



Upcoming Events

Annual Meeting

Ken Cockran will give the history of Secret Arboretum. in the First Presbyterian Church at the corner of College and Bowman ST. 6:00PM Dinner \$25. Call the office to leave a reservation. [330.264.8856](tel:330.264.8856). We will have election of new officers.

Flapper Era Fashions, Downton Abbey from 1921-1929

Every Saturday 9-12 and 1-4. Groups can be arranged by contacting the Society office. This event lasts until the last Saturday in October. \$5 per person.

Downton Abbey Tea

May 14, 2016 at 1:30PM at the Great Hall, Trinity UCC, 150 E. North St, Wooster. \$35 per person. Reservations only.

President's Letter

Elaine Peterson

5000 people!!! That is the number of people who have visited our campus in 2015. It does not include people from our elementary schools who have toured or the people who have received special tours to acquaint them with our splendid campus.

The elementary children appreciated churning butter, trying on corsets, grinding nuts to make flour, learning what life was like in an early schoolroom and especially, learning cursive. They experienced how land was surveyed or how to wash clothes with a bar of soap and a washboard. We have letters in the office from students who expressed their glee with these experiences. People who came from outside Wayne Co. were amazed at our campus, the quality of buildings, and items we share.

Now the Textile Committee has created a world-class exhibit named "Flapper Fashions 1921-1929," you don't want to miss it! Ginny Gunn gave a marvelous presentation on flapper fashions. Wow! Those dresses are heavy to wear but beautiful. On April 17th Susan English and Barry Jolliff will present "The Dancing 1920's". Then on May 14th there will be a Downton Abbey Tea. Each of these activities benefit the Society.

All of this outstanding work demonstrates volunteers' commitment to the Society. But we do need more help in other areas. Tim Hall, director of Buildings and Grounds, really needs more people to help. Joe Miller is in dire need of docents. You don't need to know everything; there are "cheat sheets" developed that make life easier.

(Continued on pg. 2)

Upcoming Events

Band Concert on the Grounds

June 15th at 7:00PM Bring chairs. Rain location: St. Mary's Gymnasium.

Downtown Band Concert

July 21st at 7:00PM

Announcements

- ◆ The Membership Committee requests that dues for the year be paid as soon as possible.
- ◆ I (Lynette Mattson) have assumed responsibility for the newsletter. Thank you for your patience as I learn the ropes!

Board of Trustees

Elaine Peterson, President
 Bob Everett, Vice President
 Roxanne Gerber, Treasurer
 Sandi Keim, Secretary
 Adam Bogner
 Larry Drabenstott
 Cameron Flint
 Kimberly Huffman
 Renee Jackwood
 Lynette Mattson
 Joe Miller
 Julie Pooler
 Carolyn Sheron
 Jason Storck
 Jon Ulbright
 Lawrence Walker

President's Letter, continued:

So volunteer and become involved in the Wayne County Historical Society. Experience our great organization which is the only place that preserves and celebrates the history of the entire county.

Board Members and Officers to be Approved at the General Meeting

The General Membership will be asked to vote on the following slate of new Board members, President-Elect, Treasurer, and Secretary at the Annual Meeting on April 27.

New Board members
 Ben Derhammer
 Bill McMillan
 Marynell (Nell) Reardon
 Bob Blanchard

President-Elect
 Sandi Keim
Treasurer
 Susan Ferguson
Secretary
 Meghan Millea

May 3rd Program at Sonnenberg Village

Professor William Kerrigan will present a program titled "Johnny Appleseed and the American Orchard" on Tuesday, May 3rd at 1:30 pm in the Welcome Center of Sonnenberg Village. Professor Kerrigan is the Cole Distinguished Professor of American History at Muskingum University. He is the author of a book by the same title as his program (Johns Hopkins, 2012). He teaches courses on American History, Ohio History, the Civil War and Environmental History at Muskingum.

The legend of Johnny Appleseed is based upon the real life of James Chapman, who was born into a poor Yankee family at the start of the American Revolution. In the last years of the 18th century he headed west to the Ohio Territory where is many known for things, but most of all for planting apple orchards. Since his death in 1845, many legends have grown in the areas he visited, including Wayne County.

Which parts of the legends are true will be addressed by Professor Kerrigan. Was he selfless as St. Francis or a visionary entrepreneur in the mold of Steve Jobs? Professor Kerrigan will sort fact from fiction as the real James Chapman emerges.

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Sonnenberg Village, continued:

The program is sponsored for by the Ohio Humanities Council and the Kidron Historical Society. Sonnenberg Village is located at 13457 Hackett Road, Kidron. Students from Central Christian and Homeschooled students have been invited, but the program is open to students of all ages free of charge.

