

HISTORY MATTERS

Summer Issue 2020

Making *History* Come Alive!

IN THIS ISSUE:

Reopening Plans.....	1
<i>continued on page 3</i>	
Museum & Office Hours	2
Officers & Trustees	2
Curator's Corner.....	2
Volunteer Drawing Winners ...	2
Reopening Plans.....	3
<i>continued from page 1</i>	
Harrold Family's Furniture Comes Home.....	4-5
Upcoming Society Meetings.....	6
Celebrating 200 yrs. of Bellefontaine History.....	6
Logan Co. Fraternal & Civic Organizations Exhibit	6
Artifact Donation Thanks	7
Orr Mansion's Exterior	7

**LOGAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY/
LOGAN COUNTY HISTORY CENTER
REOPENED TO PUBLIC ON WEDNESDAY JUNE 17, 2020
REOPENING PLANS**

History Center – Orr Mansion/Museum/Transportation Museum

History Center will be open its regular museum hours Wednesday-Sunday 1:00-4:00 starting Wednesday, June 17, 2020.

Visitors/Tours – Maximum of 12 visitors touring History Center at one time (does not include staff, docents, Archives or Genealogy patrons).

- Signs placed at entry saying anyone experience COVID related symptoms should not enter (symptoms: cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing or any two of the following symptoms: fever, chills, headache, muscle pain, sore throat or new loss of sense of smell or taste or have had contact with a person with COVID).
- Visitors encouraged to wear masks – LCHC will provide masks if requested.
- Visitors encouraged to use hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizer dispensers will be available in the lobby.
- Groups must stay together, control children, and are asked not to touch artifacts, display cases or other museum surfaces.
- Visitors should practice social distancing (6' or more distance from other visitors not in their group as well as LCHC staff and docents).
- Self-Guided tours only.
- If History Center is at its max capacity visitors waiting can walk around the Mansion gardens or sit in the portico.
- No large group tours (maximum number of visitors still 12).

We are
OPEN
Again

Docents

- Volunteers should do self-health screening at home (if suffering COVID-19 symptoms including: cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing or any two of the following symptoms: fever, chills, headache, muscle pain, sore throat or new loss of sense of smell or taste or have had contact with a person with COVID – DO NOT COME INTO HISTORY CENTER).
- Docents required to wear masks when dealing with visitors, staff and other volunteers.
- Docents are encouraged to bring own mask, but LCHC will provide masks.
- Medical exceptions allowed.
- Please use hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes and nitrile gloves (if available) will be provided in the lobby.
- Docents should practice social distancing with visitors, other docents & volunteers, as well as LCHC staff.
- Welcome visitors (from safe distance).
- Docents should do their best to keep visitors/groups spread out through the History Center (i.e. one group in Mansion, start a second visitor/group in the Transportation Museum).

Continued on page 3.....

LCHC
LOGAN COUNTY
HISTORY
CENTER

LCHC

LOGAN COUNTY HISTORY CENTER

Logan County History Center

Includes:

The Orr Mansion

The Logan County Museum

The Transportation Museum

Logan County Historical Society

AcuSport Meeting Room

Presidents' Meeting Room

HISTORY CENTER HOURS

Wednesday through Sunday

1:00-4:00 p.m.

ADMISSION BY DONATION

CURATOR/DIRECTOR

K. Todd McCormick

2020 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Brian Harmon	President
Bonnie Hansen	Vice-President
William McCormick	Treasurer
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Mike Yoder	Trustee (2020)
Dan Bratka	Trustee (2020)
Bob Notestine	Trustee (2021)
Bruce Norris	Trustee (2021)
Brian Baker	Trustee (2021)
Doug Chamberlain	Trustee (2022)
Robin Butler	Trustee (2022)
Terri Lamb	Trustee (2022)

SOCIETY'S OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Friday 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

LOGAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

521 E Columbus Ave.

Bellefontaine, OH 43311-2401

937-593-7557

historycenter@loganhistory.org

tmccormick@loganhistory.org

www.loganhistory.org

CURATOR'S CORNER



Todd McCormick

To say the last few months have been abnormal is the understatement of understatements. The History Center shut down to the public on March 12th. A week later the staff began working from home and coming into the History Center to drop off their work, pick up more work to take home and to check on the facilities. This continued for a couple of months when we made small steps to get back to normality by splitting the staff into two teams that worked alternate days in the History Center and at home the other days. Finally, in mid-June we went back to the staff working full-time in person and on June 17th we reopened the History Center to the public – with some COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines. We have included a synopsis of our reopening plan in the newsletter. This will be a plan that we will follow for the foreseeable future until new suggestions or guidelines are issued by state and local authorities. Hopefully, any changes or updates will lessen current restrictions, but if conditions worsen once again, we will abide by the guidelines and always keep the health of our visitors, volunteers, and staff as our primary goal.

I want our docents and volunteers to know how much we have missed you over the last few months. You are the foundation of the Historical Society and the History Center. We are SO HAPPY to have you back in the facility to help us preserve and promote the history of Logan County as docents and Archives volunteers and much more! A special thanks to LCHS president Brian Harmon for his guidance and advice during the last few months. I greatly appreciate your help. I also want to thank Toni, John, and Beth for their dedication and hard work during their work at home and helping get the History Center ready to be reopened and to maintain a safe environment for our volunteers and visitors. As usual, they have gone far beyond their job descriptions for the betterment of LCHC/LCHS.

We hope to see you soon in the History Center!

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION



Monthly \$20 Gift Certificate Drawing

March 2020 Winner: Bill McCormick

April 2020 Winner: Jeremy Smith

May 2020 Winner: Bob Mitchell

REOPENING PLANS

Continued from page 1.....

Archives

- Beth Marshall, Archivist/Asst. Curator
- Only one volunteer working in the Archives at one time
 - Volunteers should do self-health screening at home (if suffering from temperature or other COVID-19 symptoms – DO NOT COME INTO HISTORY CENTER)
- Beth and volunteers should wear mask when working near one another/keep social distance
- Patrons/Reading Room
 - There will be a limit of two researchers or teams (2 people) of researchers at one time
 - Encourage patrons to wear masks – LCHC will provide mask if needed
 - LCHC will provide hand sanitizer dispensers & disinfecting wipes in the Reading Room

Logan County Genealogical Society

- Although LCGS is a separate organization and rents the LCGS Library and storage areas it shall abide by the same guidelines as the Archives
- Only two volunteers/workers working in the Genealogy at one time
 - Volunteers/workers should do self-health screening at home (if suffering from temperature or other COVID-19 symptoms – DO NOT COME INTO HISTORY CENTER)
- LCGS volunteers required to wear mask when working near one another/keep social distance
- Patrons/Reading Room
 - There will be a limit of two researchers or teams (2 people) of researchers at one time
 - Encourage patrons to wear masks – LCHC will provide mask if needed
 - LCHC will provide hand sanitizer dispensers or wipes in the Reading Room

Office

- LCHS/LCHC encourages all visitors/contractors and delivery people to wear masks while in the History Center
- Staff to wear masks when near one another or in public areas or when near volunteers, docents and visitors

Cleaning of the History Center

- John McPherson – Building & Grounds Manager
- Cleaning Schedule
 - Clean & disinfect highly trafficked and used areas at least 2x daily when LCHC is open to the public
 - Highly traffic and used areas include, but not restricted to:
 - Door handles
 - Railings
 - Light switches
 - Restrooms
 - Restrooms on 1st floor of Transportation Museum will remain closed for the present time
 - Regularly cleaning schedule still in place

Facility Use and Rentals

- No Room Rentals/Meetings at this time
 - Includes Society meetings
 - Includes outside organizations' and businesses' meetings
- Once the Governor/State rescinds the group restrictions we will revisit this issue

Conclusion

- These guidelines go into effect on June 17, 2020
- The guidelines are meant to protect and keep LCHC/LCHS visitors, volunteers and staff as safe as possible during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Guidelines will be reviewed on a regular basis and may be altered in accordance to changes and updates to local, state & national guidelines concerning the COVID-19 pandemic

THE HARROLD FAMILY'S FURNITURE COMES HOME



Milton Carver (M.C.) Harrold was an executive at the A.J. Miller Co. He lived in the Mansion from 1926 until his death in 1937. The family remained in the home until the mid-1940s.

