



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

Plain Township Historical Society

Feb 2026

Volume 13, Issue 2



Treasurer's Report

Account Balances:

Checking	\$702.32
Money Market	\$10,200.95
Endowment	\$63,208.34

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

Current Officers

President: Cindy Guest
330-224-2660
cjguest@att.net

Vice-President: Phyllis Rustifo
330-936-6346
rustifop@gmail.com

Secretary: Susan Henry
330-477-3272
Susanhenry72@gmail.com

Treasurer: JoEllen Reikowski
330-806-3146
jreikowski@neo.rr.com

Directors:
Connie Blinn
Cheryl Hutcheson
Judith Pocock
David Ross

Feb 16th Meeting

**Women in the Game
(Baseball)**

**Presented by Dr. Leslie
Heaphy, Assoc History
Professor KSU Stark Campus**

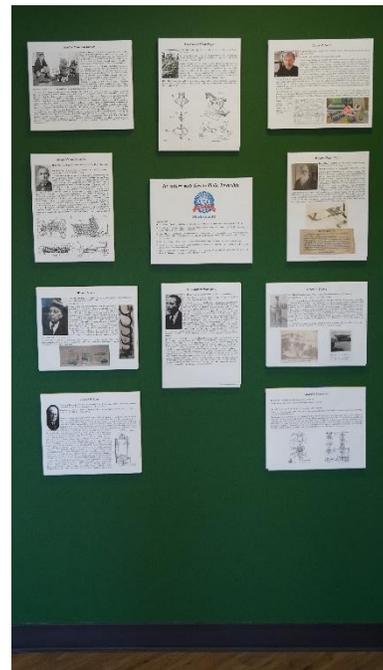
February Thaw



for the year.

Roman Wanderer here. Hopefully, you are thawing out from all this wonderful weather we are having. We have fired our local groundhog and will be interviewing new candidates over the summer. I wanted to "invent" a reason to be the roving reporter this month so I could share my "love" of history. Since I was the original Wanderer, it is only fitting that I take up the helm to kick off our 2026 Free Community Meetings. That is right. It is time to come out of your gnome home and join us on Monday, Feb 16th at 7:00 pm for our first gathering of the 2026 year. We are so excited since this year is also the America 250 celebration. The Wanderer's are going to be out in the community even more this year reporting and sharing our history. I hope you will join us to learn more about "Woman in the Game (Baseball)" as we throw out the first pitch

America 250 February Edition



This month we are featuring "Inventors with Ties to Plain Township" to coincide with the Ohio 250 Theme of "Ohio Works: Innovation and Industry."

Come check out the exhibit at Plain Township Hall 2600 Easton St NE. We are featuring 10 inventors some you may know and others you

may not. The exhibit will run through Feb 28th 2026.

We Need Your Help

We are looking for a few items for our March exhibit which will be "Music and Entertainment in Plain Township." If you have any information or posters for bands that played at the Moonlight Ballroom at Meyers Lake that have ties to Plain Township, please contact Cindy Guest. Also, if you know of an entertainer or musician that we could feature, we are looking

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/

for that information as well. This is an opportunity to share stories that others may not know about.

Where to Find Information About America 250 Events

There are several sources of information available to discover what is happening with America 250. If you are traveling out of Ohio, each state has its own website, you will need to google each to find the website with event listings. As for our area:

- ❖ **America 250** is the nationwide coordinator of events. <https://america250.org/> is the website that contains a lot of information. There are links to the various states as well.
- ❖ **Ohio 250** is the state wide coordinator of events. <https://america250-ohio.org/> from here you can access a calendar of events and find out about various programs that are being offered: Ohio Goes to the Movies, Ohio Air & Space Trail, Murals Across Ohio, etc.
- ❖ **Stark County** - Visit Canton is the local coordinator of events. <https://www.visitcanton.com/plan-a-trip/trip-ideas/american-heritage/> from here can access what is going on in Stark County.
- ❖ Local communities, museums, and history groups may also have their own website and list of events.

There are a lot of opportunities this year to explore our history.

