



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

Treasurer's Report

Account Balances:
Checking \$1,684.62
Money Market \$7,041.17
Endowment \$65,829.74

We are a 501c3.
Contributions 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
Jim Zurbuch

May 18th Meeting

Islay's Dairy Presented by Byron Eichorn

Things Are Popping Up Everywhere



Topsy and Turvy here this month to add some spring to our adventures. Well, April was a busy month around the Gnome home. We were popping up all around the county. The Stark County District Library Main Branch and the Jackson Twp Historical Society hosted us as we talked about the Ohio and Erie Canal and its economic impact on Ohio. Because of the canal, Ohio went from one of the poorest states in the union at that time to one of the richest states. Amazing what a little water can do. There was a visit from "Erma Bombeck", a native Ohioan, who shared her story. What a hoot! One weekend, we took off and spent time with our friends at the MAPS museum with a display of additional information on William Martin and the Martin flyer. Finally, we got back to our roots and were at the Massillon Museum for the Stark County Local History and Genealogy Fair. This was a great opportunity to meet up with old friends and make new ones.

Coming up at May's free community meeting, we hear there is going to be a treat relating to the Islay's Dairy presentation. Um, we are wondering if this is going to be a taste from the past? Intrigued? Join us on May 18th, to hear Byron Eichorn talk about the history of Islay's Dairy. He is a descendant of the founders. By the way, there was an Islay's Dairy in North Canton. One more thing before we tumble on out, did you notice the refreshed newsletter? This is part of the America 250 project of refreshing our various methods of communications. A shout out goes to Annette Tymico at Tymico Hoffman & Company for all the work on the updated logo, exhibit header (to be installed) and making suggestions for the newsletter. I guess it is time to move on, out for now. Hope the flowers are popping up in your garden.

Picnic Time Coming Up

Wow, it does not seem like it is almost time for our annual picnic, but it is. The picnic will be held on Jun 15th at Diamond Park where we had the picnic last year. This will be inside so we will be holding our covered dish dinner rain or shine. Since it is America 250 this year, we will be celebrating with a red, white and blue theme. Come dressed to celebrate our nations anniversary.

In addition, to the hot dogs, buns, water, and paper products; the Board of Directors will be providing ice cream and fixin's to help celebrate this occasion. Cheryl Hutcheson will have a sign up sheet at the May community meeting. The sign up sheet will have categories for main dish, appetisers, side dishes and limited additional desserts. Come and join us for some fun.

America 250 Video Links

The first round of video links is available for our segment that was filmed at the MAPS museum. These clips feature William and Almira Martin and the Martin glider. This was so much fun to film and partner with our friends at the MAPS museum. There are two shorts and the full MAPS episode which also includes highlights from the museum.

Yearbook Want List

Middlebranch HS: 1955

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

Elementary, Intermediate and Junior High School

School Newspaper Want List

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

Donations

To donate or share items, 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.

Newsletter Articles

Due the by the first Tuesday of the month (aka Board Meeting.) Can be emailed to:

preservingplaintwp@gmail.com.

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/

Check them out. Our next video is coming out soon. We are in the process of editing those clips now. Nothing like driving around Plain Township and having some fun.

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/964994745926240>

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/26861387460216051>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IHYP_e9YSGM&t=171s

To get the latest releases and teasers, here is where they can be found:

YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@SCHPastport>

Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=stark%20county%20historical%20pastport>

Website: <https://starkcountyhistoricalpastport.org/docuseries/>

America 250 May Edition

This month we are featuring “Arts and Culture with Ties to Plain Township” to coincide with the Ohio 250 Theme of “Ohio Creates: Arts, Culture, & Literature.”

We sometimes forget the rich treasures we have in the art scene. The early days with the rugs, coverlets and quilts; these items were a necessity and a way to recycle materials. To more modern

times where items were created as a method of expressing creativity. Our hope as we shine a light on several of our local artists, is to gain a perspective on how creativity changed from necessity into self expression. We will focus on literature in July with a program in conjunction with the Stark County Library Plain Branch looking at Plain Township authors across the years.

Come check out the exhibit at Plain Township Hall 2600 Easton St NE. We are featuring carving, painting, pottery, quilting, rug hooking and weaving. The exhibit will run through May 31st 2026.

Stark County Historical Pastport

The Pastport (not a misspelling) is still available. You can find them at the Visit Canton locations, one our of monthly community meetings or at one of the documentary partners. This is a great way to get out and explore the history around us. Take a friend or a relative. Share the journey and the stories that the locations conjure up for you.