M.C. Harrold purchased the Orr Mansion from Carl Stuber in January 1926 for \$25,000. Milton C. and Odessyl Harrold had 4 children when they moved to the Orr home, the eldest, Milton C. Jr. ("Bill"), would have been 9, Robert 7, Bruce 6, and Lois 3, and son, Brian, was born in 1931. M.C. was General Manager for the A.J. Miller Co. He often used his home as a backdrop for publicity photos of the new A.J. Miller cars. He had practiced as a lawyer before his business career. Before coming to Bellefontaine in 1920, he had managed the Curtiss Airplane Co. in Buffalo and the Hartzell Lumber Co. in Piqua. Bill, while still attending Bellefontaine High School prior to his graduation in 1935, designed the first airport limousine for the A.J. Miller Co., and later open-top touring busses for sightseeing at Yosemite National Park. (see photos and blueprint in A.J. Miller bay) Milton C. died in August of 1937. His obituary states, "In the industry in which he was engaged Mr. Harrold was recognized as a genius and the products of the Miller factory gained wide popularity, the plant being one of the principal ones of its line in the United States". In 1941, Odessyl married Walter Shaw Kelly. Photos from the early 1940's show that the pass-through china cupboard in the dining room was still there and the light fixtures were electric. The wallpaper above the wainscot had large peacocks in an over-all design. There is a good photo of the bedroom that is now the textile area, and the woodwork in the upstairs had been painted. One of the Harrold sons came on a tour about 2004 and stated that he and his brother liked to use Mr. Orr's office as their bedroom because they liked to sleep out on the upstairs porch on nice nights. It has also been reported that they liked to play basketball in the ballroom, but after breaking some of their mother's valuables, it was used for storage. Apparently, the boys would walk around the eaves of the house, and Brian, while trying to build a bomb with gunpowder, blew himself out of the 2nd floor middle bedroom window. The Kellys sold the Orr home in 1947 to the Harold Kerr Post 173, American Legion.



Odessyl Harrold, wife of M.C., standing by the Front Door of the Mansion. The chair beside her was part of the loan from the Harrold family. The chair is now in the Music Room.

Odessyl and Walter divorced. She lived to be 92 and died at her home in California in 1987. Bill was an aviator and engineer, working for Aerojet, and Lockheed Missiles and Space Co. He pioneered development of turbo rockets, worked on satellite launches, and undersea exploration. Later he was involved with experimental aviation. He died in Las Vegas in 2005. Robert was also an engineer, and possibly a Presbyterian minister according to his sister's marriage certificate. He died in California in 2000. Bruce became a doctor and clinical pathologist. He was the director of laboratories at Massillon City Hospital for 16 years, and a new lab was named for him after his death in 1978. Lois was a chemist and married William Kennington in 1944. They divorced and she married Dean Johnson in 1953 and lived in California. Brian served as a Major in the US Air Force, and also became a doctor and respected pathologist, spending much of his life in Massillon. He died in Powell in 2014.



Odessyl Harrold with her son Brian, ca. 1932. Brian's children loaned the Harrold Bedroom and other furniture to LCHC.

The Harrold Family donated the bedroom furniture used by the Harrolds when they lived here. Most of these pieces are in the red bedroom. They were donated in memory of their father/grandfather, Dr. Brian Harrold.

The Mansion's West Parlor looking from the East during the Harrold's time here.



The Dining Room during the Harrold's time living in the Mansion.