Prelude to World War I: Wayne County's Military Units at the Turn of the Century

Charles Lepold

Preparation for next year's exhibit, Wayne County in World War I, is well underway. It will focus on the 146th Infantry Regiment of the Ohio National Guard of which two of its companies were located in Wayne County. Company D was headquartered in Wooster and Company H was located in Shreve. The Wayne County Historical Society has collections from a number of the men who served in these two companies.

In this year's exhibit, the early days of these organizations are being presented. The Ohio National Guard can trace its founding as a modern military organization to a State Legislative Act of 29 March 1875. Thirteen infantry regiments, twelve companies of cavalry, and twelve batteries of artillery were established and provisions were made to arm and equip them. To encourage greater participation by the citizenry, enlisted members were allowed to be reimbursed for one uniform, with the approval of their commander. The Act required communities where these units were to locate to provide a suitable drill hall. With Wayne County located in the area controlled by the 8th Ohio Infantry Regiment, Wooster and Shreve

were able to raise enough men to organize a company in each town, and these companies became "D" and "H" of that regiment.

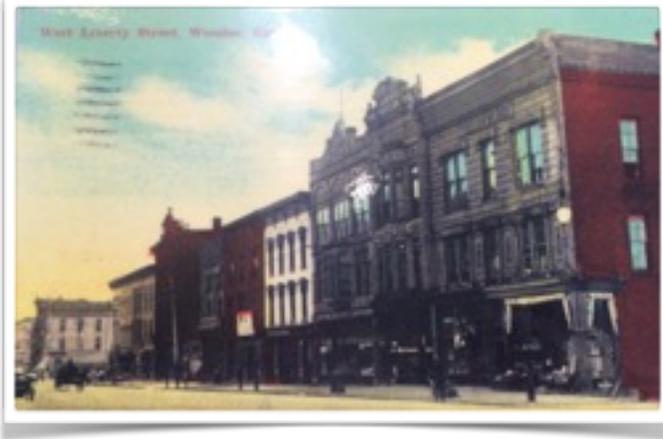
During this time period, State National Guards modeled their organization and regulations after the U. S. Army, but each member owed his allegiance to the respective state. When war was declared on Spain on 21 April 1898, President McKinley called for 125,000 volunteers to supplement the Regular Army. Recognizing that state National Guard units possessed men with many years of training and experience in military matters, preference in accepting volunteers into the Army was to be given to members of the National Guard. Further, units of the National Guard were encouraged to volunteer as units, and to be kept on active service as nearly as possible in their original formations. Thus, while on federal service, the 8th Ohio Infantry Regiment became the 8th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. In our exhibit on the Spanish-American War, we have a photograph of Company D being sworn into federal service.

Our exhibit also covers the experiences of Companies D and H on the Mexican border in 1916 thru 1917. Many fascinating photographs of their experiences are available for viewing for the first time in many years. With the reorganization of the Army in 1917, the 8th Ohio Infantry Regiment became the 146th Infantry Regiment, but with many of the same faces that you see in the photos on the Mexican border in 1916, and even some names and faces that you see in the Spanish-American War exhibit.

Many thanks to Susan Zimmerman for developing a method of uncurling the old photos in this exhibit.

Harry's Mystery Question

Harry S. McClarran



This issue's mystery picture deals with a blown up post card picture of West Liberty looking east from Walnut Street. The question is: what important business was located on the corner where Matsos Restaurant is now located. Answer will be in the July issue of the Newsletter. People can contact Harry S McClarran at 132 Pearl St, Wooster or by phone, 330-264-0749 with their answer.

Harry's Mystery Question Answered

Members can still obtain a free copy of [Rex On My Left](#), the story of my father obtaining his pilot guide dog, Rex, in 1963. It is free when you purchase

either of my two Wooster picture books at the Wooster Book Company.

The last mystery picture was taken by Dan Ackerman several days before all the structures were removed at Wooster Trailer Park. The building was originally the bath house for Spring Lake Pool and later the office for Wooster Trailer Park. Recently I came across some articles about the building at the Park. Readers will remember that a few years ago I ran an article about the history of the pool and the park.

Here are some additional tidbits from the Wooster Daily Record. The first article appeared on November 23, 1923 in the Daily Record. The headline read: "BUILDS SKATING RINK IN WEST END OF CITY ... The skating rink, one to the east and one to the west, seem to be in line for Wooster this year. The Sweet Clover Dairy has enlarged its pond east of the city and G H Drabenstott, piloting a Ford tractor himself, is excavating to make an artificial lake on land that he owns in Christmas Run Valley just north of Larwill Street. He proposed to have it ready in time for skating and is planning on establishing a swimming pool there."

