



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

September 2009 Norwalk, Ohio Vol. 25 No 3

Ohio's oldest Museum

Good Things Coming Up! Help Support Your Society...

Wednesday, September 16, 2009 7:00 PM Laning Young Research Center

Lou Schultz will present the program "Mapping of Ohio, the Western Reserve, the Firelands, Erie County and Sandusky." Mr. Schultz, now retired, taught history at the Columbus Academy. His interest in maps stems, in part, from the years he spent as a youngster working on his grandfather's survey crew. The maps that will be featured in his presentation are from his collections dating from 1764 to 1840.

"A special feature of the September 16th program meeting will take place before the 7 pm meeting. The research library has a number of surplus and duplicate items which will be for sale starting at 6 pm in the library room.

These are all priced in advance and will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis at the marked price. The selection includes a number of Firelands Pioneer magazines (bound and unbound); a Picturesque Huron; several NHS yearbooks; and other local history books and paper materials – bound and unbound.

If you have any questions, call Henry Timman, the Librarian, at 419-668-1122."

Wednesday, October 21, 2009 7:00 PM Laning Young Research Center

Ann Basilone-Jones will present program "Milan: The Canal Era." Ms. Jones is the executive director of the Milan Historical Museum.

Wednesday, November 18, 2009 7:00 PM Laning Young Research Center

To be announced.

Mary Carabin, Program Chairman

Annual Meeting Follow-up

Thanks to Charlene Margatak, naturalist and nature educator, with the Erie County Metro Parks for an enlightening talk with beautiful pictures of our little piece of real estate that we call the "Firelands."

Congratulations and good wishes to our 2009/10 officers and trustees: Pat Mak, President; Barb Czerony, VP of Huron Co; Sandra Forthofer, VP of Erie Co; Mary Carabin, Secretary; John Elmlinger, Treasurer and trustees Jack Whitright & Dave Adelman.

Giant Sloths !!

That was the headline in the Sandusky Register after a very successful presentation at the Ernsthausen Performing Arts Center. Donated to the museum decades before, the sloth bones are a true find and a window into early life in Huron County. Dr. Redmond, PhD and Chair of Archaeology at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, gave the findings on the bones to date. There will be much more study on this collection of bones owned by the Firelands Historical Society.

Special thanks to the families of Roe Niver ,who found and donated the bones to the museum, for attending the presentation.

Thanks to All for Another Fabulous Garden Tour

165 Tickets Sold!! * 6 Beautiful Gardens

Thank You for your participation and look for the date next summer!



Volunteer Opportunities

There is always a project you can dig into at the Society – Ohio's Oldest Museum! Please give the museum office a call to see how you can help. Here's the latest in a long line of accomplishments:

*During the Huron Co. fair we had a booth in the Heritage Barn in connection with the Huron County Genealogical Society which netted a nice profit from the sale of historical books.

*A new security door was installed in the museum basement and a security light was installed on the outside.

*The Laning-Young Research Center received a new coat of paint.

Annual Christmas Tour of Homes is Coming...

Save the Date for the last Sunday in November: November 29, 2009

Look for ticket information in our November Newsletter

Museum Hours:

Visiting the Society's museum and research center is a fabulous walk back into history. We have so much to offer for those interested in a wide variety of collections, artifacts and materials.

Our Museum has been busy this summer with a good flow of visitors viewing our collections.

But, it's not over for the season yet! Remember we are open on weekends in the Fall.

September and October – Saturday 10-3 Sunday 12-4

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 in many different areas. Thank you to these friends of the Society for giving generously to keep our history and heritage alive in the Firelands.

Thanks to:

Henry and Marty Timman for giving in memory of:

John E. Levers

Carroll Timman

William Reinier Timman

Mary Jo Hepp

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.

Board Focus On:

Matt Burr, Trustee

I guess I inherited my love of history from my parents, especially my mother. I grew up on stories of my great-great grandfather's exploits during the Civil War, and my father's and uncle's experiences during WWII. This, along with marveling at the arrowheads we found on the family farm and wondering about the ancient people who made them, really hooked me into studying local history. After reading through my mother's collection of the "Firelands Pioneer," I realized that the Firelands Historical Society was the "premier" historical society in the area. I didn't waste any time "joining up."

Saundra Forthofer, Vice-President, Erie County

My journey with Firelands Historical Society began in 1986, the year James Overhuls retired and I was chosen to continue the curatorial duties of Ohio's oldest museum. I have worn many hats since then, some fitting much better than others but all adding to my overall knowledge of and respect for those positions and the organization.

My sincerest thanks to Mr. Henry Timman and Mr. James Dixon for their confidence in me during those initial interviews and allowing me the opportunity to expand my world of history and friendships so profoundly – much more than I had ever imagined.

A Special Thanks From our Long-Time Curator...

Our curator, Marilou Creary, has resigned after many faithful years of service.

The officers and trustees of the Society wish to thank her for her dedicated service to our museum and our community. Following are highlights of her letter:

"It is with deepest regret that I feel I must resign my position as curator of the Firelands Museum. (the second greatest job)...The first, of course, was making a home for my family... This was truly my dream job.

I don't know what I will miss most – but many of you here I count among my dearest friends and will remain so.

To name a few high points; cleaning the museum office and attic and unearthing countless treasures...digging through musty estates with Henry & Marty...a great time with the Home Tour Committee...going through Mary Louise's family treasures...(serving under presidents)...Jan Conway, Linda Bersche, Saundra Forthofer, Matt Burr and Pat Mak. My wonderful staff of volunteers and employees too many to mention. Thank you.

Serving as your curator for nearly 19 years has been an honor and a joy. I hope to remain as a volunteer - when able to help with transition...Thank you all for everything you've done to lighten my load and brighten my days."

Sincerely, Marilou Creary
Curator of the Firelands Museum 1991-2009

Wishing you well in the days ahead, Marilou
The Officers and Trustees of the Firelands Historical Society

Check Us Out On The Web...www.firelandsmuseum.org

Firelands Historical Society
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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!

Fall Season Programs & Giving Thanks

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

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

Send correspondence to:

The Firelands Historical Society
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Norwalk, OH 44857-0572