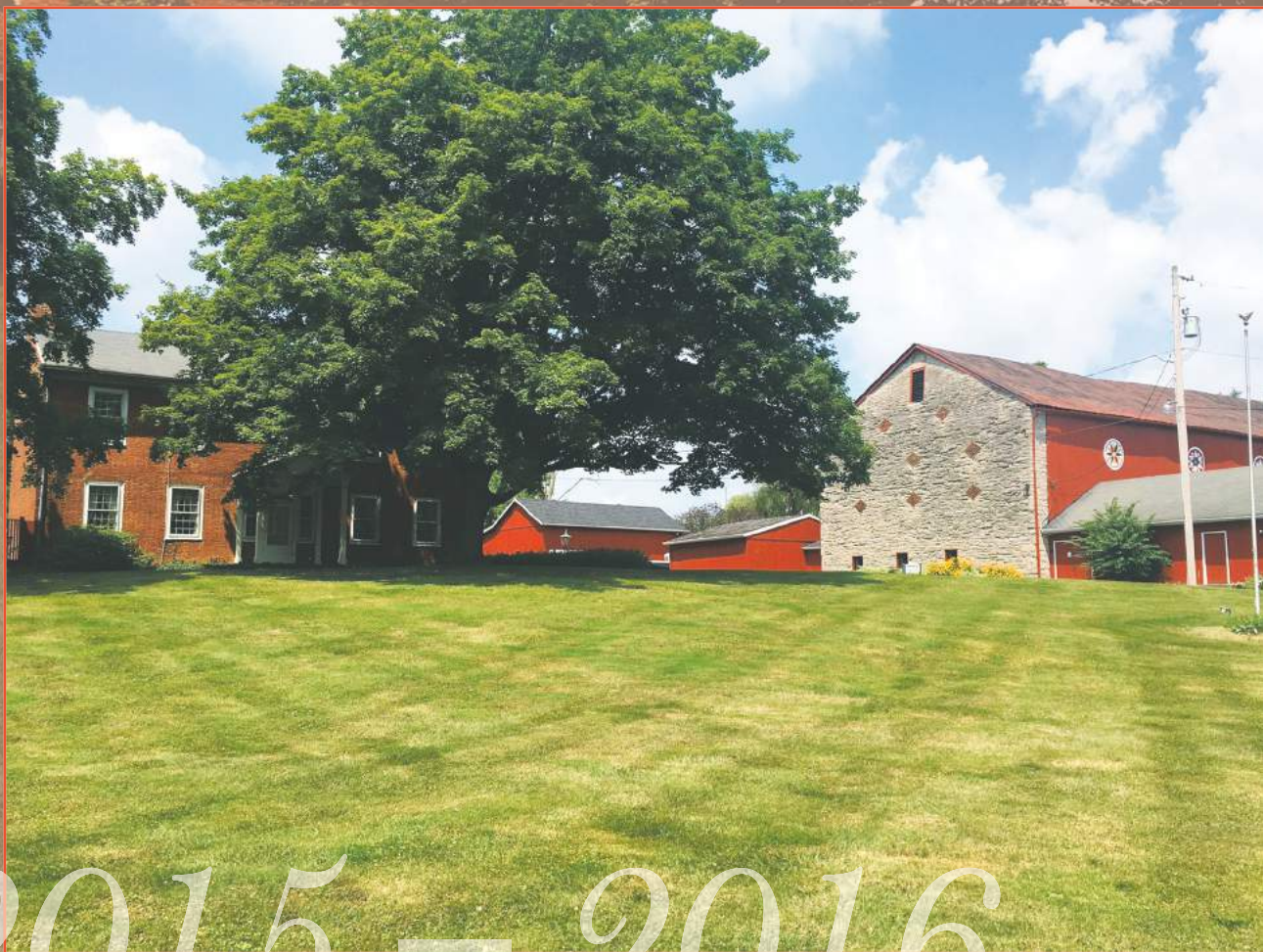




annual report

October 2015 – September 2016

Delaware County Historical Society Annual Report



2015 – 2016

OUR MISSION

To promote and sustain interest in the history of Delaware County, Ohio, through historic preservation and education.

OUR VISION

To be a continuing, self-sustaining source of and a repository for historical information and artifacts which fosters lifelong interest in Delaware County through community engagement, education and historic preservation.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Brent Carson, PRESIDENT

Jack Hilborn, VICE PRESIDENT
OF DEVELOPMENT

Roger Koch, VICE PRESIDENT
OF OPERATIONS

Jan Fleischmann, TREASURER

Mary Ann McGreevey, ASSISTANT
TREASURER, CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Lynn Foreman, RECORDING SECRETARY

Charlton Amidon

Ralph Au

Ana Babiasz

Karen Cowan

Susan Garrett

Sue Heston

Matt Kear

George Needham

Benny Shoults

Marian Vance

STAFF

Donna Meyer, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Connie Hoffman, VENUE MANAGER

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

The hopes of a new and successful beginning at the Meeker Homestead were realized this year.

