



# Delaware County Historian

VOLUME 63, ISSUE 2

AUTUMN 2018

## Society Helps to Start Delaware County History Network



Many sites are represented by the Network, including (clockwise from top left) the Myers Inn, the Nash House Museum, the Martin-Perry House, Gallant Farm (Preservation Parks), and the Radnor Heritage Society.

(Photos by Matt Kear)

### By Sherry Carmichael

In late 2017, the Society reached out to history organizations throughout our county to form a county-wide history network, known as the Delaware County History Network. The purpose of the Network is to promote and publish history throughout Delaware County through connecting the education- and history-oriented organizations in our county.

At this time, the network members include Big Walnut Area Historical Society, Delaware County District Library, Delaware County Genealogical Society, Delaware County Historical Society, Delaware County Records Cen-

ter, Galena Historic Foundation, Harlem Township Heritage Foundation, Powell-Liberty Historical Society, Preservation Parks (Gallant Farm), Radnor Heritage Society, Stratford Ecological Center and Sunbury Community Library. Representatives from the eighteen Delaware County townships are also being sought. At this writing, there are representatives needed from Kingston, Porter, Trenton, Troy, and Marlboro townships.

An information card with the names of these groups, with physical addresses and website information was printed and can be found at the various centers, as well as libraries and the visitor's bureau.

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# Delaware County History Network

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After an initial "Meet & Greet" gathering in November 2017 at the Society's Barn at Stratford, four meeting dates in 2018 were chosen for topics of mutual interest and benefit. The group has toured the Delaware County Records Center and heard a presentation at Powell-Liberty Historical Society by Benny Shoults, in which he discussed the topic of writing a township history. In August, the group visited the Community Library in Sunbury where they learned about the Delaware Memorials Project.

Sherry Carmichael, a Society trustee, is leading the Society's work to build the network.

A major purpose of the network is to help each other publicize events and be a forum for mutual growth. It is hoped that this network will help all involved to widen their visibility and event attendance. Delaware County is truly rich in its history and heritage, and each group stands ready to share it. Please support your county history centers.



**Meeker Homestead Museum**

(Photo by Matt Kear)

## DELAWARE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Established 1947

**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 history through community engagement, education and historic preservation.

Donna Meyer, Executive Director

Connie Hoffman, Venue Manager

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**Delaware County  
Historical Society**  
*Our History, Our Heritage*

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Newsletter Editor: Matt Kear  
Contributions of original historical research concerning Delaware County, Ohio, are welcome.  
Send your contributions to the attention of the Newsletter Editor at any of the above addresses.

## A Year of Accomplishments

Dear Friends,

As we prepare to welcome 2019, I reflect on the three years I have served as the executive director of the Delaware County Historical Society. It has been incredibly rewarding to see what we have accomplished, thanks to the ceaseless efforts of our volunteers. Each year, we take on new challenges and celebrate accomplishments. We continue to form committees, create projects, and educate the community in new ways that would not have been dreamed of a few years ago. We have learned to adapt and to engage in creative and resourceful thinking, coming up with new ideas and programs which are relevant to the community while fulfilling our mission of education and preservation. We do not fit in the typical historical society mold anymore, which is probably a good thing.

Our challenges this year have included having enough resources to keep paying the electric bills, avoiding volunteer burnout, and having enough volunteers to share the workload. However, with our challenges, successes have been the order of the day. Our new Sustainability Campaign, launched this spring, exceeded expectations. These funds have been directed towards projects such as Barn renovation, repairs, maintenance, and operating expenses.

This year we experienced an elevated presence in the community and increased media coverage over previous years. A new state-of-the-art AV system was installed in the Barn, thanks to a generous donor. There are 2 new self-guided tours, both available on our website: Delaware County homes which were on the Underground Railroad and the Oak Grove Cemetery Walk. Record crowds attended our programs this year. Most of these programs were free, offered as a service to the community. Several of these featured reenactors who brought history to life for students and adults. We expanded our Oral History project to tell the important stories of Delaware County through the videos of the people who live here. This year, we hosted 50 weddings, events, and venue rentals at the Barn at Stratford, an important part of enhancing our sustainability. Our Historic Preservation committee has been working diligently to bring awareness to the community that many of our endangered buildings should and must be saved. Because once they are gone...they're gone.

One of our most exciting successes this year was the news that we will be receiving \$250,000 in state funds from the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission. These funds will be used to support much-needed restoration in the Barn. This process will begin in January and last for several months, during

which time the barn will be closed to the public. Look for an official reopening of the Barn this spring so we can show off our renovations.

Our accomplishments this year have been greatly supported by our new board president, Jack Hilborn.

He is our longest serving board member, and this year he agreed to take the step and lead our organization. Jack has done a tremendous job and has successfully made it through a year of meetings, paperwork, and countless emails. His support and encouragement has been invaluable to

me and to our organization, and we are very fortunate to have him onboard in this position.

Looking ahead at 2019, one of our biggest challenges will be the retirement of our Venue Manager, Connie Hoffman. She has tirelessly worked for the betterment of our organization. From hosting weddings to pounding nails and everything in between, her passion, energy and enthusiasm will be impossible to replace. And, I will miss my friend who I have truly enjoyed working with over the last three years. Connie has promised not to disappear and will still be on hand to change into her "super volunteer" costume, if the need (and a handy phone booth) arises.