Mark Your Calendar

Coming soon to the Lincoln Theater in Massillon (Mar 25th) is the premier of the Stark County America 250 documentary that we are a part of. This evening is free and open to the public. The doors open at 6:00 pm and Dr. Thomas Sosnowski will be the keynote speaker. Also that evening will be a panel discussion about history happenings around Stark County with the crowning jewel of the evening a showing of the documentary. This documentary was filmed over that course of last year highlighting various historical societies, museums and historic places around the county. Plans are already underway for the next season of history in Stark County. Come and meet the some of the people featured in the film. More information to come next month. That's a wrap until the premier.

This and That

There is a lot on our calendar this year so keep checking the newsletter, website and facebook page for current information.

Home and Garden Show – PTHS will be at the Home and Garden show as part of the Visit Canton booth on Saturday Mar 14th from 10-1. If you are at the show, stop by and say Hi. We are excited about this opportunity to be able to share information about our organization.

March Annual – Our annual meeting will be in March, so make sure your dues are up to date. We will be electing our Board of Directors and Officers at that meeting and giving a quick recap of 2025. If you are interested in being on our Board please contact David Ross.

MAPS Air Museum – On Saturday, Apr 18th, the MAPS Air Museum will be hosting a transportation day at the museum. PTHS will be participating on that day supporting the William Martin flyer that is on display. William Martin is one of the inventors featured in our February Exhibit and will return in April as part of our exhibit on transportation. The MAPS

Publications available for purchase

- [Images of America Canton Ohio 1998 Canton Preservation Society](#) - \$15.00 each
- [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

Download from our website or Facebook page for free

- [Exploring Plain Township – Piecing the Puzzle Together](#) – North Canton

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.

Museum is also part of the Ohio Air and Space Trail. We are always excited when we can partner with them. Come fly away with us in April.

Massillon 200th Project – Did you know that the City of Massillon is turning 200 years old this year? The Massillon Library is working on a genealogy project to map the founding families to see if/how they are related. PTHS is assisting them with this project since we have a similar genealogy tree for Plain Township. What a great opportunity to work together. Guess what? Some of those family members ended up in Plain Township. So we get to expand our knowledge as well. Happy Birthday Massillon.

Avondale Book – Work continues on interviewing residents of the Avondale neighborhood, as well as, research into background of the area. This book has a target release date of Jun 2026. We are still looking for photographs, information on the houses, ads and other items that will help us to tell the story. Avondale is a story that is not written down and this is our opportunity to capture their one hundred year history. Also, “Avondale Architecture” will be the keynote address at the Canton Preservation Society’s Annual dinner in May, more information on that later. If you have any information on Avondale, please contact Cindy Guest.

“Images of America Canton Ohio” – This publication is now available through PTHS. We are assisting our friends at the Canton Preservation Society with reducing their inventory of this book. Published in 1998, it is a pictorial view of Canton and is \$15 each. These books will be available at our free monthly meetings, Plain Township Hall or by emailing us. See last page of the newsletter for a picture of the cover.

Your Help Needed – On the last page of the newsletter is our Ohio 250 Monthly Themes list. Each month features a different topic which we then tie to Plain Township. We are looking for your input into people, places, and events that might fit those categories. If you have an idea of someone/something that fits, please let us know. We are looking to tell the stories of people and places that our community may not realize exist.

Authors of Plain Township – We will be doing a program in partnership with the Stark County Library Plain Branch focusing on Authors of Plain Township in July. If you know of someone that has a tie to Plain Township and has written/published a book, music score, etc. please let Cindy Guest know. Our goal is to represent Plain Township from the early writers in the 1800s through the present. We are excited already at the list we have curated. The authors do not still have to live in Plain Township, as long as they lived, went to school or worked in Plain, that qualifies.

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!

Endowment Giving

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Endowment Fund: _____

Community/Educational 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

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 2026 EVENT SCHEDULE

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

General meetings are 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 at the Plain Township Hall. Check our website www.preservingplaintwp.org, Facebook and newsletter for a current schedule.