Stop and visit one of the locations in the Pastport and get your Pastport stamped. Collect ten Stamps (Mascot) stamps and you can stop by VisitCanton to pickup a Stark County Historical Pastport ballcap. The Pastport gives you instructions on how, when and where to collect other stamps. Pair this tour up with Stark Stories History Trail from Visit Canton where you can get a T-Shirt. Fun adventures for the family. <https://www.visitcanton.com/deals/stark-stories-history-trail/>.

Publications Available for Purchase

- Canton’s Lost McKinley Home by Richard Haldi - \$20 each PTHS member
- From Reapers to Sweepers Vol 1 Reapers by Richard Haldi - \$20 each PTHS member
- From Reapers to Sweepers Vol 2 Watches by Richard Haldi - \$20 each PTHS member
- 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 Drive-In Theater

This and That

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

Stark County District Library North Branch – PTHS will be presenting “Hooked on Pottery” program on Thursday May 21st at 2 pm. This program will explore Gertrude Oberlin Roberts and her 40 years of hooking award winning rugs and Charles Clewell and his pottery glazing technique. Free event. Register on the library’s website.

Canton Preservation Society Annual – We are pleased to once again be the keynote speaker for this annual event on Thursday May 21st at 4:30pm (cocktails). The topic for the evening will be on the architecture of the 100 year old Avondale neighborhood. This will be the kick off event as we get ready to launch the Avondale publication coming in late June. Avondale’s history is one that is not well documented, so this is a chance to hear part of the story. Call the Canton Preservation Society to RSVP, \$45 for dinner a person.

Now Available Through PTHS – Richard Haldi Books

PTHS is excited to partner with Richard Haldi to make several of his previously published works available for purchase. We will make them available at our free community meetings and other community events. The books are \$20 each for a PTHS member and \$25 each for a non-PTHS member.

Currently Available:

- *Canton’s Lost McKinley Home* – A Stark County Scrapbook
- *From Reapers to Sweepers Vol 1 Reapers* – A Stark County Scrapbook
- *From Reapers to Sweepers Vol 2 Watches* – A Stark County Scrapbook

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.

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. 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/or 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.

Archives Donations

➤ None

Endowment Donations

➤ None

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: Plain Township Hall, 2600 Easton St NE, Canton OH unless otherwise noted. Meetings are free and open to the public. There is a brief meeting, followed by refreshments and then a historical topic presentation. **Board of Directors meetings:** Plain Township Hall. Check our website www.preservingplaintwp.org, Facebook and newsletter for current schedule.

May 18th – PTHS Free Monthly Community Meeting – Islay’s Dairy presented by Byron Eichorn

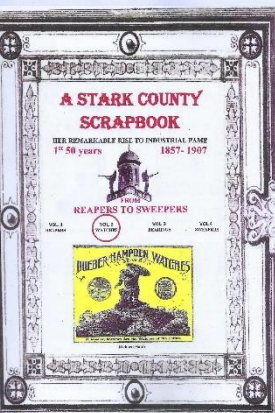
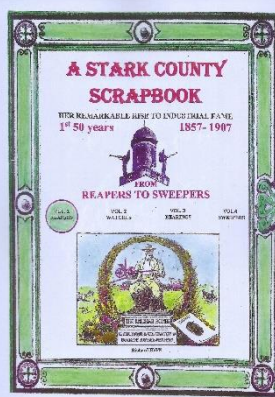
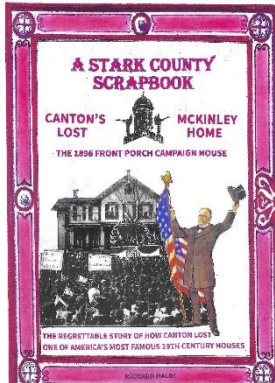
May 21st – Stark County District Library North Branch 2 pm – PTHS presenting Hooked on Pottery looking at the works of Gertrude Oberlin Roberts and Charles Clewell – Free RSVP on Library website

May 21st – Canton Preservation Society Annual Dinner 4:30 Cocktail Hour – PTHS presenting Architecture of Avondale – RSVP through Canton Preservation Society Fee \$45

Jun 15th – Annual Picnic Covered Dish – **Location and Time Change:** Diamond Park, doors open 5:00 pm, dinner at 6:00 pm. See flyer.



