



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

# Plain Township Historical Society

Oct 2025



Volume 12, Issue 10

## Treasurer's Report

Account Balances:

Checking	\$1,164.52
Money Market	\$10,165.60
Endowment	\$58,783.83

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

## Current Officers

*President: Cindy Guest*  
330-224-2660  
[cjguest@att.net](mailto:cjguest@att.net)

*Vice-President: Phyllis Rustifo*  
330-936-6346  
[rustifop@gmail.com](mailto:rustifop@gmail.com)

*Secretary: Susan Henry*  
330-477-3272  
[Susanhenry72@gmail.com](mailto:Susanhenry72@gmail.com)

*Treasurer: JoEllen Reikowski*  
330-806-3146  
[jreikowski@neo.rr.com](mailto:jreikowski@neo.rr.com)

*Directors:*  
Connie Blinn  
Cheryl Hutcheson  
Judith Pocock  
David Ross

**Oct Meeting**  
**Oct 20th – Building**  
**Restoration –**  
**Presenter Steve**  
**Coon**

## *A Nip in the Air*

Well, it looks like fall has finally arrived. The first light frost of the season has arrived and the leaves are starting to turn. Normally this time of year we are winding down our community outreach season, but it seems this year we got a second wind.

Our free meeting program schedule is almost set and ready to share with everyone. We are excited to offer a variety of topics once again. There will be several new speakers next year as we chart our course through the America250 event. As always, we keep a running list of potential programs, so if you or someone you know gives presentations, please let either Connie Blinn or David Ross know. It is never too early to start planning for 2027. Did I just say that?

The September free monthly meeting was a given by Susan Henry on the “Canton Police Dept Flying Squadron or Bandit Car” and how the car tied to her family. This was a very interesting look at the early days of armored vehicles and their use. This car is on display at the Canton Classic Car museum if you are interested in learning more about the vehicle. Our mum raffle was a success and raised money to support the purchase of wreaths for the Wreaths Across America project at Warstler Cemetery.

Our work continues on the Avondale Neighborhood book. The Avondale Home Owner's Association and PTHS have/are interviewing current/previous home owners to gather information for the book. We continue to uncover interesting perspectives on the neighborhood like how Fulton Rd influenced how children played, provided a perceived class dividing line, and provided travel challenges. If you or someone you know has connections to Avondale, please contact either Cindy Guest or Phyllis Rustifo. We are in the process of scheduling interviews with people to capture their stories and memories.

The 720 Side Street Market at Oakwood Square was another success. It was great to be out in the community again touching base with our friends. Our display celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Plain Township Fire Dept. We were able to talk to about 80 people that day. Our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration for the fire department wrapped up on Saturday, Oct 11<sup>th</sup> at the Fire Dept open house. We were excited to bring our 720 Market display to this event. What a great way to wrap up their celebration.

Our Stark Parks collaboration kicked off its first phase with the opening of Tam O'Shanter Park on Friday Oct 10<sup>th</sup>. We assisted the park system with the development of verbiage for their two main signs. There are three signs which are scheduled to be created next: Canal Fulton - Lock 4 Park, Alliance – Mabel Hartzell home, and Pike Twp – Fry Family Park. We love to collaborate, share and learn.

September also saw our induction into the Plain Local School Foundation and Alumni Associations Hall of Distinction as Plain Foundation Community Partner of the Year. Thank you, Denise Evans, for nominating us. The evening was a chance to get out into the community and share our story. What a great group of people who we shared the evening with: Fire Chief Clarence Snyder, Alan Rodriguez, Dr. George Kefalas, Nick Doyle and Abbey Foltz.

**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](mailto: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](mailto:preservingplaintwp@gmail.com)

Web: [www.preservingplaintwp.org](http://www.preservingplaintwp.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/PlainTownshipHistoricalSociety/](https://www.facebook.com/PlainTownshipHistoricalSociety/)

On Saturday, Oct 4<sup>th</sup>, we supported the Massillon Library with their 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Creep N' Crawl at the Massillon Cemetery. This is a wonderful event that allows the community to get to know people who are buried there through story telling by volunteers.

