



To promote, preserve and protect the heritage of Plain Township Stark County

Plain Township Historical Society

Jan 2024

Volume 11, Issue 1



Time to Look Back and Celebrate

Treasurer's Report

Account Balances:

Checking	\$3,548.94
Money Market	9,908.61
Endowment	30,684.41

We are a 501c3. Contributions to our organization are tax deductible.

Current Officers

President: Judith Pocock
330-492-3566

rcjap@sbcglobal.net

Vice-President: Cindy Guest
330-224-2660

cjquest@att.net

Secretary: Susan Henry
330-477-3272

Susanhenny72@gmail.com

Treasurer: JoEllen Reikowski
330-806-3146

jreikowski@neo.rr.com

Directors:

Connie Blinn

Cheryl Hutcheson

David Ross

Phyllis Rustifo

Lynda Theriault

Jan Meeting
No Meeting in
January
Rest Up for a
Busy 2024!

We have a lot of exciting things coming up for the 2024 year, and we will save that for the February newsletter. That way we will be energized and ready to go when we have our first PTHS Free monthly meeting of the year. So, stay tuned. Instead, we decided to look back and see what we have accomplished. We will not be able to include everything we did, but here are a few highlights.

In General - We celebrated the 90th birthdays of several members at our annual picnic in June and we also are providing a free membership to anyone over 90. This is very important since we lost a few of our long-time members in 2023. Our mobile scanning tools got an addition of a Kodak Scanza that will scan slides and film negatives. We are working with the newly established Bolivar Area Historical Society to coach them along and share our experiences.



Community Events – In 2023, we participated in two 720 Sidestreet Market Events at Oakwood Square where we featured: “Quilts of Plain Township and Their Stories,” and “History of 4-H in Plain Township.” Both were well attended. May was busy with us participating in the Genealogy Fair at the Stark County District Library Main Branch and being a speaker for the Stark County Genealogy Group. Our display at the Louisville-Nimishillen museum was updated to feature Hol-Guerns Dairy. We also sponsored the Branches of Services wreaths at Henry Warstler Cemetery for the Wreaths Across America event in Dec.

Community Publications – We continued to spread awareness and share our history through community-based publications. Again, in 2023, we provided quarterly articles for the Plain Township Newsletter and the EagleNation Magazine (Plain Local Schools.) We added “The Plain Living” magazine to our list. This magazine comes out monthly. Here we are featuring biographies of people in Plain Township. We are excited about this new opportunity and look forward to writing about the people of Plain. Our own newsletter celebrated its 10th Anniversary. It is awesome to see where this newsletter has grown to and what the future holds. The Wanderer family was excited to bring you the sights and sounds of our community in 2023 and are already uncovering stories for 2024.

Fundraising – Our partnership with McDonald’s continued and was a success. Our 4th quarter results were \$412 for a yearly total of \$1,996 (just one or two Big Mac shy of \$2000.) Thanks to our community we are second highest fundraiser at the McDonald’s on Market Ave. Our meeting basket raffles were a success as well and supported our Endowment Fund and the purchase of wreaths for the Wreaths Across America event.



In House Publications – After several years of research and writing, we launched the “Historic Ridgewood” publication. Ridgewood Neighborhood hosted a launch party for the book at the end of November at the First Ladies Library. What a great opportunity to hear

Looking for....

Looking for high school jewelry to add to our collection from clubs, activities, sports, etc.

- Class rings
- Lavalier
- Pins
- Charm bracelets, etc

This is to allow us to trace the meaning and history of high school related jewelry.

Yearbook Want List:

Middlebranch HS – 1955

GlenOak HS – 1981, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2005 to present

Elementary, Intermediate and Junior High School yearbooks.

School Newspapers:

GlenOak, Oakwood, Glenwood, Middlebranch, Underground, Elementary, Junior High, etc.

- Articles for our newsletter can be emailed to: preservingplaintwp@gmail.com.
- Articles are due the by the first Tuesday of the month (aka Board Meeting.)