Feb 16th – Women in the Game (Baseball) – Presented by Dr. Leslie Heaphy, Assoc History Professor KSU Stark Campus

Mar 13-14th – Home and Garden Show – HOF Village

Mar 16th – Annual Meeting – Alliance Boom Times 1910s – Presented by Karen Perone, Alliance Historical Society

Mar 25th – Stark County Local History Group Documentary Premier at Lincoln Theater Massillon 6-9 pm. Free and open to the public

Apr 16th – Stark County District Library Main Branch 6 pm – PTHS presenting Canalway of Dreams – RSVP on Library website

Archives Donations

- None

Endowment Donations

- None



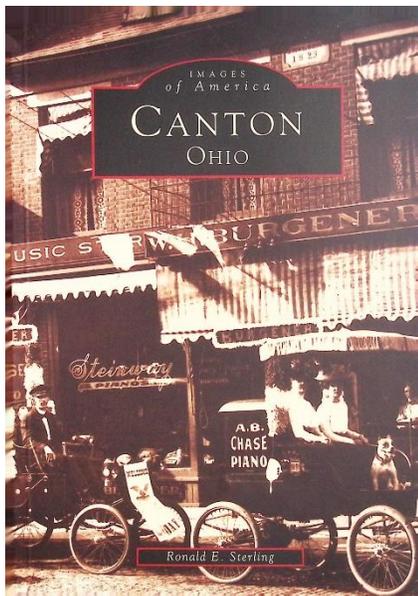
50% OFF ADMISSION*
 DEC. 19 - FEB. 28 *FOR STARK COUNTY RESIDENTS

STARK COUNTY PROUD!

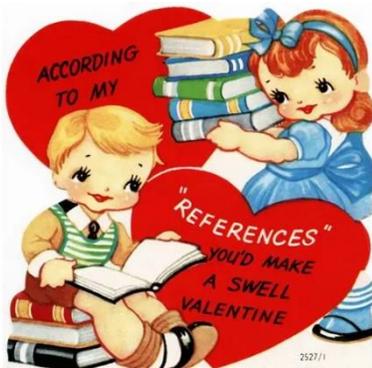


NEW EXHIBIT!
 NOW OPEN

Pro Football HOF Exhibit Now Open



Publication Now Available from
 PTHS \$15 each



Ohio 250 Monthly Themes

Here are the themes for our exhibit space each month. We have indicated where we can need more information to help fill out the display. If you have any information or know someone who can help us, please contact either Cindy Guest or Phyllis Rustifo. The content must tie to Plain Township in some way.

- ❖ January – Plain Township Originals and Firsts [Ohio Originals and Firsts] - **Launched**
- ❖ February – Plain Township Inventions, Innovations, Business and Work - **Launched**
- ❖ March – Plain Township Music and Entertainment
- ❖ April – Plain Township Transportation, Aviation, Automobiles and More
- ❖ May – Plain Township Arts and Culture
- ❖ June – Natural Resources
- ❖ July – Plain Township Parks [Ohio Statewide Picnic and Homecoming]
- ❖ August – Stark County Fair and 4-H in Plain Township [Ohio State Fair]
- ❖ September – Plain Township Sports (this could be at any level pro, high school, community, business, etc)
- ❖ October – Plain Township Agriculture and Food
- ❖ November – Plain Township Veterans and First Responders
- ❖ December – Plain Township theme being developed [Future Ohio]



Plain Township Historical Society

Mark Your Calendars

Upcoming Program Date & Topic

Feb 16th, 2026

Women in the Game

Come and learn about the history of women on the diamond—as players, coaches and umpires. The story begins in the 1860s and continues to the present day with the new Women's Professional Baseball League starting in 2026.

Speaker: Dr. Leslie Heaphy KSU
 Stark History Professor



Come and Join us for a free meeting.

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



Plain Township Historical Society

Mark Your Calendars

Upcoming Program Date & Topic

Mar 16th, 2026

Annual Meeting - Alliance Boom Times 1910s

Explore Alliance's growth as it emerged from its formative years into a boom town driven by industry and innovation.

Speaker: Karen Perone, Alliance Historical Society



Come and Join us for a free meeting.

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