The Mansion's East Parlor looking from the West during the Harrold's time here.



The Mansion's 2nd floor Hallway/Landing during the Harrold's ownership.

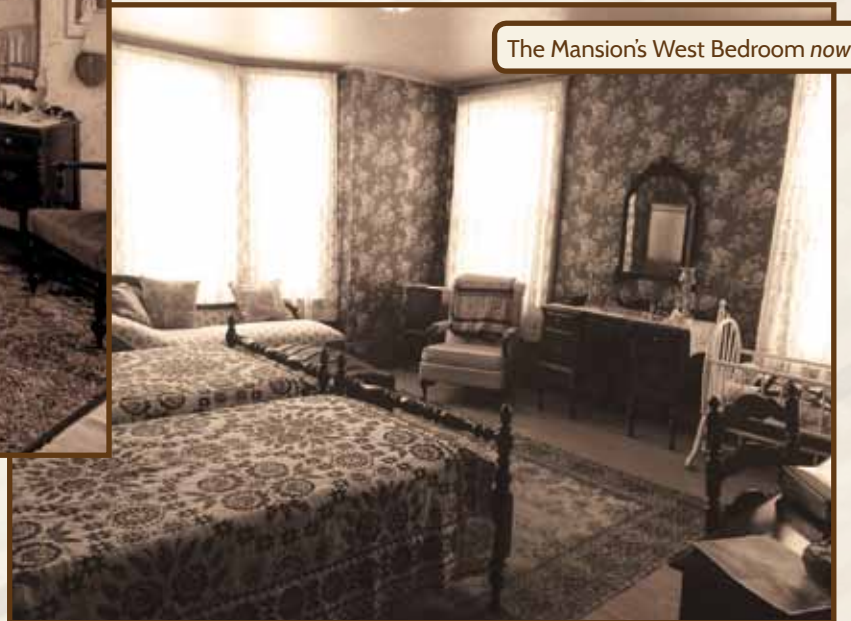


A.J. Miller 12-Passenger bus in front of the Mansion.

The Mansion's West Bedroom at the time of the Harrold's.



The Mansion's West Bedroom now.



THE HARROLD FAMILY'S FURNITURE COMES HOME

UPCOMING SOCIETY MEETINGS

Due to the uncertainty of the status of state and local guidelines and restrictions concerning the COVID-19 pandemic, we are waiting to schedule our upcoming Society meetings, Young Historians meetings and other special events. Please check our website (www.loganhistory.org), our Facebook page, local media and our Fall issue of our History Matters newsletter for updates on these functions.

**look
WHAT'S
NEW
AT THE
HISTORY
CENTER!**

Celebrating 200 Years of Bellefontaine History



The Museum hallway and temporary exhibit gallery are featuring exhibits on Bellefontaine's history in commemoration of the city's bicentennial in 2020. Various aspects of Bellefontaine's history will also be seen throughout many of the Museum and Transportation Museum rooms. Some of the highlights of the exhibit include a Bellefontaine history timeline and we are in discussions with the

Stinson family to loan a Stinson Band Organ Co. organ to the museum for the exhibit.

*Due to the History Center being closed and restriction on large crowds we will not be having the open house based on the Bellefontaine Bicentennial exhibit, however, we will have the exhibits up through 2021 for people to enjoy.

**COMING
SOON**

Logan County Fraternal & Civic Organization Exhibit

The pandemic has delayed the opening of the new exhibit room focusing on local fraternal and civic organizations. The exhibit should be completed in July or August. Archivist/Asst. Curator Beth Marshall and Archives volunteer Don Corwin have put a lot of hours researching the various organizations and writing the text. The exhibit will feature artifacts, documents, and photos from our collections, as well as loans from local members of these organizations and the organizations themselves.





