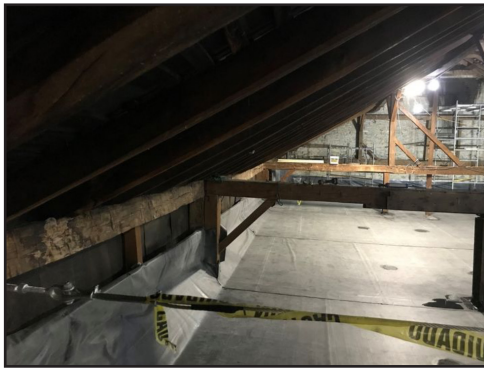


Update: The Barn at Stratford

By Donna Meyer

How do the contractors keep the rain and snow from leaking to the lower level of the Barn at Stratford? The first photo shows the answer – a false roof which catches it all as we continue to host weddings, meetings, parties and programs at The Barn at Stratford!



Work continues on the Barn at Stratford roof replacement. (Shown is the beginning of the south roof removal.) The project consisted of removing the existing leaking metal roof and damaged wood rafters, removing failing wood timber eave members, and damaged roof purlins and replacing them with new rough framing timber as well as installing a new metal roofing made out of Galvalume.

When the weather warms up, our contractor will begin the work on the south wall and replace the missing and damaged stone, using a historic lime-based mortar. Midstate Contractors from Marion is in charge of this restoration project, which is funded through the State of Ohio's biennial Capital Budget and managed by the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission. This will complete the \$1,000,000

four-year renovation of our beautiful 1848 barn, which was supported by State



Senator Andrew Brenner. It is a privilege and a joy to know that collectively we have saved this amazing 175-year-old piece of history!

Results are in! The Best of the Best

Melissa Stroupe, Sales and Events Manager of The Barn at Stratford-Delaware County Historical Society, has announced that The Barn at Stratford has earned The Knot's Best of Weddings 2023 award! (The Knot is a wedding planning website.) These awards are based on the top percentage of ratings and reviews nationally.

The Barn at Stratford is the Society's income generating venue. It is not only available for weddings and wedding showers but is also used for Celebrations of Life, birthday, graduation, anniversary and office parties as well as meetings. It is the site where the Society hosts many of our programs, lectures and receptions.

Melissa thanked especially all of the Society's volunteers who help



care for the venue and our operations, but especially to our amazing team of Event Assistants and Crew!

Early Schools - 1800's and Beyond in Delaware County

By Karen Hildebrand, DCHS Curriculum Support Committee Chair



The DCHS Curriculum Committee recently provided a program at Smith Elementary School on what it was like to go to school in the early days of Delaware County. With an introduction to one-room schools and pot-bellied stoves and walking miles to school, after

morning chores were finished, these second-grade students were divided into three groups for a hands-on experience for those early learning days. One group went to the slates and chalk session and practiced a few math problems and rhyming words; another group went to the horn-book session to get a feel for what it was like to learn to read before books were available in those pioneer school days; and the final group got to experience actual McGuffey Readers and see how early students not only practiced their reading and writing skills but also learned about elocution and recitation. The groups rotated to the different tables throughout the morning sessions. A question-and-answer period followed the presentation. A new school experience using old-school resources!



You Won't Want to Miss...

Understanding Black History Through Black Music

will be presented by Dr. Tom McDaniel, Emeritus Professor, The Ohio State University, Ohio Humanities Speaker. Black music has often served as a barometer of the times and lives of black people. This program, utilizing recorded music, explores various aspects and periods of black history by examining the music of each era. It ranges from the work-songs and spirituals of slavery through the rap of modern urban times. Delaware's own Zion AME Choir will provide musical entertainment for the program. **(Thursday, March 23 at 7 p.m. at The Barn at Stratford located at 2690 Stratford Road, Delaware)**



This program is free and is made possible in part by Ohio Humanities, a state affiliate of the National Endowment For The Humanities.

OHIO HUMANITIES
Sharing stories. Sparking conversations. Inspiring ideas.



WE'RE LOOKING FOR...

- Docents and Tour Guides
- Researchers, Writers and Content Creators
- Collection Documenters
- Exhibit Creators and Installers
- Office Support
- Curriculum Committee Members to Support Our School-Age Education Programs
- Adopt-A-Garden at Meeker Homestead & Museum

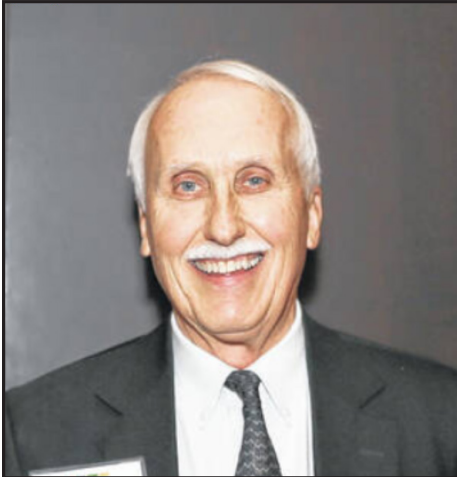
Flexible schedules. Training provided.