Next year, we will be welcoming three new board members – Jim Mendenhall, Dave Hejmanowski, and Sherry Chambers. Their leadership experience and skills will be a true asset to our organization as we plan an exciting new year. We will be forming a subcommittee of our education committee which will research the history of our county's African-American population. We are in the process of organizing a children's history day camp for next summer. We will also be receiving a donation of the Stratford Millworker Cottage from the Coughlin's Crossing developers which will allow us to create a special museum in that structure. We will be completing an oral history project on the Little Brown Jug harness race which will be unveiled in 2020, in time to celebrate the 75th year of the iconic event. Next spring, we will hold a large antique show in the Barn – a first for the Historical Society.

If you would like to participate in these exciting new ventures, please let us know. We are always in need of volunteers, donations, members, and supporters. Come along for the ride. It will be a fun one! I promise.



Director's  
Column  
By  
Donna Meyer



*Donna*

# Ghost Signs “Haunting” Downtown Delaware

By Jan Fleischmann

All over America in the late 1800s and early 1900s businesses painted bold, colorful advertising on downtown buildings. Some of these hand-painted signs advertised local businesses and some promoted national products. Gradually, these signs became prohibited as zoning laws spread across the country in the mid-twentieth century. As the paint faded over the years, these ads became known as “ghost signs” or “fading signs.”

While most have faded, many of the signs can still be read today. It may be difficult to interpret some ghost signs because some have been over-painted with a new advertisement without removing the old ad. One of the reasons that some ghost signs endured so long is that the oil-based paint contained lead which permeated the brick surface. Although there are reports of stabilizing ghost signs with a conservation or restoration treatment to bring back the intensity of the original design, most experts advise against restoring ghost signs to their original colors, but rather to embrace them as part of the local historic background.



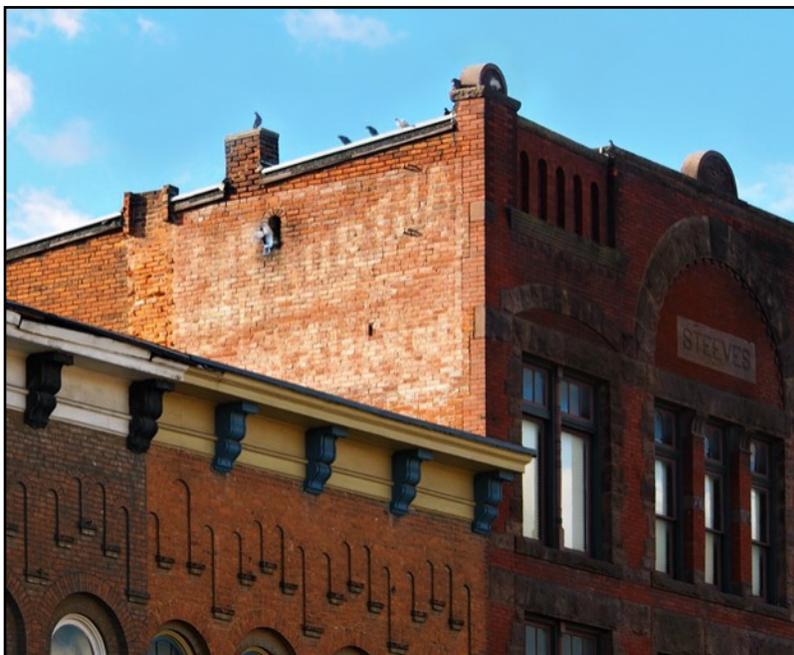
**Strohm Meat, West Winter Street**

(Photo by Kris Hyland Kolb)

The town of Delaware was founded in 1808 and had a population of 150 in 1810. The census shows a population of 898 in 1840, 2,074 in 1850, and 3,889 in 1860. The town, the seat of county government, grew rapidly after the Civil War and by 1870 the population was 6,000. This was the period that many of the still-visible two- and three-story downtown buildings were constructed, giving much of our city the distinctive Italianate Style of the period.

The Italianate Style, with its ornate projecting upper cornices with decorative carved brackets, ornate window hood molds, and generally vertical proportions, became dominant in towns across the country that experienced growth in the 1860s and 1870s. This distinctive and fashionable architectural style of the day is still very much in evidence in both the commercial and residential neighborhoods of Delaware and is clear evidence of the post-Civil-War prosperity. In this environment, Delaware businesses took advantage of prominent wall space to advertise local and national products and services. Delaware city directories provide a wealth of information and help us understand more about these businesses and where they were located over the years.

One of the most prominent ghost signs in Delaware is found on West Winter Street. The words “Strohm Meat” can be seen on the top level of the east wall of



**Bodurtha Studios, North Sandusky Street**

(Photo by Kris Hyland Kolb)

12 West Winter Street as you approach Bun's Restaurant from Sandusky Street. Strohm Meat Market occupied this building from 1908 to 1966. Bun's Bakery and Restaurant was located at 10 West Winter from 1889 to 2002, then moved to 12 West Winter after a fire in 2002.

