

MAKING HISTORY FUN (AND MAYBE EVEN LEARNING SOMETHING ALONG THE WAY)

Local historical society museums have three main functions. The first is to collect history through artifacts, documents, photographs etc. The second task is to preserve history which they do by caring for the collected artifacts. Thirdly, local historical society museums need to educate or promote history, whether it is through exhibits, publications, speeches or by many other means.

Its role as an educator is one that the Logan County History Center believes in strongly. No group is more important to educate about local history and history in general than Logan County students, especially elementary students. LCHC wants to become a positive partner with the area schools to help promote and educate students about Logan County's rich history and do it in a fun way.

The Logan County History Center offers a variety of both on-site and traveling programs that will entertain and teach students about different aspects of the county's history from the American Indians to one-room schools to the railroad. Classes can tour the Logan County History Center or visit the Flatwoods School and experience life in one-room school for a day. LCHC can also go to the schools with several traveling exhibits and programs like *From American Indians to Honda: High Points in Logan County History*; *Blue Jacket Lived Here: American Indian History in Logan County*; *Local Footsteps: A Living Timeline of Famous Logan Countians*; *What Happened in the Year....?: A Timeline of Logan County History*; *That Was Then...This is Now*; *Whatizzit?*; and *Games of the Past*.

I MADE HISTORY AT THE LOGAN COUNTY HISTORY CENTER: SCHOOL TOURS

For many years, the Logan County History Center has opened its doors for the students of Logan County, and beyond, for field trips that allow the students to take a visual step back into Logan County history as they see exhibits and artifacts that illustrate various aspects of the county's past.

Students tour through the History Center which includes a dozen themed exhibit rooms such as the Early Logan County Room (Indian/Settler), Military Room, Indian Lake Room, School Room, Communications Room, Business & Industry Room, Toy Room, and others. The tour also includes several permanent and temporary exhibits.

In addition, the students tour the 1906 neo-classical Orr Mansion built by local lumber baron William Orr. This renovation has brought the Orr Mansion back to original grandeur or at least very close to it.

Of course, student tours also include the Logan County Transportation Museum. This part of the History Center opened in 2014 and features the following exhibit bays and exhibits: Early Transportation, Railroad, Aviation, A.J. Miller, Fire & Rescue, Modern-Day, Honda of America and other rotating exhibits.

Tours are led by our volunteers and staff. The tour guides are knowledgeable and enjoy working with children. The students are given several hand-outs that can be worked on back at school or at home. Nearly 1,000 students tour the Logan County History Center each year.

School tours can be scheduled during anytime of the year. The maximum number of students the History Center can handle at one time is around sixty. We ask for at least one teacher or parent for every ten students. There is no charge for the students or the adults. Please allow at least 1 to 1 ½ hours for the tour.

Please contact Curator/Director Todd McCormick at (937) 593-7557 or email at tmccormick@loganhistory.org to schedule a tour or if you have any questions.

FLATWOODS ONE-ROOM SCHOOL FIELD TRIP

Flatwoods School located in Veterans' Park in West Mansfield is a restored one-room school operated by the Logan County Historical Society. The school was built in Bokescreek Township by members of the Black settlement of Flatwoods. The school operated from the 1860s to the 1920s. It was then used as a barn for many years. In the late 1990s the building was going to be torn down. A group of students from Bellefontaine Middle School and their teacher Kris Swisher wanted to save the school. The students raised more than \$30,000 to have the school moved to its current location. The students also researched the history of the school and developed lesson plans so current students could take field trips to the Flatwoods School and be taught in a one-room school setting. The students won many awards for their project of saving the school.

The Logan County History Center restored the school, and it is now open for field trips. Students will learn what it was like to go to one-room school and compare it to today's school. In addition, they will learn more about the history of the Flatwoods School and its preservation. Students can also play on the playground at Veterans' Park. The park also has a picnic shelter and bathrooms. While one group/class is inside the Flatwoods School the other group/class can be playing on the playground &/or eating lunch. The general presentation inside the school building is usually 30-45 minutes.

The moving of the school and its restoration was headed up by then LCHS trustee & Buildings & Grounds Committee chair Ralph Wood. Mr. Wood took the lead in many projects for LCHS and the museum during his time on the Board of Trustees and as the Building & Grounds Committee Chair, including the restoration/historic renovation of the Orr Mansion in the late 1990s & early 2000s. We thank Ralph for his time and dedication to LCHS.

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FROM AMERICAN INDIANS TO HONDA: HIGH POINTS IN LOGAN COUNTY HISTORY

From American Indians to Honda: High Points in Logan County History is a traveling exhibit/program that looks at several main themes and subjects in Logan County history by using artifacts and other items from the Logan County Museum's collections.