Three days of open houses brought hundreds of visitors to our new facilities last February. Even the weather cooperated for that balmy three day stretch.

Two new employees, Connie Hoffman, Venue Manager of the Barn at Stratford, and Donna Meyer, Executive Director, have taken on their roles with enthusiasm. Their expertise and hard work have helped in bringing us a smooth transition.

Our presence in the community continues to increase. We were at the Powell Festival, the Delaware Arts Festival, Olentangy School Vendors Fair, Genoa Township Bicentennial Day, Berlin Township Bicentennial, Lucy Depp Park in Shawnee Hills and the Delaware County Fair.

We continue our associations with the Powell Historical Society, Galena Historical Society, Big Walnut Area Historical Society, Radnor Historical Society and with the libraries in Ostrander, Orange Township and Delaware.

A special congratulations is in order to our Education Committee for winning the Ohio History Connection's state wide award for our 3rd grade tote bag program.

Our Cryder Library continues to increase in volunteers who digitize, catalogue and research our county's history.

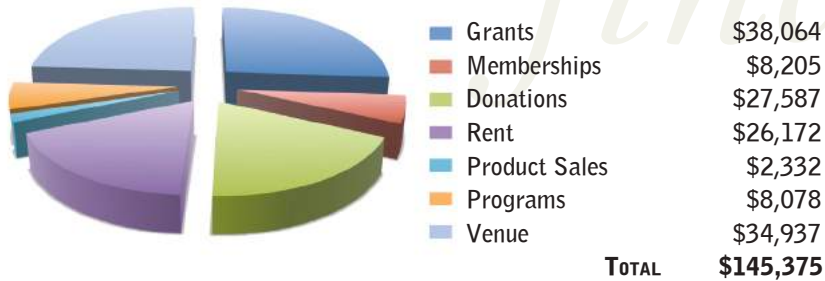
I wish to thank all the volunteers in all their endeavors to bring us another successful year.

Brent

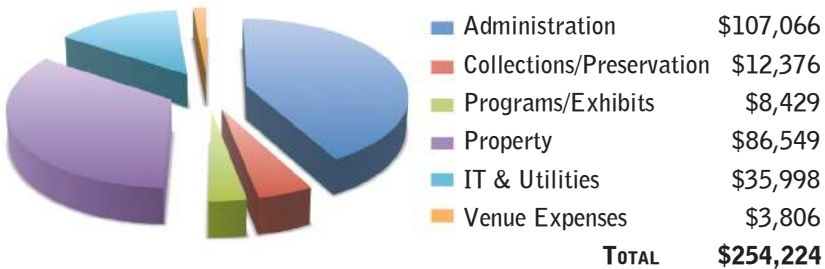


FINANCIAL REPORT OCTOBER 2015 – SEPTEMBER 2016

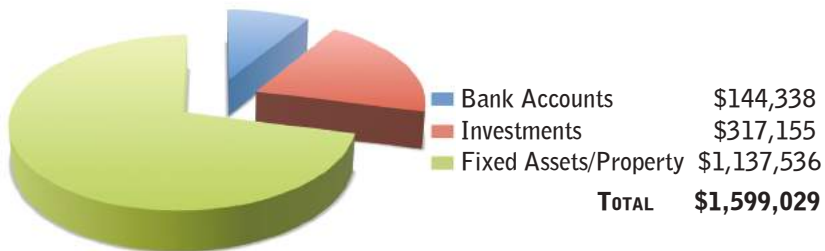
Income



Expenses



Assets



We collect and preserve

In April 2010, volunteers began a project to scan and catalog the pictures which are owned by the Society. As of July 2016 (see chart to the right), we have scanned nearly 11,000 photos. They are available online at <http://delawareohio.pastperfectonline.com>.