Many ghost signs are on Sandusky Street. The "Bodurtha Art Studios" advertisement would have been painted at the top of 57 North Sandusky Street sometime between 1897 and 1930, during the years that Charles Bodurtha operated his photography business upstairs at this address. It is on the south-facing wall of the building and can best be viewed from the east side of the street. Charles Hall Bodurtha, who was born in 1844 in Berkshire County, Massachusetts, began his Delaware photography business in the early 1870s, operating first with a partner and later on as a sole proprietor. His business was located at another address on North Sandusky in its early years, then he moved it to 57 1/2 North Sandusky by 1897. Mr. Bodurtha died in 1915, but his daughter and other family members ran "Bodurtha Studios" until at least 1930, and the business continued under the ownership of others until approximately 1960, likely at 23 West Winter Street. Charles Bodurtha used his full last name when advertising, but the moniker "Bo Durtha" to label his por-



**Kurrley's Saloon, North Sandusky Street**

(Photo by Kris Hyland Kolb)

traits. Creative Foundations is currently at 57 North Sandusky.

The words "Kurrley's Saloon - Chasers - Barley Malt - Whiskies" appear on the north-facing wall of 9 North Sandusky Street, now occupied by J. Gumbo's restaurant. This ghost sign can most easily be seen from the east side of the street. Victor E. Kurrley had a saloon and pool room at this address from about 1897 to 1900. Nichols & Briner then ran a saloon here from 1901 to 1910, followed by a cafe. Another Kurrley, Fred, and his son A.L. Kurrley operated a saloon at 13 North Sandusky Street from 1888 to 1894.

One of the national ads that remains, albeit quite faded, is on the south-facing wall of 5 North Sandusky Street and reads "Washburn & Crosby's Gold Medal Flour." The Gold Medal flour brand was launched after 1880 when the Washburn-Crosby Company won gold, silver and bronze medals at the Millers' International Exhibition in Cincinnati. General Mills, Inc., acquired the Gold Medal brand in 1928 when Washburn-Crosby merged with 28 other mills. The building at 5 North Sandusky was home to Vatsures' Candy Store from 1908 to about 1930. Isaly Dairy Store was there from the 1930s to 1963, and Blackburn's



**Gold Medal Flour, North Sandusky Street**

(Photo by Kris Hyland Kolb)

**(Continued on Page 6)**



**Konjola sign, Sandusky Street at William**

(Photo by Kris Hyland Kolb)

**(Continued from Page 5)**

Men's Wear operated in this space from 1964 to 1984. Today, this address is occupied by Son of Thurman restaurant.

The "Konjola" patent medicine ghost sign is at street level on the William Street side of 1 North Sandusky Street. This advertisement had been covered by stucco for years, and it was uncovered when the building was renovated in 2014. Konjola was a tonic, or patent medicine, made in the 1920s as a remedy for everything from indigestion to rheumatism. It was a vegetable concoction with herbs and a high alcohol content that could be sold without a prescription. Since this happened to be during prohibition, the product was quite popular. Konjola was a product of Mosby Medicine Company of Cincinnati, Ohio. Joyner's Drug Store occupied this building by 1880 and continued into the 1920s. Kinsey's Drug Company followed, and the Kinsey name can be seen at the top of the ad. Then Del RX Pharmacy Inc. was here until 1991. Barley Hopsters craft beer and home brewing supply store is currently located there.

"The Bee Hive" sign with its distinctive cone-shaped hive image is still quite prominent on the south-facing wall of 4 North Sandusky on the north-east corner of Sandusky and William streets. The words "Mail Pouch" can also be seen. This wall had other signs over the years, such as "Born's" and "Chew Honest Scrap." Future research may someday reveal more information about the sequencing of the various signs painted on this building, so that we may better understand why the Bee Hive ad remains today after the store moved to another location.



