



## PLAIN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Vol. 13, Issue 10  
October 2026

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

### Treasurer's Report

#### Account Balances:

|              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| Checking     | \$2,969.41  |
| Money Market | \$7,406.41  |
| Endowment    | \$75,638.23 |

We are a 501c3.

Contributions 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  
Jim Zurbuch

### Oct 19th Meeting

*My Life as a Canal Boat – The story of the St. Helena II from the boat's perspective – presented by Cindy Guest*

### Carving Out October

The pumpkins are being carved and decorations being put out for the events of October. We wrapped up September with a couple of events. We did get a little damp at the September 720 Side Street Market at Oakwood Square. Our display was open for about an hour before the rain started. Since, we not wearing our duck shoes, we decided to pack it in for the day and get home to dry out. But we did talk to 20 people in that hour. Our speaker from the Alliance Preservation Society introduced us to a Salem industrialist by the name of Joshua Twing Brooks. It is always interesting to see how other areas develop and compare to our own area. Finally, we helped out our friends at the Massillon Library with their annual Massillon Cemetery Creep N' Crawl. Eleven presenters were stationed throughout the cemetery to share the story of someone buried there or an event that happened in Massillon. The event was very successful and it was a beautiful day to have it. In addition, we spent a morning with the DAR chapter identifying Revolutionary War Soldiers buried in Warstler cemetery, cleaning the grave markers and making sure the graves were marked. Warstler cemetery now has three Revolutionary War soldiers. Through these partnerships, we are able to preserve and honor those men. Thank you to the Canton Chapter of the DAR for spear heading this project.

In October, we have one speaking engagement on our schedule and that is on Oct 21st for the Plain Township Rotary. We will be sharing the work that was done for the America 250 videos. Planning is underway for season two, which hopefully will start filming in 2027.

Our October Free Monthly Community meeting will feature "My Life as a Canal Boat – The Story of the St. Helena II" told from the boat's perspective. This will be given by Cindy Guest whose father was one of the original boat builders and canal historian. Please come and hear his story. We will also be having a raffle of Fall themed goodies (apples, desserts, and more) with proceeds going towards the purchase of wreaths for the Wreaths Across America event in Dec. at Warstler Cemetery. This is a great way to honor those who served our country. PTHS sponsors the seven wreaths of service, plus any additional funds raised are used to purchase additional wreaths. The Plain Township Rotary is in charge of the event with a goal to raise enough money to purchase 400 wreaths. PTHS continues our work to identify veterans who are buried in Warstler to make sure they get a wreath.

Did you know that the Plain Township Historical Society is available to give programs to organizations? We are in the process of developing new topics to have a stable of topics to present. Not all our presentations are strictly about Plain Township. Our 2027 speaking engagements is already starting to fill up. Please contact Cindy Guest for more information. We will post a list

### Dues and Board Members

**Open Board Position** – This is the time of year to remind everyone that we are looking for Board Members to help guide our organization. If you are interested or

**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](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.

**Newsletter Articles**

Due the by the first Tuesday of the month (aka Board Meeting.) Can be emailed to: [preservingplaintwp@gmail.com](mailto:preservingplaintwp@gmail.com).

**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/)

want more information, please contact either David Ross or Cindy Guest. The success of this organization is directly related to having a solid working Board of Trustees team to help guide the preservation and storytelling of our area's history.

**Dues Reminder** – Just a reminder that your 2027 dues are due. If you are 90+ as of Jan 1, 2027, then your dues are free. Any dues paid from now until the end of the year (2026) will be credited as 2027 dues payment. While 2027 may not be as busy as 2026, we still have a lot more sharing of history to do.

***America 250 October Edition***

four different farms that once stood.

Through different atlas's we show how from 1806 to 2014 how the land has evolved from subsistence living to the agriculture of today. This is a reminder that the land we walk on at one time fed a family and a community. By highlighting four farms we showcase the diverse agriculture history of our area. The Hang farm was a dairy farm that was one of the first farms to have electricity in our township. The McDowell's were a part of the Merino sheep tradition of the area. In the early years they worked with Thomas Rotch to bring the Merino sheep, a prize breed of the King of Spain known for the quality of its wool, to this area. These sheep became the foundation of the wool industry in Massillon and surrounding areas. There are still descendants of those Merino sheep in our community. Also, we featured the Bair farm with their prizing winning steers. The Bair family is a pioneer family of Plain Township. Finally, the apple orchards of H. H. Ink. Mr. Ink was a pioneer in the raising of apples with his orchard being his laboratory. Many people have memories of the Apple House where you could buy apples and for some was where they could watch TV for the first time.