**Coming Up**

**Tues Oct 14<sup>th</sup>** – Work day at Warstler Cemetery. Volunteers from the Rotary, Fire Dept and PTHS will be meeting to start prep work on identifying the next phase of veterans in Warstler cemetery for the Wreaths Across America event in Dec. We will start at 1:00 pm. Come out and join us weather permitting.

**Mon Oct 20<sup>th</sup>** – Free monthly meeting. Our topic will be about building preservation presented by Steve Coon. We will also have a raffle basket again this month to support the purchase of the seven branches of service wreaths for the Wreaths Across America project.

**Tues Nov 11<sup>th</sup>** – Veterans Day event sponsored by Plain Township at the Central Fire Station on Schneider St NE from 4:30 – 6:30 pm. A free dinner provided by Mission BBQ with entertainment by Majestic Voices and a flag retirement ceremony.

**Tues Nov 11<sup>th</sup>** – “Preserving and Storing Family Photos and Papers” presented by Cindy Guest at the Stark County District Library Plain Branch, GlenOak High School at 6 pm. This program explores proper ways to handle and store your family photos and paper related items.

**Exciting Announcements**

There are times when opportunities present themselves that we have planned for or hoped for, and when they do, we need to be ready for them. Since we met last, there have been a couple of those come our way.

**Endowment Fund** – The Endowment Fund, while it had been around for a while, became a goal of PTHS to move to the Stark Community Foundation which we did four years ago. This move was in response to the Board’s coming to terms with the aging of our membership and the slow decline of memberships dues. Also, as part of our planning, we wanted to be able to continue to have funds available to support our publications, potential scholarships/stipends, and community outreach. So, there was a plan in place to create a sub fund within our endowment fund when new funds became available. Through two opportunities, PTHS, was able to create this sub fund in September and have it half funded. The rest of the funding will come in when we complete the project we are doing for another organization. We are grateful to the anonymous donor who partially funded the sub fund and allowed us to move up its creation.

**Pro Football Hall of Fame** – As you know, we have partnered with the National First Ladies Library and Museum in the past. Now, we get to collaborate with the Pro Football Hall of Fame on their upcoming exhibit highlighting Stark County High School Football Players that were inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Items from our collection representing Glenwood High School football will be part of the Dan Dierdorf display. The exhibit will run from Dec 2024 to May 2025. As we get more information, we will share that with you. This is another way for us to share Plain Township’s history out in the community.

**Exhibit Space** – On September 9<sup>th</sup>, we launched our first Plain Township based exhibit at Plain Township Hall. We are grateful to the Plain Township Trustees and Administration for allowing us to use this space to share our community’s history. Our first exhibit is celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Plain Township Fire Department. This space is accessible M-F 8:00 to 4:30. We are working on adding more features to the space to be able to share more of our

## ***Publications available for purchase***

- History of the Plain Township Fire Department - \$20.00 each
- Historic Ridgewood - \$20
- Educating Plain Township – Middlebranch High School 1927-1957 - 2 Volume Set \$20.00
- Educating Plain Township – Glenwood High School 1957-1975 - 2 Volume Set \$20.00
- 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 – 2 Volume Set \$10.00

## ***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](mailto: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.

community’s history. The exhibit space is planned out through Dec 2026 with displays supporting the monthly Ohio themes for America250. In the November Newsletter, we will have an exhibit schedule included.

## ***Wanderer’s Cruising***



Wow did we have fun on Saturday Oct 11<sup>th</sup> before we setup for the Plain Township Fire Department celebration. We were out and about filming a segment for the upcoming America250 Stark County documentary. Our “horse and buggy” was a wonderfully outfitted truck with lots of cameras to capture the action and views. We toured through Oval City, Central Middlebranch and the center of Plain Township capturing the history that surrounded us. It was much faster in this modern horse powered machine than us just wandering around on foot. We uncovered or should we say covered a lot of ground as we shared the stories from the past. Still one more segment to film, then we will have to wait until March 2026 to see the final product. All right, we can not wait for our close-up Mr. DeMille, we mean Eric!