**Bee Hive and Mail Pouch sign, North Sandusky Street**

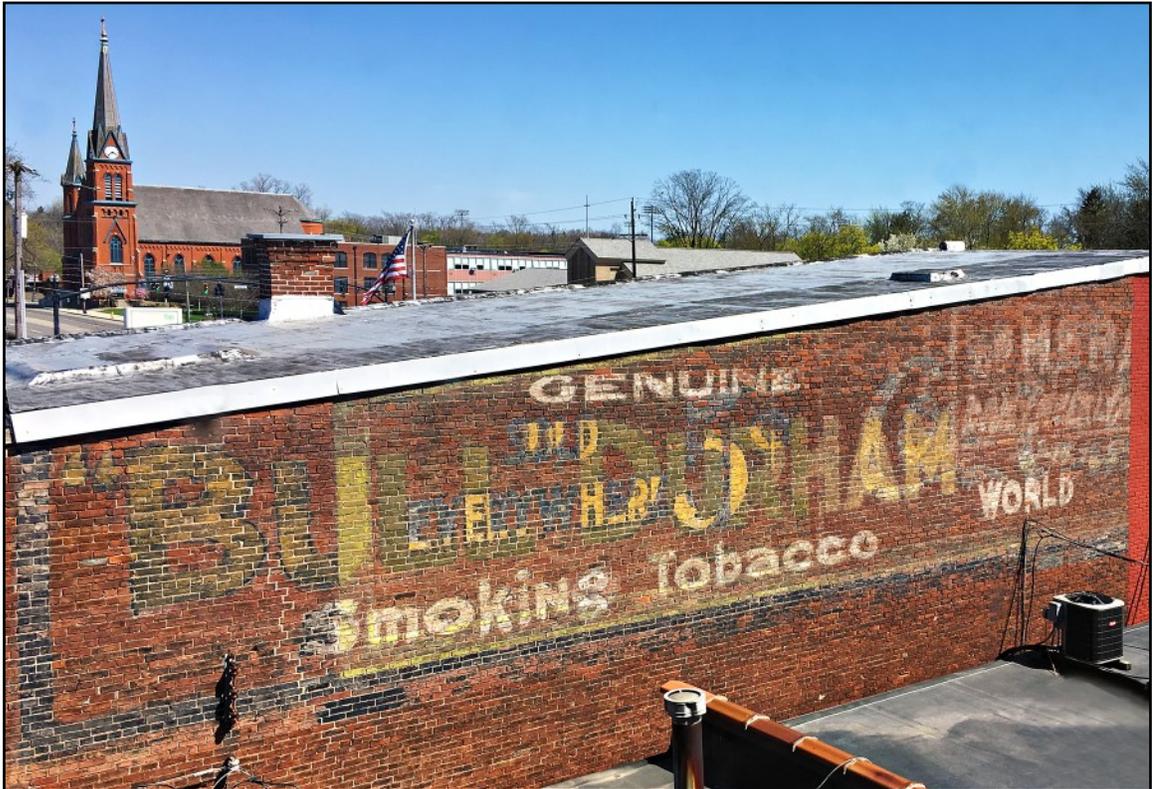
(Photo by Kris Hyland Kolb)

The Bee Hive refers to a millinery and clothing store dating to the 1890s at 4 North Sandusky Street. In 1900, the proprietor, Morris L. Wolff, relocated the store to 43 North Sandusky on the northwest corner of Sandusky and Winter street. The 1908-1909 city directory has an ad that reads "The store that never disappoints – M. L. Wolff's Bee

Hive – Phone: Citizens 363". By 1922, Mr. Wolff is not listed in the city directory. That year the Boston Store occupied 43-45 North Sandusky.

In recent years Beehive Books, a business that is no longer in operation, incorporated the bee hive image we see on the ghost sign into the branding of their business. The Green Door Salon currently occupies 4 North Sandusky.

On the south façade of the one-story building known as 5 East William Street, beneath the decorative brick detailing, the words "Bee Hive" can be seen. This building is connected to 4 North Sandusky,



**Bull Durham and Coca-Cola sign, East William Street**

(Photo by Kris Hyland Kolb)

where the Bee Hive clothing store was located in the late 1800s.

The first known sign at 4 North Sandusky Street, as shown in an old picture postcard, was "Born & Co., Columbus, O." Born & Company was a brewery business founded in Columbus by Conrad Born, Sr. in 1859. The postcard shows two interurban electric trains. This ad may have been painted shortly after 1900. In 1901, 4 North Sandusky was home to the "Inter-Urban Cafe." The Interurban Railway Station was located at 2 North Sandusky from about 1900 into the 1930s.

A postcard from the World War I era shows a sign at 4 North Sandusky that says "Chew Honest Scrap." Scrap refers to tobacco cuttings left over from making cigarettes or cigars. Scraps were processed for "Honest Scrap," "Redman," "Mail Pouch," and other chewing tobacco labels. Mail Pouch chewing tobacco was a well-known product of Bloch Brothers Tobacco Company of Wheeling, West Virginia. Mail Pouch "Treat Yourself to the Best" ads were painted on over 20,000 barns, most of which were located in the rural Ohio River Valley.

Bull Durham tobacco ads were prevalent throughout the country in the late 1800s. Bull Durham tobacco was manufactured by W. T. Blackwell and Company in Durham, North Carolina. Blackwell was among the first companies to implement a large-scale advertising campaign. Their outdoor ads started in the late  
**(Continued on Page 8)**



**Born & Co., North Sandusky Street**

(Photo by Kris Hyland Kolb)