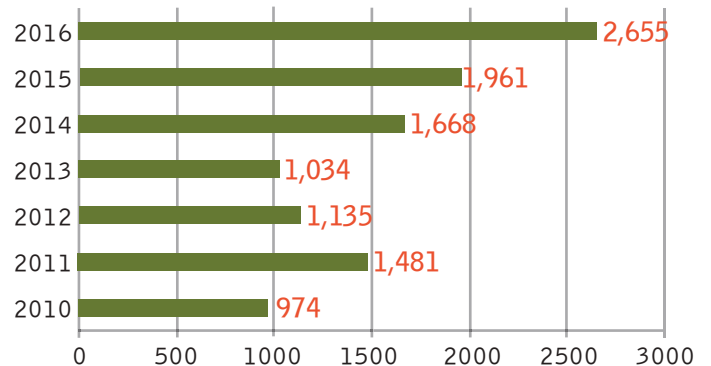
We generate community interest in history

Since 2013, the Delaware County Historical Society has had a very visible presence in downtown Delaware. Thanks to the generosity of Steve Cianelli of the Hair Studio at 33 North Sandusky Street, we have had several displays in the window of his salon during 2016. These included a display of early Delaware County gas stations, President Rutherford B. Hayes, historic theaters in downtown Delaware, and antique radios featuring the War of the Worlds broadcast in 1938. In May, we partnered with the Strand Theatre to sponsor a series of movies directed by Delaware native Vincente Minnelli. In August, we hosted a Delaware Area Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours event. We also had a table at Main Street Delaware's First Friday events during the year.

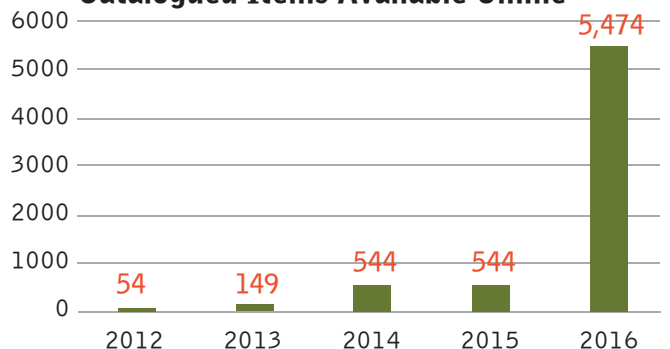
Capital Campaign

Earlier this year, we embarked on a capital campaign to raise \$200,000 to enable us to preserve and improve the Meeker property. These funds will provide the means to install HVAC and lighting to the upper floor of the Meeker Museum. This will allow us to expand our displays and educate more people about our history. Also included will be improvements to the 1848 barn to preserve it for generations to come. Our donors to the Capital Campaign include:

Ana Babiasz, Brent Carson, Pat Cashman, Alice Chapan, Doug & Virginia Clark, Sherry Clark, Karen & Brad Cowan, Del-Co Water, Karen Faircloth, Fidelity Federal Savings and Loan, Jed & Cindy Flahive, John & Lynn Foreman, Friends of the Delaware County Library, Susan & Larry Garrett, David Gormley, Jack & Mary Hilborn, Tom & Mary Homan, Matt Kear, Rick & Susan Lasley, Ironda & Randall Long, Bill & Sandy Lowe, Kelly McFarland, Rozella & George Miller, George Needham, Carol O'Brien & Bill Owen, Arlene Palenshuck, David Pemberton Sr., David Pemberton Jr., John & Sue Robinson, Jean Sealey, Henry & Sharon Shaw, Charles & Betty Sheets, Benny Shoults, Harold & Martha Simons, Carolyn & Gary Skinner, Marian & Larry Vance, Roger & Shirley VanSickle, Tom & Jan Wasson, Steve Wells



Catalogued Items Available Online



OUR YEAR AT A GLANCE

year at a

FEBRUARY – Open House. The brief respite in cold weather brought nearly 800 people to the Barn at Stratford and the Meeker Homestead in February to celebrate the official opening of the buildings.

MARCH 22 – Historic Delaware Grocery Stores. Board



An old grocery store in Condit, Ohio.

President, Brent Carson shared stories and images of early grocery stores and how they evolved over time. Many of these stories were gathered at the 2015 Delaware County Fair, where the Historical Society's exhibit featured photos and artifacts of early county grocery stores. Fair visitors were encouraged to share their memories of the grocery stores they visited when young.

MAY 19 – Volunteer Fair. A number of potential volunteers attended this yearly event and we successfully recruited nine individuals who joined our team.

