

FULTON COUNTY PIONEER



Spring 2009

Upcoming Events:

Fulton County Museum Hours beginning 6/23/09:

Tuesdays 1-7pm
Thursdays 10am—4pm
Saturdays 10am—2pm

**National Threshers Association
65th Annual Reunion
Fulton County Fair Grounds**
June 26-27, 2009 Log Cabin,
Blacksmith Shop, and Township
Buildings Open 10am-5pm

Train Depot Open Tuesday Cruise Nights 6-8 pm

Now through August 21
And Saturdays 2-4

Wauseon Homecoming July 24-26, 2009

(We will have a float in this parade, and the Delta Chicken Fest parade on July 12, and will need help passing out flyers during the parades)

Depot open Friday, 5-9 and the rest of the weekend from 3-9

Trash or Treasure? July 26, 2009, 1-3pm *(see article at left)*

Fulton County Fair
Sept. 4—10, 2009
Log Cabin, Blacksmith Shop,
Township Building Open

(docent volunteers are needed to help in buildings during both events)

From the President

Hello again to everyone,

Lots of things are going on with the Fulton County Historical Society. Our search for a new director is over— John Swearingen has accepted the position and has begun working part-time. We know John has a big job ahead and will need the help from all of us. I hope you will be able to “answer the call” when he contacts you. You will find out more as you read the newsletter.

Special thanks goes out to all that helped keep things going as we looked for a new director, especially Cathy Mattison for all her time at the museum and for making the “POW” bus exhibit a great success. Other thanks go out to Brownies who planted flowers in front of the museum, the 4H members who planted flowers at the depot, our volunteers who helped at the fairgrounds for the prisoners of war exhibit, the volunteer docents who gave tours of the museum to the Elm St. Elementary third grade classes and to depot visitors during the Tuesday night car shows, and to our trustees who help maintain the grounds and buildings of the group.

The Trustees are ready along with John to take on the challenges we have ahead of us and appreciate any help you and others can offer.

Thanks again,

Carl Buehrer

President, Fulton County Historical Society

Trash or Treasure?

Dig out your antiques and collectibles and come to this informative event on **Sunday, July 26th** any time from **1-3pm** at the Fulton County fairgrounds **Floral Hall**. Two items may be evaluated by area experts for a donation of \$10 from our society members, or \$15 for non members. If you can help work for this event, let Cathy, Bev, or John at the museum know.

Our New Director

John Swearingen, Jr. joins the Fulton County Historical Society this spring as the new museum director. John lives near Liberty Center and Napoleon, OH and has two daughters.

Mr. Swearingen has worked with and for several regional museums and interpretive centers since 1988, including The Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village, The Public Museum of Grand Rapids, MI, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, and most recently, The Lincoln Museum in Fort Wayne, IN where John served as the Director of Collections and Exhibits.

John looks forward to the exciting possibilities for our society, especially in the areas of education, programs, exhibits, and collection preservation.

Please e-mail or call John at the museum any time, introduce yourself, and help acclimate him to his new position.



Mr. John Swearingen, Jr.

Volunteers Needed!

Our society is interested in finding volunteers for the following categories:

I. Preservation Assistants: volunteers are desperately needed to help accession, clean, tag, photograph, and store un-accessioned objects. This is the highest priority for our group, as there is a backlog of objects in several rooms of the museum.

II. Research Assistants: volunteers are needed to help in the society's research room. You would be surprised how many research requests come through the museum door, or by phone and e-mail each week. This work can be a revenue stream for the society, if we have enough volunteers to help do the work.

II. Docents: volunteers are needed to man the fair buildings, depot, and the museum for guided tours and act as interpreters of history on behalf of the organization.

III. Programs & Exhibits: volunteers are needed to help during educational the events and exhibits of the society throughout the year. These volunteers might act as greeters, disseminate society marketing information at booths/parades, sell memberships, help build exhibit components, help park cars or even man refreshment tables.

The director will work one-on-one with the preservation volunteers as they learn the process of working with the collection items. Docent training manuals will be created for each of the buildings that the society owns, and docent training classes may be offered if enough people are interested.

The work of our volunteers is critical to the success and continuation of this organization. You might be surprised how rewarding and fun it is too! Contact our museum office today to help.

2009 Membership & Sponsorship Renewal Form

Name _____		Address _____	
City _____	State _____	Zip Code _____	Phone _____ E-Mail _____
Student (\$5) _____	Individual (\$20) _____	Patriot (\$25-99) _____	Historian (\$100) _____
Senior Couple (\$25) _____	Family (\$30) _____	Pioneer (\$250) _____	Council Oak (\$500) _____
Life Member (\$350) _____	Founders (\$1,000) _____		

Payable to F.C.H.S, C/O Membership, P.O. Box 104 Wauseon, Ohio 43567

New Acquisitions



Charlie and Frankie Harlan (shown here) are two newly acquired photographs from The Kansas City Historical Society in Kansas City, Kansas. Apparently, a group of photos that included some made in Van Wert and Wauseon, OH ended up in Kansas, and were recently mailed to our organization. These two boys evidently lived in Michigan and had relatives that lived in Ohio and Kansas. Other objects donated in 2009 include: An 1888 Atlas of Fulton County, early 20th century medical equipment, a Pontious Family scrapbook, a 1945 wedding dress and veil, several WWII uniforms, a Mennonite Cookbook from one of the museum building's former tenants, an alarm clock and a hand-carved backscratcher.



Recent Events



During World War II the Midwest was home to about 250 base and branch prisoner of war camps, which held tens of thousands of the 380,000 German POWs who found themselves imprisoned in over 660 POW camps in almost all of the then-48 United States and the territory of Alaska. TRACES, a group from St. Paul, Minnesota, brought this unusual, rich story to life at The Fulton County Fairgrounds on Friday, May 15th inside a 40-foot school bus converted into a mobile classroom and museum. The exhibit consisted of 15 narrative display panels illustrated with photographs and documents, audio and DVD documentaries, and artifacts. Over 250 visitors also toured through a special WWII exhibit of artifacts in the Swan Creek Township building, and our other two historic buildings were staffed as well. A free-will donation at the bus was taken for our organization.



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Centennial Farm

Has your family had a farm in continuous possession for 100 years?

If so, your farm is eligible for a Centennial Farm Recognition

Applications available at the museum