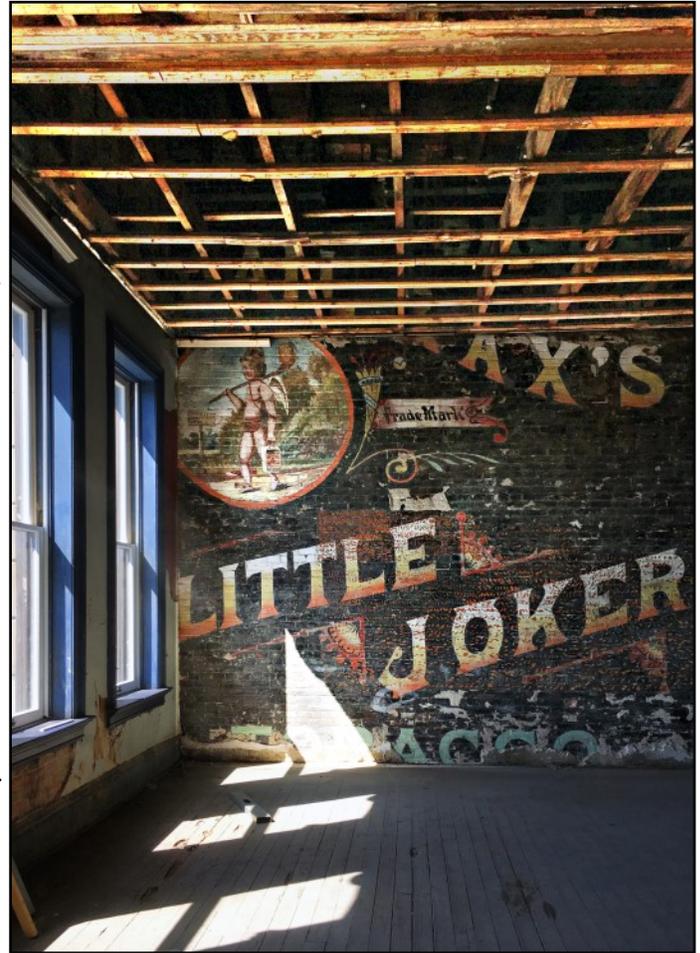
**(Continued from Page 7)**

1870s, with four teams of painters traveling around the states to paint billboards and the sides of buildings. There are several generations of signs painted on the west-facing wall of 9 East William Street. The wall can best be seen from the City Hall side of William Street. Besides “Genuine Bull Durham Smoking Tobacco Standard of the World,” one may be able to discern parts of “Coca-Cola” and “Sold Everywhere 5¢.” The first business documented in city directories at 9 East William Street was the *Delaware Herald* newspaper, from approximately 1890 to 1900 or so. From 1930 until roughly 2000, Independent Print Shop made its home here. Today it is the Upper Cut barber shop.

The building at 18 North Sandusky, currently occupied by Delaware Antique Mall, had a couple of advertisements painted on the south-facing wall that can no longer be seen. There were two postcards printed during the days of electric cars that show these signs, which were for Wrigley chewing gum and Bull Durham smoking tobacco. Wrigley’s was founded by William Wrigley, Jr., in 1891. The first postcard shows a streetcar nicknamed “the dinky.” There are horses in the photo, but no automobiles are shown, so likely the setting was around the year 1900. The Bull Durham tobacco ad was likely painted after 1900. The second postcard shows a couple of interurban cars, a horse and buggy, but no automobiles. In the early 1900s, 18 North Sandusky was home to a series of restaurants, including Swope’s Restaurant. Old timers will remember that the People’s Store was located in this building.

A picture postcard from around 1910 shows the old City Hall and a view of South Sandusky Street with a “Coca-Cola” sign on the north-facing wall of 6 South Sandusky Street. The sign can no longer be seen. Coca-Cola was invented in 1886 in Columbus, Georgia. The company began widespread distribution in 1889. Business occupants at this address over the years included Breitmaier jewelers in 1908, Red Dragon Tea Company grocery from at least 1922 to 1937, and later Bianchi’s restaurant and grill. Amato’s Woodfired Pizza is currently at this location.

The “Little Joker” is a ghost sign that was hidden for about 135 years and was recently uncovered during the renovation of 8 North Sandusky Street. This sign can no longer be seen from the street and is now inside private property. When the building at 8 North Sandusky was constructed in approximately 1882, the tobacco advertisement that was painted on the south-facing exterior wall of 10 North Sandusky in the late 1870s was covered by the new building and protected from the weather. The present-day property owner recently removed interior wall layers and proudly exposed this piece of art with its vibrant colors. The building at 10 North Sandusky was home to Riddle, Graff and Company, a cigar manufacturer, from at least 1878 through 1922. Riddle & Graff operated a retail store at 8 North Sandusky for a short time, at least during the 1893-1894 time period.



**Little Joker sign, North Sandusky Street**

(Photo by Kris Hyland Kolb)

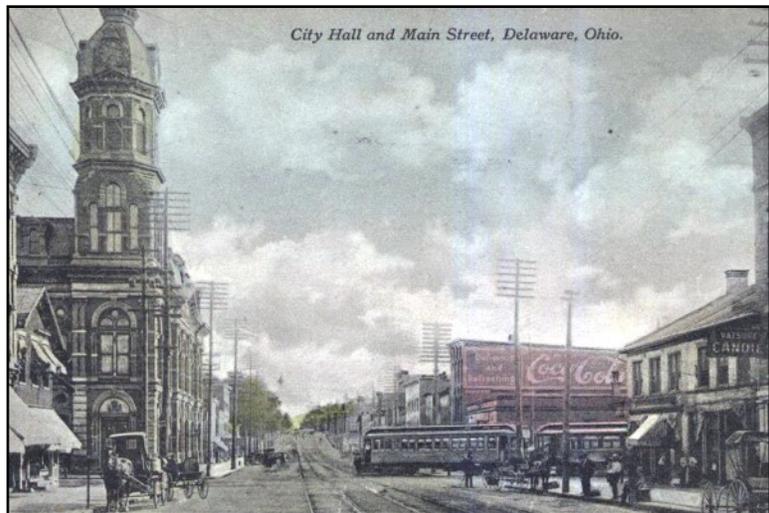
Toujours, a unique resale boutique, has occupied 8 North Sandusky since 1983.