It is hard to believe that we only have two more months in the America 250 celebration. Our final two exhibits, November and December, will in November feature Warstler Cemetery and the veterans buried there; and December will look at how different aspects of education have changed. Come check out the exhibit at Plain Township Hall 2600 Easton St NE. The exhibit will run through Oct 31st, 2026.

***Up and Coming***

We are winding down for the year and we are raking in the final events. Mark your calendar so you do not miss an event.

- **2027 Programs** – The 2027 list of programs is almost ready. We are working to fill the last spots. It will be another great year of diverse topics bringing our areas history to you.

### 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

- **MAPS Museum Veterans Event** – We will have a display table setup at the Voices of Valor Event on Sat Nov 7th from 4:00 – 10:00 pm. See MAPS website for more information <https://mapsairmuseum.org/upcomingpublicevents/>
- **Wreaths Across America** – This event will take place in December. PTHS sponsors the 7 wreaths representing the different branches of service. We will start fundraising for these wreaths in September. Any monies received about what is needed to cover the 7 wreaths will be used towards purchasing additional wreaths. These wreaths are for the Warstler Cemetery.

### Videos and Website Links

Current docuseries video segments available: Stark County Library, MAPS Air Museum, Louisville-Nimishillen, Cruising Through Plain Township, The Settlement of New Guinea (Alliance), Canal Fulton Heritage Museum, Haines House Underground Railroad, Magnolia Flouring Mill, Massillon Museum, The Hoover Historical Center, Stewart Manor House in Quail Hollow, Jackson Township Historical Society (new) and Dr. Kersey G Thomas Home and Office Marlboro Township Historical Society (new).

There are two more videos to be released in October. The great news is that we filmed enough content to provide videos through the end of 2026. Just that much more history we get to share with everyone.

Docuseries videos are being added every two weeks. Check out the links below to stay up on which historical aspect of our community is highlighted next (also available on Instagram and Tik Tok.) The response is exceeding our expectations for only being available since March. Keep viewing the episodes and learn about our area's history.

The Facebook link for the Stark County Local History group is:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1230527655386394>

The Facebook link for the Stark County Historical Pastport is:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61586194382821>

The YouTube link for the Stark County Historical Pastport docuseries is:

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

### 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.

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

## 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](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.**

## Archives Donations

## Endowment Donations

## In Memory of



## 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](http://www.preservingplaintwp.org), Facebook and newsletter for current schedule.

**Oct 19th** – PTHS Free Monthly Community Meeting – My Life as a Canal Boat, the story of the St. Helena II - Presented by Cindy Guest

**Nov 7th** – MAPS Museum Veteran Days Event – Voices of Valor 4-10 pm. PTHS participating with a free-standing display

**Nov 16th** – PTHS Free Monthly Community Meeting – Jewelry of World War II – Presented by Dr. Mari Halkovich

**Dec 19th** – Wreaths Across America Wreath Laying Ceremony Warstler Cemetery Noon

**Dec** – No monthly membership meeting

## Ohio 250 Monthly Themes

Here are the themes for our exhibit space each month. If you have any information to share on the listed topics 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.

- ❖ ~~September – Plain Township Sports – Closed~~
- ❖ **October – Plain Township Agriculture and Food - Open**
- ❖ November – Plain Township Veterans and First Responders
- ❖ December – Plain Township Education [Future Ohio]

## Christmas Wish List

We are helping Santa this year by writing our "Christmas Wish List." Between the new exhibit displays and several large donations, we have a need for supplies. We are hoping that Santa puts us on the nice list and fills our stocking with some of these items.

### Exhibit Display Supplies:

- ❖ 3M Command picture hanging strips either the white 10lb or 15lb Velcro strips work the best.
- ❖ Scotch tape – It sticks the best and is archival quality. Other brands do not stick as well for a long period of time.
- ❖ Removeable glue dots on a roll – the roll works easier for how we apply.
- ❖ 8.5" x 11" card stock either 20lb or 24lb in a variety of colors. Recollection brand at Michael's and Hobby Lobby or similar at Office Max etc. \$6.99-\$22.99
- ❖ HP 952XL Ink Cartridge (Black, Cyan, Magenta, Yellow) \$167.89 ea.