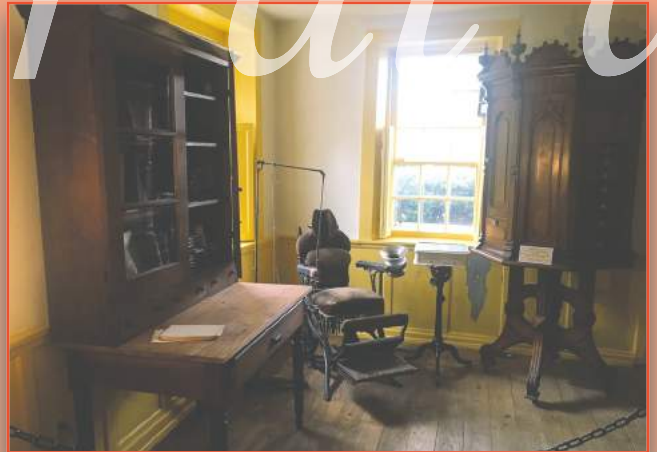
JUNE 24 & 25 – Powell Festival. We joined with the Powell Historical Society to share a table with information and historical artifacts.



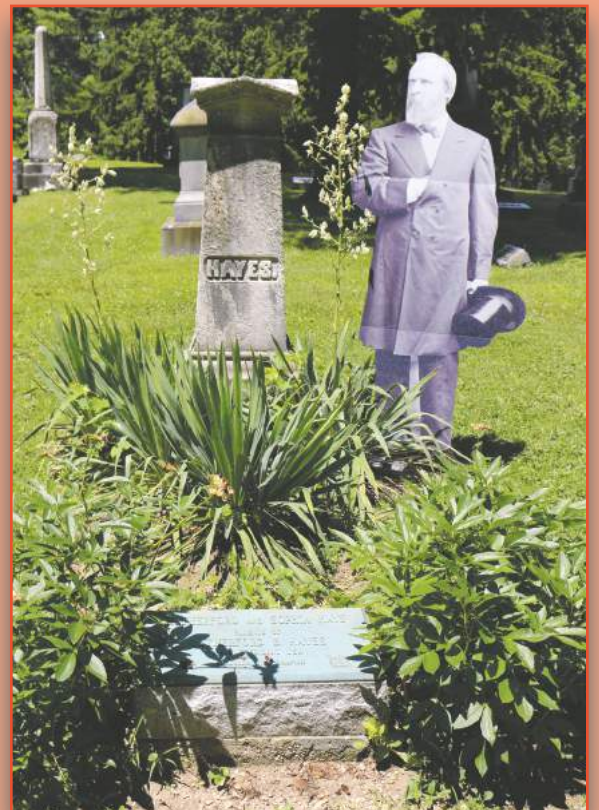
JULY – Hayes Tour. To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Rutherford B. Hayes library in Fremont, a cutout of President Rutherford B. Hayes embarked

on a goodwill tour around the United States. While at his hometown of Delaware, the Hayes cutout "visited" various locations in the county including OWU, where he had met and proposed to his future wife Lucy Webb, Oak Grove Cemetery to visit the grave of his parents, and Hayes High School.

AUGUST 3 & 10 – Hayes Walk. Led by board president, Brent Carson, about 40 people toured various locations in the City of Delaware related to President Rutherford B. Hayes and his life growing up in Delaware. The tour also featured two Hayes reenactors.



A dentist's office from the past is part of the Meeker Museum.



glance



SEPTEMBER – Delaware County Fair. The display featured historic gas stations in Delaware County. Thousands of people enjoyed seeing the photos, memorabilia, and a replica of an antique gas pump.

Left, Brent Carson gives a presentation on gas stations in Delaware County at the Barn at Stratford.

Other educational programs

- Oak Grove Cemetery Tour
- Nash House and Meeker Museum tours
- Pioneer Days at local elementary schools



Shown above are our award winners for the 3rd Grade Tote Bag program given at the OLHA Annual Meeting luncheon. Shown are members of the curriculum committee – Brent Carson, Diane Williams, Karen Hildebrand (chair), Laurie Schaefer and Susan Logan.



Pioneer Days brings history to life at local elementary schools.

Artifact Cart & Tote Bag program

Our volunteers have presented programs and led tours to over 2,500 individuals including 23 groups, and students from 16 county schools. These included topics such as Delaware County's pioneers, artifacts and cemeteries.



Left, our board treasurer Jan Fleischmann is joined by a "friend" at a First Friday.

Looking ahead... 2017 will be an exciting time for us as we further develop the Meeker Homestead Museum, make improvements to the Barn at Stratford and provide programs on a variety of topics including the history of ice cream parlors and restaurants, the underground railroad, the Delaware Chair Company and how to investigate the history of your home.

OUR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers & hours – We have 104 active volunteers who contributed 8,470 hours of service this year. The estimated value of this volunteer service is nearly \$200,000!