Little Joker referred to Little Joker Smoking and Cigarette Tobacco, produced by a Baltimore company named G. W. Gail & Ax Tobacco Company. The company was founded by George W. Gail in 1850. Mr. Ax joined the firm by 1855. Along with the famous Navy brand, their second-largest seller was called Little Joker. The Little Joker character pictured in the tobacco ad was taken from the fictional tall tales of a Baron Munchausen, a German cavalry captain who served with a Russian regiment in two Turkish wars during the 1700s. Little Joker had wings and wore a red pointed hat. He accompanied the baron on his journeys, giving him advice and keeping him out of trouble. Gail & Ax created Little Joker trade cards in the 1800s to advertise to clients and potential customers. Each trade card portrays Little Joker with his wings and red pointed hat.

Day by day, Delaware’s ghost signs continue to fade, but while we have them, they help tell the story of our community and how advertising has changed over the years.



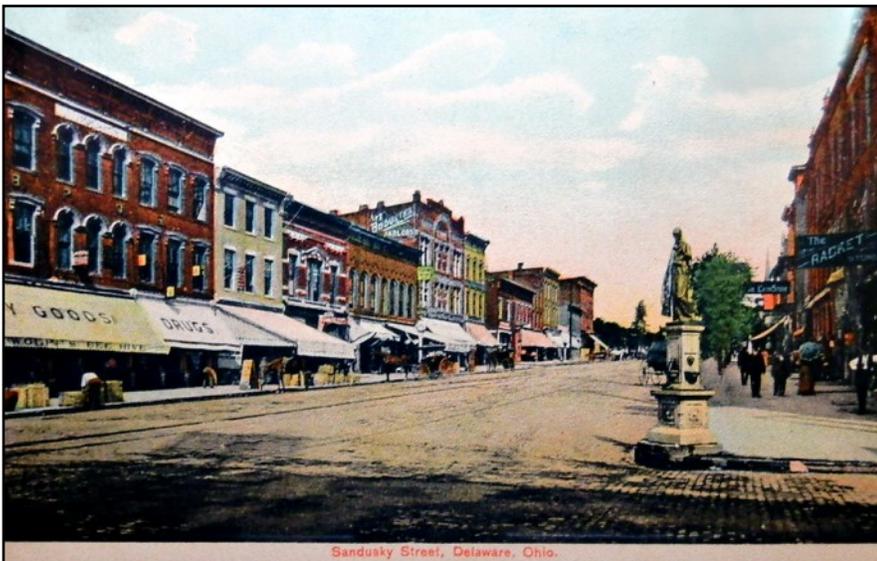
Interurban Station, Delaware, Ohio



City Hall and Main Street, Delaware, Ohio.

**Above, right, and below: Postcards showing the ghost signs long before they became ghosts.**

(DCHS Archives)



Sandusky Street, Delaware, Ohio.

*Editor's Note: Special thanks to Kris Hyland Kolb for her wonderful photographs and the inspiration for this project. Color photographs are available on the electronic version of this issue, available on the Society's website. A walking tour of Downtown Delaware with brochure is available through the Society.*

## New Preservation Committee Starts Work

By Marian Vance

The Historic Preservation Committee of the Society has been charged with the mission of identifying and saving the historic structures of Delaware County. It was formed in early 2018 and has already taken an active role in identifying and trying to save the historic fabric of our community. In addition to structures, the members of the committee are also concerned with saving landscapes and Indian sites.

The committee has been working to educate the public about the power of place and the need for preservation in the growth of a community. Commit-

tee members are also seeking to identify and spread the stories of people who are already restoring properties and making a difference. They are the ones leading by example.

One of our goals is to bring in others in the community who are interested in securing and/or restoring endangered properties.

We meet monthly and more often as needed. We welcome your input and look forward to the potential of this important topic. For more information, please contact Marian Vance, committee chair, through the Society or via email at [info@delawareohiohistory.org](mailto:info@delawareohiohistory.org).

### Preservation Stories



**David Kerr**

The renovation of the historic Stratford M.E. Church was recently completed by Dave Kerr and his team at DK Architects. Dave's firm, a commercial architectural firm, recently moved into the building which will serve as the company's new headquarters. The building was constructed in 1843 and 1844 to serve the mill workers and families of the Stratford village. The last church service in the building was held in 1958.

The renovation was complicated in that the building had no utilities, limited sanitary access, and no legal vehicular access. In addition, it was important to Dave's design team that the exterior renovation be historically accurate. Due to the firm's attention to the historic details, the project was awarded both state and federal historic tax credits to help with the cost of the project. After three years in planning, approvals, and construction, Dave is very proud of the final product.



**Melissa Bargar**

Melissa has always called Delaware home. When she decided to take on a "project," she had no idea that it would mean putting new life into a home on Franklin Street. Looking at it from the street, her neighbor at the law office said, "Buy this one." The house was in poor condition—it had been vacant for some time, and vagrants had been living in it.

Not a stranger to hard work, she bought it. She opened its doors to a new future as her home. She hauled trash out of it; she hauled coal out of it; and she procured a construction loan to do the parts that she couldn't do. The loan forced her to put a price on her vision, which she did. Ever since, people have been thanking her for what she is doing, congratulating her on her progress, and telling her more and more stories about its past.