Contact info:

Plain Township Historical Society
2600 Easton St NE
Canton OH 44721

Email:

preservingplaintwp@gmail.com

Web:

www.preservingplaintwp.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/PlainTownshipHistoricalSociety/

Mr. Haldi speak on this neighborhood and share this publication with the attending Ridgewood home owners. The venue was amazing as well. Highly recommend taking the time out of your schedule to visit the First Ladies Library. You might want to wait to visit though, we have a surprise that we will share in February. This was our first publication in four years and our 8th in our portfolio. "Historic Ridgewood" is available for purchase. We continued our work on the History of the Plain Township Fire Department interviewing alumni and family members. This is our next scheduled publication to be written. We are so excited to share this story about the people that are protecting Plain Township.



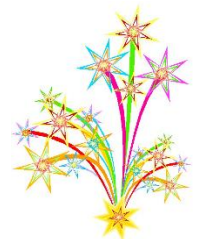
Community – We monitored the progress of several projects involving historic buildings and new opportunities in our community. The biggest one we followed was the construction of the Amphitheater at Legacy Park (Oakwood Square.) Already the talk of the town, we cannot wait to use this venue for an event or two. If you get a chance when the amphitheater season is open, take a chair and enjoy the free entertainment. Also on our

radar, was the expansion of the Hometown Veterinary clinic on Middlebranch Ave. They added on to a historic building that has been home to many different businesses and a post office over time. It is refreshing to see this building revitalized for the future. Finally, the barn at Diamond Park got a new roof. This is part of Plain Township's plan to update this building.

Genealogy – We are at 497,293 in our database. The significance of this database can not be overlooked. The information contained here and accessible to the public, supports our research and articles for publications. If you have not shared your family tree with us, please do. Your seedling will help our orchard continue to grow and be diverse.

Website – The website continues to grow in the type of information available. We added support for class reunion committees by starting the work to recreate the master graduation list by class. Currently all Middlebranch and Oakwood High School class rosters are complete. Glenwood High School is available through 1964. We will continue to add information as we get it. Also, we are working with reunion committees on updating the "In Memoriam" list for each class. Our website can provide continuity for reunion committees so that the information does not need to be recreated every five years. We are also working on being able to provide individual senior class photos. We added several more abstracts to our website as part of the OHRAB grant project from 2022.

Archives – Wow has our archives grown. It is always exciting to see what items come our way and what stories those items will allow us to tell. We finished up work on our collaboration with the GlenOak High School newspaper where we digitized over 190 school newspapers they had and converted 100 newspapers to pdf. Our collection is getting there and another donation help to fill in the gaps from Middlebranch High School including a 1935 and 1936 precursor to the yearbook (first yearbook 1937.) What a great find. We were able to locate and digitize Middlebranch High School Class of 1952 and 1954 class photo (the big one.) Soon, we are going to make a "want list" for the missing class photos. We received donations related to our two 720 Sidestreet Market pop-up museums of 4-H items and two quilts. A new area of our collections got sized up and that was in the category of high school jewelry. We added information about the Wise, Werstler, Essig, Bergmyer, Stockwell, Culler, Bates, Ball and other families. What came in for the Wise, Werstler and Essig families are wonderful original documents (birth certificates, marriage certificates, etc.) A great opportunity to reunite



Publications available for purchase

- Historic Ridgewood \$15 for PTHS members; \$20 for non-members
- Educating Plain Township – Middlebranch High School 1927-1957 2 volume set \$20.00 (only sold as a two volume set)
- Educating Plain Township – Glenwood High School 1957-1975 2 volume set \$20.00 (only sold as a two volume set)
- Cruising Thru Plain Township – \$10.00 each
 - Volume 1 NE Qtr
 - Volume 2 SE Qtr
 - Volume 3 SW Qtr
 - Volume 4 NW Qtr
- And the Story Continues – Vol 1 and Vol 2 - \$10.00ea
ON SALE for \$10/set