March 5, 2020

June 22, 2020

G. Bruce & Louise Norris

Zerbe Texteel Furniture catalog, Jaycees' patches, Beta Sigma Phi certificate

Don & Susan Corwin

Order of Eastern Star District 11 booklet, postcard of the C.H. Cline House in Rushsylvania

Roy Allen

Ohio Livestock Cooperative Assoc. 1929 Annual Report booklet, includes Logan County information

Phil Gordon Family

Train Order Hoop used in Huntsville (loan)

Betty Jean Fortner Estate

Business and Professional Women Club photo albums/scrapbooks

Brenda Thomas

Don Stinson/Stinson Band Organ Co. scrapbook

Donna VanBuskirk

Patent Model for the Brugler Automatic Power Manure Loader, patent papers and advertisement

Rick Nelson

Coffee mug with logos from West Liberty area businesses, 2019

Becky Weber

The Mishawaka Enterprise newspaper with article about the Bellefontaine Bridge & Iron Works using information from the LCHS Archives

Jeff & Sue Lemmon

Postcards of the Great 1913 Flood in West Liberty, railroad postcards/photographs

Bellefontaine Chapter OES #459

Framed photos of "Worthy Matrons" of the DeGraff Chapter of the Eastern Star

David Seeley Family

Leonard & Eichholtz Funeral Home sign, Kennedy Funeral Home sign, Eichholtz Funeral Home case, The Lungmotor made by the Life Saving Devices Co.

Chris Bercaw

BHS yearbooks, 1916-1921 Logan County Directory

Jeremy Fitzpatrick

Startzman's (Dairy) Sunshine Ice Cream sign

Geraldine Brandon

WWII scrapbooks of Joan Cook made during her junior year at BHS.

Lois Kuhn

Vintage clothing, table runner, etc.

Jackie & David Thompson

1940s-1950s Linoleum rug

George Barone

1914 diary of Mildred Stanley of DeGraff

Adrienne Harrold

Bedroom furniture from M.C. Harrold bedroom and other rooms (loan). The Harrolds lived in the Orr Mansion in the 1920s-40s.

Betsy Ann Forsythe Stafford

schoolbooks, newspaper articles, Rocking Horse made by Noah Carver of Lewistown (loan)

Rollan K. Williams

1980 Honda CR250 Dirt Bike (loan)

THE ORR MANSION'S EXTERIOR

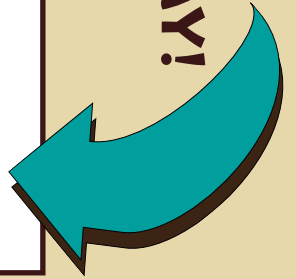
The Orr Mansion's exterior will be getting some much-needed work done this summer. Jason Kuba of Urban Renovations & Development will be working on the front porch columns & capitals, as well as the third-floor dormers and other needed repairs and restorations on the exterior 1906 house. Jason and his father owned and operated Professional Restoration back in the 1990s-early 2000s. The company did a lot of repairs and restorations on the mansion at that time, including restoring the 3rd floor ballroom. We are fortunate that Jason is once again bringing his skills and expertise to the historic Orr Mansion.

We are going ahead with this work even though we had to delay our fundraising plan for it due to the pandemic. Soon we will be reaching out to local businesses, organizations and individuals asking them to become a "Pillar of History" by sponsoring the work being done on the pillars and dormers, and other exterior work that needs to be done. We even have our first "Pillars of History" – Bonnie and Dwight Hansen have sponsored one of the columns! We thank Bonnie and Dwight for their support and generosity.

If you'd like more information on the project or how to be an early sponsor/donor, please contact us at 937-593-7557 or email Todd at tmccormick@loganhistory.org.

Thank You to our Newsletter sponsors for this year...

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Homecoming
Family Restaurant
in Bellefontaine at Routes 33 and 68
Weekend Breakfast Buffet!
Seasonal Home Made Dishes
Friday Night ~ All You Can Eat Fish*
All kids meals \$3.99 with drink
Weekday Soup & Salad Bar
Come home to a taste of the past!

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Bellefontaine, OH 43311

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