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**UPDATE ON AMERICORPS BASEMENT STORAGE PROJECT**

Hello newsletter subscribers! This is Alexis Butterworth, the 2021- 2022 AmeriCorps member. I have served at the Logan County History Center for a year, assisting the Logan County History Center as well as other local history organizations. The year serving as the Logan County History Center's AmeriCorps member flew by way too fast! The staff and docents here are amazing and truly made me feel welcomed and part of the team. You all truly have a special and unique place to showcase this amazing county! When I was first interviewed for the AmeriCorps service position in Logan County, I was told the main project I would be working on was a storage project. Having volunteered and completed internships in museums, I felt that I was up for the challenge! And it was a challenge for sure (at first!).

Every museum, big or small, struggles with space for the number of items that are donated year after year. But with teamwork, planning, and hard work, we have been able to start organizing the storage items in the basement to better fit in the space we have. Todd and I decided the best way to start this somewhat daunting task was to dive right in and start moving items to better organize them. Completing this, we discovered that there was a leak in the ceiling! This issue was fixed, thanks to a local construction company, repairing the leak and replacing the ceiling tiles. After this, it was also decided to redo the floors and a storage room while the items were mostly out of the way.

Once the items that we had moved were ready to be organized, we requested the help of Beth Marshall and volunteer Don Corwin to help us identify and describe some of the items. Slowly the items were divided into two main groups, agriculture items and household items. A big milestone in this project was redoing one of the storage areas and building shelves to house big agricultural items. The team slowly started moving agricultural items into the storage room, and to date, we have gotten through the majority of the agricultural items. While it may sound somewhat easy to reorganize and move items around, careful documentation has to be taken when moving items in a museum to make sure the item can be easily identified and located. So this project will take time, but like reorganizing that messy room in your house, the end result will be very satisfying, and also help make sure these items stay in good condition for years to come!

Update on AmeriCorps Basement Storage Project written by **Alexis Butterworth**



## 2022 LCHS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

---

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Trustee (2022-2024)

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Trustee (2022-2024)

**Bill Tipple**

Trustee (2022-2024)

## LOGAN COUNTY HISTORY CENTER

521 East Columbus Avenue  
Bellefontaine, OH 43311

[www.loganhistory.org](http://www.loganhistory.org)  
(937) 593-7557

History Center Hours  
Wednesday-Sunday  
1:00-4:00PM

## CURATOR'S CORNER

After three long years we finally welcomed local students back to the Logan County History Center and once again sponsored our Logan County Landmark Field Trip to various places in the county! The spring of 2019 marked the last time local third graders came to the History Center to learn and experience local history. The COVID-19 pandemic started just prior to our typical field trip season in 2020. Schools went to remote learning, but we adapted by producing a virtual tour teachers could use in the classroom. While we were proud of the virtual tour nothing beats the students seeing the museum's exhibits and artifacts in person. As we all know the pandemic continued with many ups and downs, unfortunately more downs, which prevented schools from allowing their students to go on field trips in 2021 as well. While I was able to go into the classroom (actually the cafeteria) at Bellefontaine Intermediate to share our *From Indians to Honda* traveling program with the 2020-2021 third graders, and a Benjamin Logan third grade teacher borrowed our *Local Footsteps* program, we still felt badly that another third-grade class missed their annual field trip to the History Center.

Fortunately, this spring brought back a sense of normalcy with Bellefontaine and Indian Lake 3<sup>rd</sup> Grades visiting the History Center, along with Lima Temple Christian 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Due to scheduling conflicts and other extenuating circumstances, Benjamin Logan, West Liberty and Riverside could not make it to the History Center this spring but are planning on getting the History Center back on their calendars in the 2022-2023 school year.

We could not do our school field trips without the support of the schools. I am very proud of the relationships we have developed with the schools over the years and hope to build on these relationships in the future. We also have great relationships with other local organizations that make the Logan County Landmark Field Trip a success through their participation. Bellefontaine third graders once again loved visiting Castle Mac-A-Cheek and then seeing the Ebenezer Zane Cabin. I want to thank Margaret Piatt and the Zane Cabin Committee for opening their doors to the students. Similarly, I want to thank the Indian Lake Area Historical Society for welcoming the Indian Lake third graders to the Harbor Bridge (construction on Wolfe Island prevented the buses from getting to the Orchard Island Post Office this year). Just as with the schools, I am very proud of the close relationship we have with other organizations in Logan County. A big thanks also to Kris Swisher and the Holland Theatre for being a part of the Bellefontaine Third Grade tour of downtown Bellefontaine, along with Judge Martin and the staff at the Courthouse, Commissioner Antram and the Commissioners' Office, and the City Building staff. Over 150 third graders trekked throughout the downtown on May 12<sup>th</sup> seeing some wonderful historic buildings and learning how our local government works.