Bring your unique skills and a love of history. We'll show you the rest!

info@delawareohiohistory.org
740-369-3831

Volunteer Extraordinaire

By Karen Cowan



Jack Hilborn has been one of our most active and most visible board members in the Delaware County Historical Society, and we are very grateful for his service.

As most everyone in Delaware knows,

Jack is the definition of "good community citizen." He was a business owner in Delaware for over 50 years, and has been involved with many nonprofits in Delaware County, and past board member of the Strand Theater, and Grady Memorial Hospital and Delaware City Schools. In 2021 The Delaware Area Chamber of Commerce recognized Jack for his lifetime of community service.

However, Jack's passions are railroads, the Kiwanis, and the Historical Society. Jack is considered the Historical Society's "resident expert" on railroads. He is or has been on the board of the Central Ohio Railfan Association and the National Railway Historical Society, and he is an avid collector and reader of various railroad publications.

His service with the Delaware Noon Kiwanis Club stretches for over 30 years where he held many offices including past governor of the Ohio District of Kiwanis International.

Finally, his dedication to the Historical Society has been impressive. He is the "organization's longest serving board member" and has been an integral part of the growth of the Delaware County Historical Society. He has helped the organization grow to one of over 500 members and over 70 active volunteers and from 1 property to 6 historic buildings.

Jack's term as board member ended in 2022, but his service and dedication to the Historical Society has not. Thank you, Jack.

The Final Word

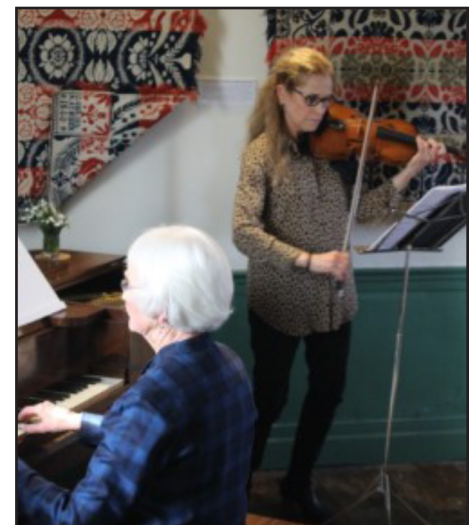
By Margaret Duber Snyder, editor

We just submitted a proposal to a state agency requesting support for our artistic activities. Initially one might think "Why would an *Historical Society* request support for *artistic* efforts?" However, when one thinks about all of our activities, it should *not* surprise anyone. I'd like to share some of our thoughts on the matter.

We showcase a variety of the arts, including graphic (paintings, photographs/tin-types, etc.) sculptures, jewelry, household furnishings, folk arts (e.g., fraktur, hex signs, doll house carvings and miniatures) women's art/crafts (weaving, quilts, needlepoint, etc.), music and musical instruments (e.g., Square Grand piano, Fitchhorn's Song Flute). We also



Cemetery reenactors



Mary Alice Dillman at the Square Grand and Susan Waterbury

use the arts (e.g., reenactments, concerts, dance and exhibits) to educate the community about the people, various cultures and history of Delaware County.



2690 Stratford Road
Delaware, OH 43015

Delaware County Historical Society
Executive Director: Donna Meyer
Sales & Event Manager: Melissa Stroupe
The Delaware
Editor: Margaret Duber Snyder, Volunteer
Graphic Design: Cynthia Croce Smith
Photographer: Brad Cowan, Volunteer

The Final Word, *continued*

Our activities have been judged to be valuable by receipt of several grants or recognition for artistic efforts:

- An Ohio Arts Council ArtSTART grant for restoration of the Society's fraktur (folk art)



Michael Grossen's fraktur

Painted in 1791, and its exhibition as a part of the *Journey to Delaware*.

- An ArtSTART grant for *Cultural Communities of Delaware County: Early Settlers and American Indians, 1770-1850*, a program of vignettes by costumed reenactors focusing on early Delaware County.

- Recently we learned of support from the ICA Art Conservation for review of 16 paintings on canvas, wood and paper, some of the oldest paintings in our collection. A professional conservator will evaluate the works to assist us in prioritizing the stabilizing, treating and preserving the paintings for current and future generations.

We will continue to restore, preserve and exhibit varied artistic artifacts in our collection and offer outstanding programs and activities to tell the diverse stories of our county.



Francine Butler performs a call-and-response dance activity based on the actual dances of Ohio's Lenni Lenapi.