



THE FIRELANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Inc. MUSEUM MESSAGE.....

November 2009 Norwalk, Ohio
Ohio's oldest museum
www.firelandsmuseum.org

There's always something new afoot...

Wednesday, November 18, 2009 7:00 PM
Research Center, 9 Case Ave., Norwalk

The Society's trustees are please to present our new curator Eli Beachy who will present our November program: "Making Our Past Our Future."

Mr. Beachy looks back to look ahead at the developments planned to bring our local treasure from Ohio's best kept secret to America's premier small town museum. Great adventures are already afoot so be sure not to miss this preview of coming attractions, right here in Norwalk, Ohio



An Illuminating Gift to the Society

Thank you to Henry & Marty Timman for donating an antique light pole and new light assembly. The north west corner at the back of our museum is now lighting our path into our future. Take a glance at our new addition the next time you round the curve at Case & Monroe Streets.

Memorial and Special Giving

When it comes time to give a gift "in memory of" or "in honor of" – don't forget the Firelands Historical Society. Established in 1857, we continue to serve our patrons, guests and the community. Thank you to these friends of the Society for giving generously to keep our history and heritage alive in the Firelands.

From Henry and Marty Timman in memory of:

Kathleen B. Vogus Frederick C. Linder Jim Short

Correction: a gift was given by Mary Jo Hepp in memory of Marilyn Boepple.
Please accept the editor's apology for this error.

November Museum Hours

Thanks to Eli, our museum will be open for guests on Saturdays in November from 10-3pm.
Please bring your holiday guests for a special thanksgiving / Thanksgiving.

Do you have a story?

The editor welcomes special stories, memories or historical information from our members for publication. Please send information to Linda Bersche, Firelands Historical Society, PO Box 572, Norwalk, OH 44857-0572. We reserve the right to edit.

The Firelands Historical Society Presents

“A Step Across Time” Holiday Homes Tour

Sunday, November 29th 1-5 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 each and available at:

Berry's Restaurant, 15 West Main Street, Norwalk Diamond Collection, 1 East Main Street, Norwalk
Colonial Flower Shoppe, 7 West Main Street, Norwalk Mak's Art Studio, 112 Milan Avenue, Norwalk
Firelands Historical Society's Research Center, 9 Case Ave – the day of the tour only

Welcome to our 2009 Tour...

Visitors will be taking a "Step across Time" viewing the architectural styles of six homes, a church, a future winery and our Firelands Museum.

The tour will span nearly 175 years of our history.

The house at the western end of the tour, 401 W. Main St., was built in 1874, in Victorian Vernacular style, as a home for an engineer at Norwalk's original water works. Denny and Danielle Smith will be moving their year-old wine making operation into the basement and using living space as a testing room for their D&D Smith Winery. Jan and Ken Conway, who lived here when they were first married, will welcome tour guests.

One of the first Norwalk homes to have electricity, the three-story 1890 Queen Anne house at 175 W. Main St. is now the Victorian Lady Bed & Breakfast. Owners Tim and Vicky Dauch feature Christmas trees throughout, including in the turret, and elaborate seasonal trimmings in every room. All the furnishings are consistent with the age of the house.

The house at 128 W. Main St. has a “Stick Style” front section which was added in 1880 to a much smaller original structure that dated back to 1837. Mary Waggoner refinishes and reupholsters antique furniture to complement the handsome interior, which boasts original woodwork and a spectacular mantelpiece. Her husband Donald works to restore their home to its original grandeur.



The Firelands Museum, at 4 Case Ave., was built in 1836 as a home for the Preston-Wickham newlyweds and the Norwalk Reflector which was located on the second floor. Now the oldest museum in Ohio, it features a nationally recognized display of firearms, a period bedroom, a pioneer kitchen, Indian artifacts, plus furniture and china used in the area.

Continuing eastward, the Romanesque Revival First Baptist Church at 67 E. Main St. is notable

for the handsome rose window on the facade, which is visible inside at one end of the sanctuary. Above the baptistery at the other end is a scene of the Jordan River painted by local artist Joe Mak. This church was dedicated in 1880 and replaced an older building first used in 1836. Henry and Marty Timman will guide visitors.



Doug Berry's Second Empire home at 131 E. Main St. is a work in progress, as he is faithfully restoring the interior after a disastrous fire in 2007. It was built in 1877 by Bernard Cortrite, who had a successful venture building fanning mills in the acreage to the north, along the railroad. It was in the Cortrite family until his death in 1921.

An early 20th Century house in American Foursquare style, located at 86 S. Linwood Ave., was built in 1917 by a sister of the Fisher Brothers. Ed Cook, who owned it until 1956, added the matching sun room and garage. Present owners, Jacqueline and Jeff Kelley, have enlarged the kitchen to accommodate their family of five. Original fireplace and steam radiators are interesting features, along with an heirloom dining room set.



In the Eagle Creek subdivision, to the south, Jon and Joyce Ditz opted to keep their welcoming Victorian-era decor when they moved into a brand new nine-room condo at 178 Briarcrest Dr. Their color scheme is based on dark cranberry red, with many antiques, combined with a few new pieces, arranged for emphasis on Oriental rugs.

Dan and Sandy White chose a "contemporary-whimsical" style for their 21st Century home nearby at 38 Eagle Creek Dr. Furniture painted purple, teal blue or yellow is strikingly arrayed in stark white or pale yellow rooms. One wall is colorfully decorated with a collection of small, brightly colored clocks, souvenirs of many trips. A master bedroom is at one end of the house and three children's rooms at the other.

This event is the largest fund-raiser for the Firelands Historical Society. Members who are unable to attend the tour, but wish to purchase a ticket may do so by sending in their donation to the Society at PO Box 572, Norwalk, OH 44857-0572.

Many thanks for your support as we focus on the beautiful architecture of our city – both the new and the old

Firelands Historical Society, Inc.
4 Case Ave.
P.O. Box 572
Norwalk, OH 44857-0572

Address Service Requested



The Firelands Historical is proud to be a member of these fine organizations:
Firelands Council of Historical Societies
Lake Erie Firelands Tourist Council
Norwalk-Huron County Chamber of Commerce
Ohio Association of Historical Societies & Museums
Ohio Genealogical Society
Ohio Historical Society

Inside!

November Program – Meet our new Curator
Architectural Tour – “A Step Across Time”

Giving Thanks to our donors, volunteers & those willing to open their homes
Good Holidays & Merry Christmas to you and yours

Firelands Historical Society Officers:

Pat Mak, President
Barb Czerony, Huron Co Vice President
Saundra Forthofer, Erie Co Vice President
Mary Carabin, Secretary
John Elmlinger, Treasurer
Eli Beachy, Curator

Annual Membership dues:

Individual - \$12
Husband and Wife - \$20

Life Membership dues:

Individual - \$250 (or contribute \$25 annually for 10 years)
Business - \$500 (or contribute \$50 annually for 10 years)

Research Center phone: 419.663.0392
Museum phone: 419.668.6038