Logan County's rich American Indian history can be seen through stone projectile points used by prehistoric or Pre-Contact Indians thousands of years ago who hunted on the land that is now Logan County. Students will also see metal tools and other items of the historic American Indians who called Logan County home in the late 18th century when this area had one of the largest concentrations of American Indian villages in the Old Northwest.

The program also takes students back to the railroad era of Logan County when nearly 1 in 4 people employed in the county worked for the railroad or a business dependent on the railroad, and hundreds of passenger and freight trains stopped in Bellefontaine each week.

In addition, students will meet some of the famous people who have lived in Logan County at one time or another during their careers.

Students will also see why Bellefontaine and Logan County is known for being the *Oldest* (concrete street), *Highest* (highest point in Ohio) and *Shortest* (shortest street).

Other topics include important of agriculture in Logan County, one-room schools, industries (past & present) in Logan County, and Indian Lake's history as one of Ohio's premier resorts and vacation destinations.

This program is set up to either be presented by a representative from the Logan County Historical Society or by teachers borrowing the traveling program. For more information or to a presentation contact Todd at (937) 593-7557 or email at tmccormick@loganhistory.org.

BLUE JACKET LIVED HERE: AMERICAN INDIAN HISTORY IN LOGAN COUNTY

Blue Jacket Lived Here is a traveling program that discusses the rich American Indian history in Logan County. The exhibit begins with a look at the prehistoric peoples that hunted and lived in the Logan County area 400 to more than 10,000 years ago. Students will be able to look at stone projectile points and tools used by these people that have been found in Logan County.

The presentation then moves on to the historic tribes that lived, hunted, and fought in Logan County. This area was the home to nearly a dozen villages of the Shawnee, Wyandot, and Delaware Indians, as well as being the site of the Lewistown Reservation for members of the Shawnee and Seneca tribes. Once again students will see artifacts from these people that have been found in the county over the years, as well as supplemental graphics, pictures and maps that help tell the story of the historic American Indians that once roamed these lands.

Blue Jacket Lived Here also takes a look at the relationship between the American Indians and Europeans and Americans who came to this area to trade and settle. Students will look at some of the Americans who helped make Logan County history like Isaac Zane, Benjamin Logan, our county's namesake, and renowned frontiersman Simon Kenton, as well as some of the county's early settlers.

This program is set up to either be presented by a representative from the Logan County Historical Society or by teachers borrowing the traveling program. For more information contact Todd at (937) 593-7557 or email at tmccormick@loganhistory.org.

LOCAL FOOTSTEPS: A LIVING TIMELINE OF FAMOUS AND NOT-SO-FAMOUS LOGAN COUNTIANS

The Logan County Historical Society is offering a new traveling exhibit starting in the fall of 2004. *Local Footsteps: A Living Timeline of Famous and Not-So-Famous Logan Countians* is a program in which students dress up as well-known and not-so-well-known people who have called Logan County home at one time or another. The students read a short biography of their person to the rest of the class or classes, parents or

whomever you wish to perform this program, while dressed in clothes similar to what their person may have worn.

The Young Historians Club of the Logan County Historical Society, along with curator/director, researched a variety of men and women who lived in Logan County at some point in their lives. The Young Historians wrote a short biography of these people. Additional information is provided on many of the people for the teachers' use or for students to write their own biographies of these famous Logan Countians. The Young Historians created costumes that are representative of the people and time they are portraying.

Local Footsteps: A Living Timeline of Famous and Not-So-Famous Logan Countians is available to use in the classroom. Local Footsteps was geared to be used with third grade students since they study local history, but other grades are also welcomed to use it. For many years the Benjamin Logan 4th grade did similar program for famous Ohioans called *STROLL*.

This program is set up to either be presented by a representative from the Logan County History Center or by teachers borrowing the traveling program. For more information contact Todd at (937) 593-7557 or email at tmccormick@loganhistory.org.

WHAT HAPPENED IN THE YEAR...?: A TIMELINE OF IMPORTANT DATES IN LOGAN COUNTY HISTORY

What Happened in the Year...? is a timeline activity in which students will place important dates in Logan County history in chronological order. Each student will have one or two historical events that they will read to the rest of the class and then place in the correct sequential order on a magnetic timeline that can be set up in the front of the classroom. Most of the historical events also have a graphic (i.e., photograph, illustration, map) that the students will pass around to help better understand the event.

This program is set up to either be presented by a representative from the Logan County History Center or by teachers borrowing the traveling program. For more information contact Todd at (937) 593-7557 or email at tmccormick@loganhistory.org.

THAT WAS THEN THIS IS NOW

That Was Then This Is Now is a traveling exhibit/program in which students compare and contrast artifacts from the late 19th/early 20th centuries to similar modern items. An example would be a cornhusk doll compared to modern store-bought doll.

This is an excellent visual activity. It helps show how technology has changed the way things are made, but at the while the appearances of some things have changed, their functions have remained similar. This program, as with many of the programs LCHC offers, fits in well with the state standards for elementary grades.

