can still be found at their historic meeting house, the oldest continuously-operating church west of the Alleghenies. Mr. Cook's DVD, "Walk in the Light" will be available for \$15.

June 17, 2017: "History Walk Through Spring Grove," Phil Nuxhall. After thirty years as a speech and language pathologist, Phil Nuxhall began a second career as Historian and Tour Guide Coordinator for the Spring Grove Heritage Foundation. He has documented over 3,000 markers, monuments and sculpture in Spring Grove and several foreign cemeteries. Spring Grove boasts some of America's most beautiful works of memorial art in the form of grandiose obelisks, ornate columns, statuary by European artisans, stately mausoleums and even an Egyptian pyramid and sphinx which Phil has featured in his stunning pictorial book "Beauty of the Grove." Come join us as Phil gives us an historical tour of this magnificent cemetery and learn about the final resting places of Cincinnati magnates such as the Proctor and Gamble families, the Shillito and Pogues, and sports figures such as Waite Hoyte.

September 16, 2017: "The Wright B Flyer," Rich Stepler, Wright Brothers Historian. *Wilber and Orville Wright built America's first airplane factory in Dayton in 1910. The Model B was its first product. Come join us to hear the story behind this history-making vehicle, its "revolutionary" design and how it shaped the future of aviation. Learn about Wright "B" Flyer, Inc and its activities in displaying and flying the public in a modern lookalike aircraft at the Dayton-Wright Brothers Airport. We are fortunate to have Rich Stepler, a master aviator and one of the few pilots qualified to fly this vehicle to present this information.*

November 18, 2017 "The American Revolution, 1775, The Critical Year," Terry Martin. *Terry Martin's passion in life is to learn the motive forces and the behind-the-scene events and the personalities that shaped what we refer to today as American History. A life-long resident of Waynesville, Terry earned his Bachelor's degree in history from Drury College. He has been the president of the Waynesville Historical Society for the past seven years. Come join us to listen to Terry describe why 1775 was a "good year to start a revolution." What is the "back story," the human-driven forensics that explain why our forefathers decided to embark on a bloody, irreversible revolution with full knowledge that they had put their fortunes, families and their very lives at risk? Most importantly, you will learn valuable insights into understanding the America of today.*



Curator's Corner ~ by Dolly McKeehan

Behind the scenes.....

Thanks to a \$1,250 grant from the Warren County Foundation and to some folks I know and dearly love, the "working part" of the Museum has received a much-needed overhaul. Larry McKeehan (let's see, where do I know him from?) redid the archival storage room in the basement, cleared it of junk, patched and painted the walls, built beautiful custom shelving to storage box specifications, and constructed a six foot rolling rack for clothing. He purchased a shelving rack that allows me to keep all textiles in one room along with a rolling cart to transfer items from the storage area to the office area. He raised two file cabinets onto wooden runners to prevent damage from floor moisture, and placed them in a more convenient location.

He drilled anchors in stairway walls for hanging paintings and portraits. He repaired bathroom fixtures that were running (i.e. water, not away). Thanks to Larry's enhancements, Trustee Lee Philpott and I have reorganized all storage, getting rid of overflow previously cluttering the conference room, began new exhibits, and refreshed others for the upcoming season.

Larry purchased some of the materials out of his own pocket for this work, and Trustee Rick Rieger paid Larry for all of his work. Trustee Jim Prickett is installing window shading on second floor windows to help protect our displays and beautiful textiles from sun exposure. This is what I call "TEAM SPIRIT!" ~ THANK YOU!

Starting out quickly.....

In January, ten cub scouts and their parents toured the Museum. The six to eight year old scouts were working on a religion badge, which normally requires them to read a book about a religious group contributing to social change. Their scout leader thought visiting the Museum and learning about the Quakers' role in the Underground Railroad would create a more meaningful, longer-lasting impression than reading a book. And it did! They were enthralled for an hour – no small feat for youngsters normally having the attention span of a gnat!

We've already booked our first Museum bus tour, including a Main Street ghost tour and dinner at the Hamel House, and we're still a couple months away from opening for the season.

I like how this year is beginning!

MUSEUM MUSINGS ~ with Chuck Feicht

Global Warming

I thought I'd look back 100 years; here's a peek at Waynesville weather for January and February:

	<u>Jan 1916</u>	<u>Jan 2016</u>	<u>Feb 1916</u>	<u>Feb 2016</u>
Maximum temperature	67 degrees	62 degree (colder)	61 degrees	66 degrees (warmer)
Minimum temperature	-5 degrees	14 degrees (warmer)	1 degree	17 degrees (warmer)

Three of the four 2016 temperatures were warmer compared to the 1916 counterparts ~ so that settles it, global warming is official!