OUR MEMBERS

In addition to the nearly 500 total members, we would like to recognize our Life and Business Members:

Marianna Bowman
Richard and Linda Browning
John Buchan
Tim and Renee Calvin
Kevin and Kosby Carrico
Brent Carson
Charles and Kay Caudy
Edmund and Diane Cox
Sandra Cryder
John and Yvonne Dewey
Dottie Florance
John and Lynn Foreman
Marion Foster
Max Griffith
Jeff Hamilton and Judith Brozek
Sue Heston
Julie Heston Richey
Mark and Carrie Hickman
Jack Hilborn
Ralph and Diane Hodges
George and Marilyn Hoffman
Chris Hon
Karl Jentgen
Margaret Jones
Steve and Joy Kaser
William and Virginia Kavage
Tom King
Roger Koch
Janell Kuck
Susan Logan
Bill McCarty
Betty Meyer
Paul Monks
John and Carol O'Brien
David Parker
David and Mary Ann Pemberton,
Sr.
Carolyn Porter
Tom Price
Larry and Susan Ratcliffe
Barbara Reed

Bill and Kay Rietz
Bob and Nancy Rietz
John and Diane Roach
John Robinson
Steve Shaw
Henry and Sharon Shaw
Lloyd and Sharlene Shoaf
Carolyn and Gary Skinner
Sally Smith
Jim Smith
Marjorie Snook
Clay Snyder
Vladimir and Margaret Steffel
Christine Stelloh-Garner
Jenora Stilwell
Tamara Tangen
John Tetz
Barbara Williams
John Tombarge
Ezra Vogel
Teresa Watkins
Lynne Weber
Thomas Workman
John Yelavich

Business/Organization Members

American Legion Post 115
David Kerr Architect LLC
Frame Artistry
Hardware Exchange
Mail Pro 1 LLC
Main Street Delaware
Manos, Martin & Pergram Co. LPA
Northwest Neighborhood
Association
Smith-Feike-Minton, Inc.
Solar Saloon (Don Temple)
Staas Brewing Co.
Willow Brook Christian
Communities

friends

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

I am filled with a tremendous sense of gratitude as I reflect upon my first year as the Executive Director of the Delaware County Historical Society. I am thankful our board put their trust and faith in me to direct the day-to-day operations of the organization and truly feel at home in Stratford. I am so very grateful to work with such a dedicated team of volunteers who have spent countless hours, rolling up their sleeves to meet our many challenges and ensuring that our organization runs as smoothly as possible. Whether that includes weeding our landscape, acting as docents, or decorating the Nash house for the holidays, they are ready to fill in wherever needed. Their "can-do" attitude coupled with their enthusiasm and great ideas make my job so much easier, and the Society so much better.

I am very grateful to work with our talented and enthusiastic Venue Manager, Connie Hoffman. Her hard work and dedication is very evident in the many successful events we have hosted. She believes in overcoming obstacles and making ideas a reality. She recently reminded me that she is "a dreamer" and indeed where would we be without people who refuse to say that something can't be done.

I feel very grateful to work in a 193 year old house. I often think about the families who lived there and wish the walls could talk. I love to see the wonder on the faces of those who tour our buildings and see their look of amazement when they see how well preserved this homestead is. I feel so fortunate that we can fulfill our mission of education as we guide and teach students about our history while making the experience fun. Our award winning 3rd Grade Tote Bag program which brings the history of our county into the classrooms, was the result of countless hours of work by dedicated educators. Our upcoming program to educate 5th grade students about the role of the Forrest and Patience Meeker as part of the Underground Railroad, I am sure will prove to be nearly as enjoyable for our Curriculum Committee as it will be for the students.

Finally, I am especially grateful for you, our supporters, our volunteers, our members and our donors who help us preserve Delaware County's rich history so each generation can learn from the legacy of the past. You have stepped up to share your time, talents and resources to support our organization, however we continue to need your help to ensure that our history will endure as we touch lives for generations to come.

Donna Meyer



THE BARN AT STRATFORD VENUE

2016 was our inaugural year for hosting events in the Barn at Stratford. Five couples said their vows at our venue and we hosted a total of 12 other events including a retirement party, anniversary party, and a business reception. We also had an amazing drone video created for us by Chris Smith of Drone Views Ohio.





**Delaware County
Historical Society:**

CRYDER HISTORICAL CENTER AND RESEARCH LIBRARY
NASH HOUSE MUSEUM
157 E. William Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

MEEKER HOMESTEAD MUSEUM
THE BARN AT STRATFORD
(Business office and mailing address)
2690 Stratford Road
Delaware, Ohio 43015

740-369-3831
www.delawareohiohistory.org
info@delawareohiohistory.org