***Open Board Position*** – We have an opening on our Board of Directors. If you are interested in helping to shape and share our Plain Township History, please contact David Ross.

***Dues Reminder*** – Just a reminder that your 2026 dues are due. If you are 90+ as of Jan 1, 2026, then your dues are free. Any dues paid from now until the end of the year (2025) will be credited as 2026 dues payment. 2026 is going to be a very busy year and you will not want to miss what is happening.

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

## **Recent Donations**

- Anonymous – Glenwood Gym Bag

## **Endowment Donations**

- In Memory of Barbara Guest
- Anonymous



*Oct 11th 50th Anniversary Plain Township Fire Department*

### Endowment Giving

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Endowment Fund: \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship/Stipend Fund: \_\_\_\_\_

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](http://www.starkcf.org/give-plain-historical)

In Partnership with ...



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 2025 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. Board of Directors meetings are held at the Plain Township Hall. Check our website [www.preservingplaintwp.org](http://www.preservingplaintwp.org), Facebook and newsletter for a current schedule.

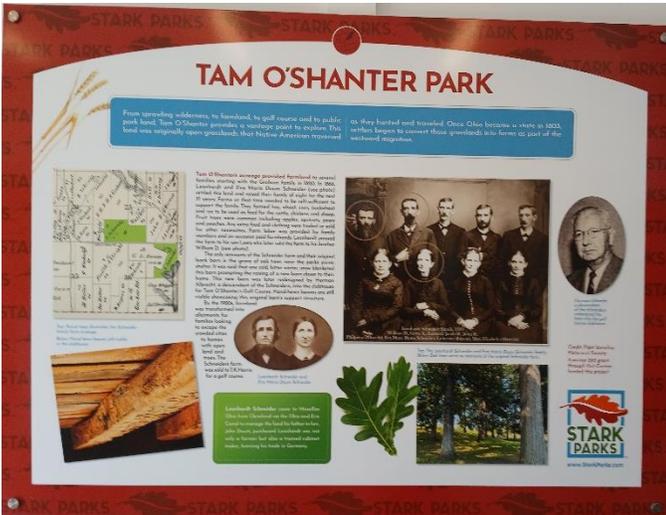
**Oct 20<sup>th</sup> – PTHS Free Meeting - Building Preservation – Presenter Steve Coon 7 pm**

**Nov 11<sup>th</sup> – Plain Township’s Annual Salute to Veterans – Central Fire Station 4:30 – 6:30 pm – Dinner by Mission BBQ, Music by Majestic Voices and flag retirement ceremony**

**Nov 11<sup>th</sup> – “Preserving and Storing Family Photos and Papers” – Plain Branch Library at GlenOak High School 6 pm – Presenter Cindy Guest**



Sep 18<sup>th</sup> Hall of Distinction Award



Oct 10th Tam O'Shanter Park Signage



Oct 10th Tam O'Shanter Park Signage



Sep 13th 720 Side Street Market at Oakwood Square



Sep 9th First Exhibit at Plain Township Hall

## Plain Township Historical Society

Mark Your Calendars

Upcoming Program Date & Topic

Oct 20th, 2025

Building Preservation

Examples and the process of restoring historic buildings

Speaker: Coon Caulking Team Member



Come and Join us for a free meeting.

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



Plain Township Historical Society

Come Join the Plain Township Historical Society

At Plain Branch - Stark County District Library

Plain Township Historical Society - Cindy Guest, President and Archivist Presenting

Preserving and Storing Family Photos and Papers

On November 11th from 6 pm - 7 pm



RSVP on Library Website

Plain Branch Library at GlenOak High School  
1800 Schneider Rd NE