Plain Township Historical Society
At the Stark County District Library North Branch
 Plain Township Historical Society – Cindy Guest, Present and Archivist Presenting
 Hooked on Pottery - Explore two local "artists" and their works. The first is Gertrude Oberlin Roberts (1882-1975) who spent over 40 years hooking rugs. Next, we will examine the pottery of Charles Clewell (1876-1965.)
On May 21st at 2:00 pm
 189 25th St NW Canton OH
 RSVP on Their Website <https://www.starklibrary.org/>



Scrapbook Series by Richard Haldi. Now Available Through PTHS - \$20 for PTHS members; \$25 for non-members



Ohio 250 Monthly Themes

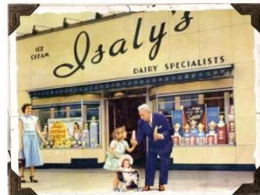
Here are the themes for our exhibit space each month. We are looking for your input into people, places and events that might fit those categories. If you have any information or know someone who can help us, please contact either Cindy Guest or Phyllis Rustifo. The content must tie to Plain Township in some way.

- ❖ ~~January – Plain Township Originals and Firsts [Ohio Originals and Firsts] – Closed~~
- ❖ ~~February – Plain Township Inventions, Innovations, Business and Work – Closed~~
- ❖ ~~March – Plain Township Music and Entertainment – Closed~~
- ❖ ~~April – Plain Township Transportation, Aviation, Automobiles and More – Closed~~
- ❖ **May – Plain Township Arts and Culture - Launched**
- ❖ 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



May 18th, 2026
Islay's Dairy
Who can forget Islay's chipped chopped ham and sauce? Come and hear the story of Islay's Dairy from a descendant of the founders.
Speaker: Byron Eichorn

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



Jun 15th, 2026
9th Annual Picnic
Bring a Covered Dish
Where: Diamond Park
Time: 5-8pm, Dinner at 6pm

** Same location this year. Diamond Park is located at 2782 Diamond St NE. This is at the corner of Middlebranch Ave NE and Diamond St NE. We will be inside where the indoor soccer field is located, in the Community Room. There is access to inside and outside seating.

- Bottled Water, Hand Sanitizer, Silverware, Plates, Napkins and Cups provided.
- Hot dogs, buns and condiments provided.
- Time to Chat, Getch Up and Enjoy an Evening Together
- This event will be rain or shine.
- We hope you will be able to come and join us.





A Piece of the Puzzle

Phoebe Miller Kandel Rohrer (1882—1982)

Phoebe was born to Daniel Kandel (1858-1930) and Susan Miller (1861-1925) in Greentown, Stark County, Ohio. She was the oldest of nine children and married Burton Nelson Rohrer (1880-1964) in 1959 and they had no children.

Many do not know this woman and her contributions to the nursing field. Phoebe was four years old when she started school. She continued her lifelong desire to learn through her education, teaching and mentoring of nursing students. Phoebe graduated from the Lakeside Hospital School of Nursing in 1908 (Cleveland Ohio part of Case Western Reserve University) and Columbia University's Teachers College (BS 1924, MA 1934.) Before embarking on her academic career, Phoebe was a private surgical nurse for Dr. George Crile (Cleveland, OH) and then joined the James A.

Garfield family as a private nurse. It was the time she spent with the Garfield family that opened a broad new vista in her life. She was a part of many university nursing

programs across the country: academic and administrative posts in Cincinnati hospitals during and after World War I;

Director University of Cincinnati School of Nursing 1924-1926;

State Director of Nursing Nebraska 1928-1929; Nursing

Professor Colorado State College of Education 1930-1941;

developed a school for the US Cadet Nursing Program at the

University of Utah; developed the school of Nursing at the

University of Georgia 1943-1949; Executive Secretary and Consultant to

the Nurses Board of Examination and Registration of Mississippi 1949-1959. She was recognized

as a pioneer in extension class work in nursing education and nursing supervision. Phoebe was

published in a variety of nursing publications, authored books in the nursing field and received

recognition and awards for her contributions. After retirement in 1959, she returned to the area and married her husband. Phoebe stayed active in many of the nursing associations she belonged.

What is amazing about these accomplishments is that Phoebe did this at a time when women were not expected to have a career. Not only did she have an accomplished career, she also laid the foundation for the nursing field today.

Information Courtesy of Kandel/Bair Family