Publication available for free download from our website or Facebook page

- Exploring Plain Township – Piecing the Puzzle Together – North Canton Drive-In Theater

Donations

If you have any items to donate or share please let Cindy Guest know at preservingplaintwp@gmail.com or 330-224-2660. Also, if you know of someone in the community with information that will help us please let us know. Thank you to all that donated.

these documents and preserve them for the future. One area that surprised us for growth was in bibles. That area grew significantly in 2023 and will be a focus of preservation in 2024. Most of these bibles are family bibles, some in German and even one dating back to 1723. We are still processing donations and we know there are other gems in these items. We are waiting to share a couple of our donations until February.

All in all, a great year and 2024 is already shaping up to be exciting. Thank you to everyone that donated their time, items and/or money to support our mission. Happy New Year!

Dues Reminder - Just a reminder that 2024 PTHS dues are due. These dues are used to cover our fixed operating costs of insurance and memberships to history related organizations.

Little “Gnome” Facts



Russell here, was your holidays as exciting and memorable as ours? Well we hope so. Our cousins, Topsy and Turvey, were in town and they had us upside down and all around town while they were here for the holidays. We spent time looking at the wonderful Holiday light displays around our area. Topsy and Turvy were really turning

all around when they saw the Christmas lights at the Amphitheater at Oakwood Square. Hopefully you got to check them out. If not, put that on your list for Christmas 2024. Also, we got to ring in the New Year with our cousins. Fortunately that was not too chaotic. Honestly, I think we wore them out with all the lights. Well enough pondering from this Wanderer. Happy New Year from the Wanderers!



“Invest in Plain’s History” by becoming a member, volunteering, making a monetary donation and donating items related to Plain Township!

PLAIN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2023 EVENT SCHEDULE

**Board of Directors Meetings are the first Tuesday at 2 p.m.
General Meetings are the third Monday at 7 p.m.**

General meetings are held at the Plain Township Hall, 2600 Easton St NE, Canton OH unless otherwise noted. These meetings are free and open to the public. We have a brief meeting, followed by refreshments and then a historical topic presentation. Check our website www.preservingplaintwp.org, Facebook and newsletter for a current schedule.

Jan 2024 – No Monthly Meeting

Feb 19th – History of the Plain Township Historical Society – Presenter Judy Pocock

Mar 18th – How to Make Homes Safe – Presenter Plain Township Fire Dept

Recent Donations

- Fred Gray – Boy Scout Memorabilia
- Richard Haldi – Good Intent Tavern and Inn Collage, Farmer’s Wooden Shoes

Endowment Giving

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Mail Check to:

Plain Township Historical Society
C/o Endowment
2600 Easton St NE
Canton, OH 44721

Or SCF Online:

www.starkcf.org/give-plain-historical



PTHS is a 501c3 organization. Your donation is tax deductible.

Dues Form

DUES RUN FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - PLAIN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

I want to join - Check One (Annual):

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student | \$5.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | \$50.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | 10.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Organization | 100.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | 20.00 | Life Time Dues: | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit | 35.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | 250.00 |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Family | 500.00 |

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Membership is open to everyone who wishes to promote our Mission.

Please make check payable to: Plain Township Historical Society

Mail this form and check to:

Plain Township Historical Society
C/o Membership
2600 Easton St NE
Canton, OH 44721

Preserving History since 2005.

Plain Township Historical Society

Mark Your Calendars

Upcoming Program Dates & Topics



January 2024

NO General Meeting Held



Plain Township Historical Society

Mark Your Calendars

Upcoming Program Dates & Topics

Feb 19th, 2024

History of the Plain Township Historical Society

Going into their 19th year, this is an opportunity to take a look at why they exist and what they have accomplished.

Speaker: Judy Pocock



Come and Join us for a free meeting.

7-9PM at the Plain Township Hall 2600 Easton St NE