Our wonderful volunteer docents make the field trips of the History Center possible. After several years off we had to recruit several new docents and they stepped in admirably. I want to thank Bruce Norris, Louise Norris, Sally Stephan, Pat Orli, Jeannie Jenkins, Lois Stoll, Margie Bixler, Jill Hill, Karen Tracey, Jody Nolin and Nancy McGuire for helping with the tours this year.

I would be remiss if I did not thank LCHS Archivist/Asst. Curator Beth Marshall for being the other bus' guide on the Logan County Landmark tours that we did. Finally, I would like to thank Alexis Butterworth, our AmeriCorps/Ohio History Service Corps for helping with the downtown tours with Bellefontaine third graders.

We look forward to the 2022-2023 school year to help even more students experience Logan County History!

*Todd McCormick* Curator/Director

## 2022 LCHC STAFF

### Todd McCormick

Curator/Director  
tmccormick@loganhistory.org

### Mary Mortimer

Administrative Assistant  
Social Media/Website  
mmortimer@loganhistory.org

### Beth Marshall

Assistant Curator/Archivist  
bmarshall@loganhistory.org

### John McPherson

Building/Grounds Manager  
jmcpherson@loganhistory.org

### Toni McPherson

Bookkeeper/Payroll  
tmcpherson@loganhistory.org

### Tim McPherson

Caretaker  
dtimmcpherson@gmail.com

## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

MONTHLY \$20  
GIFT CERTIFICATE  
DRAWING

*March*

Linda Larson

*April*

Bruce Norris

*May*

Dee Dee Ricketts

## FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

@LOGANCOUNTYHISTORYCENTER

# 2022

## Calendar OF Events

### JULY

4<sup>TH</sup> INDEPENDENCE DAY  
CLOSED for Holiday

9<sup>TH</sup> DAR MEETING  
10:30AM AcuSport Room

10<sup>TH</sup>-16<sup>TH</sup> LOGAN CO. FAIR BOOTH  
12:00-9:00PM Merchants Building

11<sup>TH</sup> PIECEMAKERS MEETING  
7:00PM AcuSport Room

14<sup>TH</sup> BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEETING  
7:00PM AcuSport Room

### AUGUST

8<sup>TH</sup> PIECEMAKERS MEETING  
7:00PM AcuSport Room

13<sup>TH</sup> DAR MEETING  
10:30AM AcuSport Room

### SEPTEMBER

5<sup>TH</sup> LABOR DAY  
CLOSED for Holiday

8<sup>TH</sup> BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEETING  
7:00PM AcuSport Room

10<sup>TH</sup> DAR MEETING  
10:30AM AcuSport Room

12<sup>TH</sup> PIECEMAKERS MEETING  
7:00PM AcuSport Rm

12<sup>TH</sup> ATHENIAN CLUB MEETING  
7:00PM AcuSport Rm

### OCTOBER

5<sup>TH</sup> RUDY CHRISTIAN PROGRAM  
7:00PM Transportation Museum

8<sup>TH</sup> DAR MEETING  
10:30AM AcuSport Room

10<sup>TH</sup> PIECEMAKERS MEETING  
7:00PM AcuSport Rm

11<sup>TH</sup> ATHENIAN CLUB MEETING  
7:00PM AcuSport Rm

22<sup>TH</sup> HALLOWEEN KIDFEST  
Time TBA History Center

## Upcoming Meetings

### THERE WILL BE NO LCHC PROGRAM/MEETING IN AUGUST

### OCTOBER LCHC PROGRAM/MEETING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE LOGAN COUNTY LAND TRUST

October 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2022 | 7:00PM | LCHC's Transportation Museum

The Logan County History Center in partnership with the Logan County Land Trust will host barn construction expert Rudy R. Christian on October 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM. Mr. Christian returns to Logan County after five years for another informative and enjoyable public program sponsored by the Land Trust and the History Center. Mr. Christian is a founding member of several timber framing and barn preservation organizations, and along with his son, operates Christian & Son, Inc which "...provides design and construction services for traditionally built timber structures, consultation & restoration services for historic buildings, and educational opportunities through our affiliated trades organizations." We look forward to welcoming Mr. Christian back to Logan County and hearing him speak more about barn construction and preservation. More information about the October 5<sup>th</sup> program will be on our Facebook page and website [www.loganhistory.org](http://www.loganhistory.org) in the near future.