## Gooding Tavern: Another Example of Preservation

By Donna Meyer

Today, the Gooding Tavern watches over one of the fastest-growing areas of our county. Since it has stood for 193 years, there is no doubt that this stately home has many stories to tell. It's one of those places where people drive by and wonder about its previous incarnations. Built in 1825 in the Federal style by George Gooding, a Massachusetts native, it is an example of a four-over-four building type (four rooms on both the lower and upper floors).

For decades the home served as a stagecoach stop for weary travelers on what was once called the "Mud Pike," now known as US Route 23, a few miles south of the city of Delaware in Orange Township. In those days, it often took an entire day to go from Columbus to Delaware, so the Gooding Tavern provided welcome respite. Famous visitors included Johnny Appleseed and William Henry Harrison, who, it has been said, stayed at the Gooding Tavern on his way to his inaugural in 1841. Mrs. Gooding typically baked 40 pies at a time, and these were stored in the ice house on the property before they were served to visitors. Some reports say the house served as a safe location on the Underground Railroad.

Gooding owned one of the most prosperous farms in the area, extending 1,300 acres on both sides of Rt. 23. The farm produced 300 pounds of wool, 900 pounds of butter, and 1,000 pounds of cheese each year. In 1856, his estate was valued at over \$20,000, an amazing sum of money for the day.

Six generations of the Gooding family lived in the house, the last leaving around 1990. The house was vacant and falling into disrepair in the mid-1990s before it was saved from the brink of demolition. Now it is used for the offices of a political advertising



Gooding Tavern

(DCHS Archives)

agency.

The Gooding House provides an example of the architectural evolution exhibiting significant features from each of these three periods: 1820s Federal influences, 1850s early Italianate influences, and 1910s Colonial Revival and Craftsman styles. Each era was important to the changing styles of the property owner as it was occupied by succeeding generations of the Gooding family.

The Gooding House and Tavern was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2005 and restored in 2007. Its current use as office space is a wonderful example of adaptive reuse of an historic structure which could have fallen victim to the wrecking ball.

So, the next time you drive by this stately building, imagine what it was like in the mid-1850s. And be glad the "Mud Pike" is now paved.

*Thank You Delaware Gazette and Sunbury News for sponsoring the Newspapers of Delaware County exhibit at the Meeker Homestead Museum!*

The Delaware  
**Gazette**  
The Sunbury News

## Area Millstones Added to Larger Study

By Susan Logan

In June 2017, Joseph T. Hannibal, Curator of Invertebrate Paleontology at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, and three student interns visited Delaware County to study historic millstones. They provided a report on their findings to the Society.

First, they studied the Cole Mill stones, which are located in front of the Nash House at the Society's Cryder Historical Center on East William Street. They found that the propped stone is the bedstone or lower millstone and the millstone at the back is the runner or upper stone. According to an article in the June 26, 1949, issue of the Columbus Dispatch, these stones were cut from boulders along the river and dressed by Henry James, an early settler.

The propped millstone is feldspathic granite with large clasts of alkali feldspar crystals, up to 8 cm. The hole diameter of the bedstone is 20 cm, the skirt width is 23–26 cm (due to its convex nature), and the overall diameter is 122.5 cm. The millstone has 10 sections of 4 quarter dressing, and the dressing is strikingly similar to the runner,

which indicates they are a pair. The runner stone is a granite that is 122 cm in diameter, 28 cm in skirt width, and the center has a series of notches that once must have had iron fixtures.

Next, they studied the mill stones of the Hinkle Mill, which lies in ruin along Chapman Road in Liberty Township, along the Olentangy River. They found that these mill stones are granitic millstones. They also studied some stones from a mill near the Hinkle Mill, and discovered that these stones

are chert which was imported from France. They based this conclusion on the yellowish grey color, the vermicular texture, and the lack of marine fossils. They were unable to study the stones of the nearby Bieber Mill, the larger mill which stands along Chapman Road and the Olentangy River.

Finally, they studied a millstone at the Society's Meeker Homestead, and determined that it is made of concrete. Due to this, it will not be included in their larger study.



Joseph Hannibal and his students examine the millstones at the Society's Cryder Center campus.

(photo by Brad Cowan)

### Newsletter Articles Are Wanted!

We want to publish articles written about Delaware County history in this newsletter. Send your submission or your questions to [director@delawareohiohistory.org](mailto:director@delawareohiohistory.org)

VOLUNTEER FOR THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND GET SMART!

## Society Holds Annual Meeting

The Delaware County Historical Society held its 2018 annual meeting in the historic Garth Oberlander Barn, also known as the Barn at Stratford, on Tuesday, November 13. Nearly 100 members and friends attended.

The business portion of the agenda included reports from the Society's leadership and the election of Board trustees. Following the business meeting, Christie Weininger, executive director of the Hayes Presidential Library and Museums in Fremont, Ohio, presented a program on the Rutherford Hayes family during the Civil War. There was also a presentation about the Hayes Comes Home project, which is working to place a statue of Rutherford Hayes at the corner of William and Sandusky streets in downtown Delaware.

During the business meeting, the Society re-elected current trustees Brent Carson, Lynn Forman, Susan Garrett, and Roger Koch to 3-year terms. David Hejmanowski and Jim Mendenhall were elected to new 3-year terms as trustees. The Society also recognized outgoing board members Ana Babiasz and Benny Shoults for their service. At the November Board meeting, the Board appointed Sherry Chambers to a vacant trustee position. The election of officers for 2019 will take place at the first meeting of the Board of Trustees of the year.