This program is set up to either be presented by a representative from the Logan County History Center or by teachers borrowing the traveling program. For more information contact Todd at (937) 593-7557 or email at tmccormick@loganhistory.org.

THAT WAS THEN, THIS IS NOW

THEN

Butter bowl/paddle
Potato masher (wood)
Curling Iron
Candle
Kerosene Lamp
Peg
Wrapped Package
Rug Beater
Ladle/Cup
Quill
Stereoscope
Lye Soap
Doll
Brace & Bit
Canning Jar
Pot Scrubber
Base Ball
Candle Mold
Spile
Slate
Cylinder Phonograph
Iron
Stapler
Hair Clippers (manual)
Telephone
Camera
Ice Tongs & Ice Pick

NOW

Parkay Package
Potato Masher (plastic)
Curling Iron
Flashlight
Overhead Light
Nail
Wal-Mart Sack
Vacuum
Water Bottle
Pen/Pencil
View Finder
Liquid Soap
Doll
Drill
Canned Good
Brillo Pad
Baseball
Store Candle
Syrup Bottle
Pad of Paper
Compact Disk
Electric Iron
Stapler
Hair Clippers (electric)
Cell Phone
Camera
Ice Cube Tray

*Artifacts are not limited to this list and may change.

WHATIZZIT?

Whatizzit? is one of the Logan County History Center's most popular traveling exhibits/programs for both students and adults. The program consists of a variety of odd and unique items from the History Center's collections that the audience members try to figure out each artifact's identity or function.

The presenter (LCHC staff/volunteers or classroom teacher) can give hints about the artifact to help the audience. Another option is for the presenter to give the audience members a choice of three possibilities with one being the correct answer.

This latter option can be altered a little for older groups to be like the old TV game show *The Liar's Club*. In the *Liar's Club* three panelists give the audience three different versions of the artifact's function with two

panelists give false descriptions and the third gives the correct one. This can be very entertaining, especially if you have funny panelists.

Again, this program is set up to either be presented by a representative from the Logan County History Center or by teachers borrowing the traveling program. For more information contact Todd at (937) 593-7557 or email at tmccormick@loganhistory.org.

WHATIZZIT? Content List

- Exercise Club
- Potato Masher
- Lemon Squeezer
- Cylinder Phonograph
- Mousetrap
- Rope Maker
- Ether Mask
- Bottle Capper
- Hand Warmer
- Grippers
- Curling Iron
- Reflex Hammer
- Candle Mold
- Wood Grainer
- Unidentified tool (Leatherwork?)
- Pickle Scoop
- Caboose Marker
- Cream Remover
- Nutmeg Grater
- Folding Hanger
- Automobile Wheel Lock (Anti-threat)
- Window Prop
- Knob & Tube Wiring Tube
- Railroad Link Pin
- Spile
- Sharpener
- Double Caliper
- Pastry Cutter
- Fleam (Bloodletting)
- Marking Gauge
- Handheld Toaster
- Brace & Bit
- Cobbler Hammer
- Railroad Wheel Gauge
- Loom Shuttle
- Soapstone Foot Warmer
- Window Prop
- Unknown
- Caliper
- Butter Mold
- Leg cast pattern
- Unknown metal tool
- Unknown wooden object
- Music Box disk
- Metal ornamental piece from light or string holder or unknown

*Artifacts not limited to this list and may change.

GAMES OF THE PAST

Games of the Past is an interactive program in which students play games that were popular in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. *Games of the Past* can be taken into the schools or be part of a program at the Logan County History Center for smaller groups, i.e. Scouts or clubs.

Games of the Past includes a listing of many popular old-time games and activities, as well as descriptions and instructions on how they are played. Many of the games do not need any type of equipment, such as *Duck, Duck, Goose*. We have included the necessary equipment for most of the other games.

Games of the Past can be done purely for fun or as part of course of study. You may want to take a week of recesses and play one or two of the games during each recess. You may also play certain games as a companion activity with reading such books as [Little House on the Prairie](#) or other books set in the post-Civil War to pre-WWI era, which was height of many of these games or activities.

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OLD TIME GAMES & TOYS EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

- Duck, Duck, Goose
- Marbles
- Dominoes
- Hopscotch
- String Games
- Push the Potato
- Jacks
- Eggs-in-the-Spoon
- Simon Says
- Old Maid
- Skittles
- Tops
- Three-Legged Race
- Hoop and Stick
- Jump Rope Games & Rhymes
- Kick the Can
- Hide-and-Seek
- Gossip/Telegraph
- Buzz (math)
- Nine Digits (math)
- Red Lion
- Red Rover
- Ring Around the Rosie
- Charades
- Scavenger Hunt
- Stilts
- Leapfrog
- 20 Questions
- Tug-of-War
- Tag
- Hunt the Ring
- Follow-the-Leader
- Who Am I?
- Tiddley Winks
- Pick-Up Stic