# STINSON BAND ORGANS

Don Stinson is one of a few people in history to build and repair band organs. Since 1965 the Stinson Band Organ Company has been the preeminent band organ manufacturer not only in the United States but the world as well.

Don Stinson worked as a diesel electrician on the New York Central Railroad, but in 1960 he quit when the railroad wanted to relocate him. Stinson decided to fall back on his lifetime interest in music and learned to tune and repair pianos and organs, while also working part-time as an electrician, welder, and plumber at a local factory. One job included tuning the piano in the ballroom at the San Juan Amusement Park at Indian Lake. After servicing the piano, Stinson was asked if he could work on the park's band organ. This was a first for Stinson, but he answered yes and thus began his new career.

Don Stinson became fascinated with the design and workings of band organs. These organs mimic the

sounds of various band instruments, being played as a music roll (later digital music) is run through the organ. He decided to focus his work on the mechanical instruments and founded The Stinson Organ Company in 1965.

Don Stinson was in high demand as a band organ repairman. He serviced organs all over the country and the world for amusement parks, other entertainment-related businesses, and individual collectors. However, Stinson focused on designing and building his own organs. Stinson's experiences repairing these specialty organs not only helped him better understand their design and all their moving parts, but it also made him want to design better and more modern band organs that could be serviced more easily and last longer.

Band organ manufacturing was and still is a specialized industry. The Stinson Band Company made every part for their organs other than the music roll holder and the

air pump. This included everything from the organs' miniscule valves to the organs' pipes to the mechanical figures on the organs' facades. The company also made parts for the organs they serviced and repaired. Don Stinson continued to fulfill his goal of modernizing the band organ industry by helping lead them into the digital age with the MIDI (Musical Instrument Digital Interface) replacing the traditional music rolls.

In sixty plus years of designing and manufacturing band organs Don Stinson now has over 100 of his masterpieces throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, Japan, and Malaysia. Customers have included the Mall of America in Minneapolis and the First World Hotel and Resort in Pahang, Malaysia.

Don Stinson's organs have brought enjoyment to millions all around the world. His organs are admired for their intrinsic engineering, marveled at for their artistic beauty, and loved for the music they produce.

The History Center now has a Stinson Band Organ on loan from Don Stinson in the Logan County Museum. At the History Center's Fun, Funky & Fascinating Finds Open House on April 24, 2022, Don Stinson greeted guests at the Stinson Organ exhibit and the Stinson Organ was played throughout the day.



See a video of the  
Stinson Organ  
playing





## SAVE THE DATE! HALLOWEEN KIDFEST

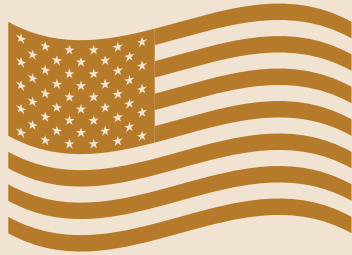
The Logan County History Center will once again host its annual Halloween Kidfest on October 22, 2022.

The Logan County Museum will be decorated for Halloween and there will be trick or treating for kids.

More information about Halloween KidFest 2022 will be available on our Facebook page and website [www.loganhistory.org](http://www.loganhistory.org) in the near future.



This event is co-sponsored by Richwood Bank.



## WE WOULD LIKE TO SAY

*Thank You!*

We would like to thank **American Legion Harold Kerr Post #173** for the donation of a new American flag for our flagpole in front of the Orr Mansion.

## LOGAN COUNTY HISTORY CENTER

521 East Columbus Avenue  
Bellefontaine, OH 43311

[www.loganhistory.org](http://www.loganhistory.org)  
(937) 593-7557

**History Center Hours**  
Wednesday–Sunday  
1:00–4:00PM

**Office Hours**  
Monday–Friday  
8:00AM–5:00PM

[historycenter@loganhistory.org](mailto:historycenter@loganhistory.org)  
[tmccormick@loganhistory.org](mailto:tmccormick@loganhistory.org)

## Welcome NEW MEMBERS!

**April 2022**

Carol Brown  
Charles Bushong

**May 2022**

Katrina E. Frivold  
Janine Albert Evans

Interested in becoming a member?  
Visit our website to learn more!