### Archival Storage Supplies:

- ❖ 8.5" x 11" plastic sleeves for 3 ring binders – we use a lot of these – 200 pk \$28.99 box
- ❖ Gaylord Archival Classic Record Storage Carton with Handholds ZZ-RC121510 - \$14.35 ea.
- ❖ Gaylord Archival 3" O-Ring Preservation Box Album ZZ-PPC - \$39.40 ea
- ❖ Gaylord Archival E-Flute Deep Lid Newspaper Box ZZ-EFNB18133 - \$23.89 ea.
- ❖ Gaylord Archival B-Flute Deep Lid Textile Box ZZ-TB24146KDA - \$38.43 ea.

Items or categories can be sponsored on our wish list. Thank you for your continued support.



### Plain Township Historical Society

Mark Your Calendars  
Upcoming Program Date & Topic



Oct 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
**My Life As A Canal Boat**  
The story of the St. Helena II from a boat's perspective  
Speaker: Cindy Guest

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



Nov 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
**Jewelry of World War II**  
Hear the story of jewelry from the World War II era. Examples will be on display.  
Speaker: Dr. Mari Halkovich

Come and Join us for a free meeting.  
7-9 PM at the Plain Township Hall 2600 Easton St NE

*Join Us in Our Mission*

**Remember ★ Honor ★ Teach**



★ **December 19, 2026** ★  
**National Wreaths Across America Day**

Help Plain Township Rotary honor local heroes!

Sponsor a wreath today to be placed on a veteran's grave this December at Henry Warstler Cemetery.

Scan the QR code to the right to make a donation online or visit [www.wreathsassamerica.org/OH0344P](http://www.wreathsassamerica.org/OH0344P)




**#ServeAndSucceed**

## A Piece of the Puzzle

### *Arthur Compton Marks (1935-1991)*



Marko as he was known was born to Arthur Duncan Marks (1904-1969) and Medora E Compton (1905-1987) in Annapolis, Maryland. He had a sister Dorothy Compton Marks (1930-2018) who married Wendell Gibbs Herbruck (1923-2008.) Arthur married Maria Antonia Toni Almirall (1931-2000) in Spain. They had three children: Arthur Almirall, Jefferson Antonio, and Tina Maria.

The Marks family relocated from Washington, D.C. to Canton in 1947 when Arthur Duncan Marks accepted a position with the Hercules Company. Arthur Duncan was a retired Commander in the Navy and the family lived on Harvard Ave between 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Street.

Arthur Compton Marks was a well-educated man. His schooling started at Woodland in Canton. From there, he graduated from the Western Reserve Academy. His university studies included Washington and Lee University; Mount Union College, and the University of Virginia where he graduated with a degree in architecture. After graduating in 1959, he moved to Barcelona and Sitges, Spain to work and where he met his wife. In 1964, Marko came back to Canton and started to work for Lawrence & Dykes Architects. He worked for them until 1970 when he opened his own firm. In 1987, he moved to Virginia to work for Clark, Nexsen, Owen, Barbieri and Gibson. Marko was dubbed "The Futurist" by Jim Hillibish due to the style of his architectural designs which at the time was based more in the 22<sup>nd</sup> Century than the 1970s. He was ahead of his time by incorporating solar powered heating and cooling in his designs. Marko was not only an architect he was also an inventor and artist. He had a showing in 1981 at the Canton Art Institute titled "The Mind of a Modern Architect." His inventions also incorporate his futuristic thinking of solar power and green initiatives: Rubber-Bodied Automobile, Mark-Zero Two Piece Automobile, Drywall House, Solar Heated House Trailer, Two Story House Trailer and BI-60 Catamaran. What is interesting is if you look at products designed today, you can see some of his concepts coming to life.

He left his mark on Canton with one of his most notable designs being the Stark County Main Library Branch on Market Ave. which recently was torn down to make way for a new library. Marko's ties to Plain Township do not just lie with growing up within the Historic boundaries of Plain, he also designed several buildings that stand today. Plain Township is host to two residences: one on Plain Center Road and the other on Logan Ave NW. Both exhibit a futurist design with Frank Lloyd Wright influences. Canton Country Day School in Avondale is another of on Arthur Compton Marks design. Then there is the commercial building that you probably drive by on a regular basis that you did not even know was an ACM design and that is the Easton Court Medical Building near the corner of Easton and Market Ave. Lastly, he designed the Country Club on Atlantic Blvd. While there are more around the area, those he did build provide a moment for us to pause, and reflect on Arthur Compton Marks foundations of our area.