Interesting Reading

The 1916 weather data above comes from the Miami Gazette, dated March 8, 1916. If you want to do your own historical research, *the Mary L. Cook Library has the entire library of the Miami Gazette newspapers dating back to 1850.* For a day of interesting reading, it's worth thumbing through a few editions, especially if you have long-time family ties to the area.

Braggarts Then and Now

I was glancing through the January 30, 1850 issue of the Miami Gazette and found the following:

"Did you ever?.....pass 5 minutes with a rep in the Legislature, without his aching to let you know that he filled that office." 167 years later, nothing's changed!

Paravizion Invites Public to Join in Spirit Hunt Saturday, April 15, 2017

A professional paranormal research group from the Middletown area will conduct a seminar to share "spirit hunting" techniques and equipment. The Paravizion team's goal is to provide potential explanations and possible solutions to help ease clients' discomfort with inexplicable occurrences in their homes or businesses. The team possesses over 20 years of investigating experience and utilizes a wide spectrum of specialized equipment and technology. More information about the group, sites they have investigated, their investigative process, case files, and additional information can be viewed at www.paravizionz.com.

Team members will share several compelling stories of past encounters with spirits, and lead seminar attendees on an actual hunt through the Museum at the Friends Home. Successful engagements and dialogue with spirits have occurred during previous visits to the Museum.

The seminar will be conducted beginning at 7 p.m. at the Red Brick Meeting House at 407 High Street in Waynesville. At approximately 9 p.m., the class will head out to Main Street in Waynesville and then to the Museum at the Friends Home for actual hunting (there have been a number of sightings at the Museum). Cookies and hot beverages will be served. The class will end at midnight.

Class size is limited to 30 people. All participants must be 16 years of age or older.

Cost of the evening seminar and "hunt" is \$45 per adult. All proceeds support the operations of the Museum at the Friends Home.

National Park Service Identifies Waynesville Program as Network to Freedom Resource

First presented in 2012, a Waynesville youth program has been identified as one of many educational resources across the nation regarding the Underground Railroad. Titled "*Waynesville's Role in the Underground Railroad*," the interactive program builds upon sixth grade language arts and social studies curriculum, and includes a PowerPoint lecture, walking tour, and trip to Camp Joy ~ an outdoor educational camp near Clarksville, Ohio, where students participate in a living history re-enactment of the Underground Railroad movement. The program builds upon existing historical sites, some listed on the National Register, and historical documents including the 1840 Miami Monthly Meeting Minutes and letters from the Wilbur Siebert Collection. The program explores how Waynesville, settled by anti-slavery Quakers from the Bush River area of South Carolina, was an important stop on the Underground Railroad.

More information from the program can be obtained from the Mary L. Cook Public Library.

Spring's Coming – and the Annual Yard Sale

The Museum will conduct its annual yard sale during June 22-24, 2017. Donation of items to the sale can be delivered to the red garage immediately behind the Museum at any time prior to the sale, or call 513-897-1607 if other arrangements are necessary. The sale will be held on the Museum's property at 115 S. 4th Street in Waynesville.



MAX'S MUTTERINGS

Summer's Coming – and Ghost Tours

Do you think ghosts really exist? Whether you do or not, some Waynesville home and shop owners and visitors are convinced they do, because there's no other apparent explanation for what they've experienced or seen. Hear their stories this summer during our Main Street and Quaker Hill tours. Tours will be conducted by Museum docents on the 3rd Saturday evenings from May through September (i.e. May 20, June 17, July 15, August 19, and September 16. Reservations can be made via the Museum's website www.friendshomemuseum.org or by calling 513-897-1607.

- I'm the Museum's new mascot. **Make my day and help me feel wanted ~ go the Museum's Facebook page and "LIKE" it.** That will help draw attention to my wonderful new home.
- Did you know our board president is Milton Cook, and that **Thomas Jefferson signed the deed to his family's farm?**
- In addition to Milton, my new "masters" are Museum board members Rose Baily, Wanda Downey, Dolly McKeegan, Linda Morgan, Lee Philpott, Jim Prickett, Rick Rieger, Mark Schutzler, Andrew Shipman, and Bill Stubbs.
- **We need another board member.** If no one responds, I'll be in the doghouse. Help!!
- Don't forget, we have lots of family genealogical research material at the Museum. Call 513-897-1607 if you want to learn more about it.

Fourth & Miami Streets
P.O. Box 12
Waynesville, OH 45068

www.friendshomemuseum.org

MFH
Museum at the Friends Home