[www.loganhistory.org/membership-information](http://www.loganhistory.org/membership-information)



This newsletter was designed by Elle A. Design Co.  
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105 N Detroit Street | West Liberty, Ohio

MARCH 1–MAY 16, 2022  
**ARTIFACT DONATIONS**

*Thank You!*

**Don & Susan Corwin**

Don Corwin for Logan County  
 Commissioner election ephemera

**G. Bruce & Louise Norris**

Money bags from local banks,  
 local business ephemera, books  
 of poetry by local poets, local  
 political ephemera

**Carol Huffman**

BHS Class of 1935 class  
 composite photograph

**The LeVan “Kids”**

Great-great grandfather John  
 Samuel Milledge’s Civil War  
 era rocking chair

**Phil Forsythe**

Elementary school music books

**Boyd Maxcum**

Thermometer made by The  
 Bell Novelty Advertising  
 Company of Bellefontaine

**Mick Lile**

Trophies from Logan County  
 go-kart tracks

**Bob & Dorothy Notestine**

Bellefontaine City Council (1961)  
 photo, Bob’s 1961 City Council  
 election Advertisement

**Connie Smith**

Vintage ladies apron pattern

**Meg Halter**

Hugh Carnes family (Belle Center)  
 daguerreotypes, photographs,  
 marriage license, etc.

**Larry Page**

Mastodon scapula bone/fossil

**Dennis Long**

Model of the Silver Streak rollercoaster  
 at Sandy Beach Amusement Park/Indian  
 Lake made by the donor

**Carolyn Ropp/Tesla Hernandez**

Various 1930s-40s magazines

**Melinda Ridgway**

Booklet Make and Mend for  
 Victory with suggestions and  
 patterns for making clothes  
 during WWII and rationing

**Robert A. Spriggs**

1920s ice cream freezer, hand corn  
 huskers belonging to Charlie Spriggs

**Bob Core**

Road Cart made by the Jos. JoHantgen  
 & Son Co. in Bellefontaine, belonged to  
 Buck & Helen Anderson

**Debbie Corwin Johnson**

1960s Girl Scout Brownie uniform

**Lori Harshbarger**

Baby rings of mother/grandmother,  
 school textbooks, cut-glass  
 compote dish

**Nancy Magnuson**

Rushsylvania High School Class of  
 1923 graduation announcement

**Stephanie Chapman**

Monroe High School  
 “The Royal” 1951 yearbook

**Citizens Federal Savings & Loan Co.**

various ledgers, scrapbooks, etc.

**Don Stinson**

Stinson Organ Co. organ (on loan), organ  
 pipes made by Mr. Stinson, photographs/  
 posters of Stinson Organ Co., music rolls,  
 spool frame for music rolls designed by  
 Dave Niswonger who worked with Mr.  
 Stinson, Stinson Organ Co. sign,  
 carousel horse

**Transfers from other historical  
 organizations/other donations**

Harness Horse model (Ohio History  
 Connection), Indian Lake harbor photos  
 (Shelby County Historical Society),  
 Songs of the Tabernacle published  
 by the Tabernacle Publishing Co. of  
 Bellefontaine, photos of 1962 “Record  
 Hop” in Bellefontaine

**PLEASE CONSIDER ONE OF OUR GIVING LEVELS:**

- \$100–\$499** Isaac Zane
- \$500–\$999** Myeerah
- \$1,000–\$4,999** William Orr
- \$5,000–\$9,999** Phebe Haines Sharp
- \$10,000–\$24,999** Dr. Earl Sloan
- \$25,000 & UP** Simon Kenton

**MEMBERSHIP:**

- Senior (55 yrs. and up) **\$15.00**
- Student (up to 21 yrs.) **\$15.00**
- Individual **\$20.00**
- Family **\$30.00**
- Business **\$50.00**
- Individual Lifetime **\$300.00**

Donations can be made using  
 PayPal or credit card online by  
 visiting our website at:

[www.loganhistory.org](http://www.loganhistory.org)

Your donation is tax deductible.

All donations of \$100.00 or more  
 includes a yearly membership.

I am enclosing: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cash  Check  Card  
 (Make checks payable to Logan County History Center)

Donations of \$500 and above will go towards the  
 Pillars of History Campaign unless otherwise noted.

**Name(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_

**State / ZIP Code** \_\_\_\_\_

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Master Card    Visa    Discover    AmEx

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expires \_\_\_\_\_ CID# \_\_\_\_\_

For Master Card, Visa, or Discover, the CID# is the last three digits  
 on the back of your card next to your signature.

**LCHC**  
LOGAN COUNTY  
HISTORY  
C E N T E R

THANK YOU TO OUR NEWSLETTER  
SPONSORS FOR THIS YEAR



Homecoming  
Family Restaurant



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

521 East Columbus Avenue  
Bellevue, OH 43311

**LCHC**  
LOGAN COUNTY  
HISTORY  
C E N T E R