**Society President Jack Hilborn (center) thanks outgoing trustees Ana Babiasz and Benny Shoults for their work on behalf of the Society while serving on the Board. Both will continue to volunteer in other capacities.**

(photo by Brad Cowan)

*Thank You Volunteers,  
Members, and Donors for your  
continued support of the  
Delaware County Historical  
Society!*

### Help Preserve Our Historical Legacy

Gifts and bequests have played an important role in the preservation of Delaware County history. The Delaware County Historical Society is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization.

Planning now may make your gift more meaningful and reduce taxes on your estate. Please consider the Delaware County Historical Society when making your estate plans.

## Upcoming Events

January 17	<p>“American Indians, Then and Now” Presented by Stacey Halfmoon, Director of American Indian Relations, Ohio History Connection William Street UMC, 28 W. William St., Delaware, 7 pm</p>	April 18	<p>“Curry School, 1890s Private School in Delaware” Barn at Stratford, 7 p.m.</p>
February 13	<p>“Underground Railroad Reader’s Theatre” Presented by DCHS Curriculum Support Committee William Street UMC, 28 W. William St., Delaware, 7 pm</p>	May 16	<p>“World Wide Games,” the history of a Delaware company that sold wooden games Presented by Steve Schmidt Barn at Stratford, 7 p.m.</p>
March 21	<p>“Fighting for Freedom: The United States Colored Troops in the Civil War” Presented by Anthony Gibbs, Local History Department Manager, Ohio History Connection William Street UMC, 28 W. William St., Delaware, 7 pm</p>	June 20	<p>“Frederick Douglass” Presented by Tracey Sumner, Sr. William Street UMC, 28 W. William St., Delaware, 7 pm</p>
		July 14	<p>“Boomerang History,” Delaware connection and demonstration Presented by Chet Snouffer Barn at Stratford, 6 p.m.</p>
		August 11	<p>“Tour of Stratford Community and Church” Preregistration and Tickets required (\$10 members/\$20 non-member adults) Barn at Stratford, 2-4 pm</p>

And many more to come!

Program tickets may be reserved at the Society’s office, 2690 Stratford Road, or at the Cryder Historical Center, 157 E. William Street, Delaware

Check our website for more information as it becomes available.

If you are planning to attend any of our free events, please consider preregistering on Eventbrite.com (search Delaware County Historical Society) to ensure adequate seating for the event.



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## More Ways To Help The Society

### Volunteers Needed!

The Society has a critical need for volunteers! There are dozens of ways that you can help our Society grow. If you can help, contact the Society at [volunteer@delawareohiohistory.org](mailto:volunteer@delawareohiohistory.org)

We have a priority need for a new **Newsletter Editor**. Our current editor is stepping down after 11 years in the position. We are planning to publish at least two issues per year. If you are interested, please contact Lynn Foreman at [lforeman@delawareohiohistory.org](mailto:lforeman@delawareohiohistory.org).

Our Executive Director needs an **Office Assistant** to help her with many different projects. Hours can vary, with up to 8-10 hours per week. This person should have some proficiency with Microsoft Office applications and customer service. Contact Donna Meyer at [director@delawareohiohistory.org](mailto:director@delawareohiohistory.org).

We have priority needs for **docents** at the Meeker Homestead Museum and for **cataloguers** at the library in the Cryder Historical Center. No experience is necessary—we will provide all the training. Just bring your enthusiasm!

### Committee Members Are Needed

The Society is growing rapidly and needs volunteers to serve on its many committees. Our active committees and subcommittees are as follows:

- Buildings and Grounds
- Education
- Library Subcommittee
- Museums & Exhibits Subcommittee
- Programs Subcommittee
- Collections Subcommittee
- Curriculum Support Subcommittee
- Historic Preservation Subcommittee
- Communications
- Information Technology
- Membership
- Finance and Budget
- Resource Creation

To find out how you can serve, contact Susan Logan at [volunteer@delawareohiohistory.org](mailto:volunteer@delawareohiohistory.org).

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



### About AmazonSmile

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### Available for Sale at the Library!

- Logo T-Shirts, Tote Bags, and Mugs
- Books and DVDs about Delaware History
- Old Photographs of Delaware County
- And Many More Items!

Delaware County  
Historical Society

2690 Stratford Road  
Delaware, OH 43015

Phone: 740-369-3831  
Email: info@delawareohiohistory.org  
www.delawareohiohistory.org

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**Membership Type (2019 rates)**

Adult Membership (Individual)	\$25.00	_____	Adult Membership (Household)	\$50.00	_____
Senior Membership (60+ yrs)	\$20.00	_____	Senior Membership (Household)	\$40.00	_____
Life Membership (Individual)	\$300.00	_____	Life Membership (Joint)	\$500.00	_____
Student Membership	\$5.00	_____	Business/Corporation	\$50.00	_____

Newsletter preference (circle): Printed E-mail Both

For Student Membership, name of your school: \_\_\_\_\_

In addition to your membership noted above, please consider an additional gift to the Society:

\$100.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$250.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$500.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,000.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Special Gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ For/In Honor or Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

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Make check payable to Delaware County Historical Society and mail to 2690 Stratford Road, Delaware OH 43015