We next read the July 2, 1924 headline and article: "SWIMMING POOL WILL BE OPEN SOON ... Owing to work being held up on account of inclement weather, the swimming pool being built by G H Drabenstott just west of Christmas Run and Saybolt Avenue will not be opened on the Fourth of July as previously intended. The work is being pushed ahead with all rapidity and will be opened a few days after the Fourth. This pool is to be one of the finest of its kind and will be free from all mud owing to concrete bottom and sides. On one end an artificial sand beach will be built and in the middle there is to be a small island covered with sand. Purity is assured as it is filled with spring water which has already been piped in. The lake is to be about 200 feet in diameter and will be from four to six feet deep in the middle.



In the July 5, 1924 Daily Record, the headline read: "TOURIST CAMP PROVIDED BY DRABENSTOTT ... No further education likely for camp to be operated by committee. Local agitation for a tourist camp has come to an end with establishment of a private camp by Glenn Drabenstott in connection with his lake project just west of West Larwill Street in Christmas Run Valley. The concrete has now been all poured for the pond and construction of an artificial lake. Mr Drabenstott intends to supply adequate camping facilities in that part of the grounds on a hill straight north of the point where Lincoln Highway turns at the fair grounds. Some camping parties have already made use of the grounds. Later on when facilities are improved, he intends to invite tourists in larger numbers and it will be easy to fully accommodate all who desire to remain there overnight as campers. The tourist camp suggested some weeks ago met with approval of various civic organizations in the city. An organization formed to take charge of the project; the County Agricultural Society wanted to make use of part of the fairgrounds was preferred. In preliminary discussions, Drabenstott's land was mentioned as a suitable site and since the proprietor has taken up the matter privately, it is believed among local representatives of the tourist camp organization would supply the needs. No further work needs to be done."

In the July 15, 1924 headlines, "SPRING LAKE IS READY TO OPEN - BAND CONCERT IS ADDED ATTRACTION - WEDNESDAY NIGHT REFRESHMENT STAND OPENS. Spring Lake, a new swimming lake, constructed by G H Drabenstott will be opened Wednesday - tomorrow. This lake will be the only one of its kind in Wayne County and will supply the long thought need in community for a recreational lake which is being made to comply with all the laws of sanitation. It is circular with a diameter of 200 feet with bottom and sides being entirely of concrete in order that it might be cleaned out more easier. The pool has a shallow and a deep side and the north side will be shallow for children and people that cannot swim. The south side will be six feet deep with two diving boards installed. In the center is a sand pile that has been built and will serve as a diving ramp. This was the island in the middle. On the west side of the lake a large bathhouse with a large number of dressing rooms has been constructed. There will be a room in this house where bathers can rent swimming suits if they chose. Aside from the attraction of the lake itself, there are refreshment stands and the place is well lighted and can be used for night swimming as well as in the day. Wednesday evening there will be a band concert by the Wooster Band. The band will start from the Public Square where they will play a few pieces and then march to the lake. Water from a fifteen foot well was pumped into the lake over a few

days. In further, spring water will be used in supplying the lake."

July 17, 1924 ... "THOUSANDS SEE SPRING LAKE OPEN - BAND CONCERT IS HEARD BY HUGE CROWD AS SWIMMERS SPLASHED IN NEW POOL ... Spring Lake, Wooster's newest amusement place had an auspicious opening last night as several thousand people gravitated to the west part of the city and participated in the evening's event. A summer's moon shining down from a cloudless sky the setting was perfect and the occasion was an auspicious one. Wooster Board Of Trade Band gave a two hour concert on a porch of the bath house. Swimmers splashed around in the large swimming pool and hundreds stood in the natural amphitheater just west and enjoyed the atmosphere of the occasion. A check of the ticket stubs today indicated approximately 500 persons had gone into the pool yesterday afternoon and evening. More water was being pumped into the lake today so that by this evening it will be full to the top of the rim. Automobiles were parked solidly on Saybolt Avenue, Larwill Street and Columbus Avenue as occupants view Spring Lake. The refreshment stands in the building were liberally patronized. A little farther down the valley the clink of horse shoes reverberated as the ring tossers coached the iron rings to encircle the steel posts.

(continued on pg. 7).

Jim Norton Commentary

While I was watching the final episode of "Downton Abby" my mind wandered to Gus and Emma Anderson. Gustave and Emma moved to New Pittsburg and died before I was born. But, I heard about them. They were servants in a large home in Canton (my wandering mind makes me think it might have been the Timkien family). They met as servants and married, never had children, and when they retired they bought a home in New Pittsburg and were the next door neighbors of my Grandparents Norton. Our family always spoke well of Gus but my Grandmother loved Em. My Grandmother was not a native of Wayne County and as an import on the arm of my Grandfather,

who was probably related to a third of Chester Twp., she was overwhelmed with family. Maybe Emma moving in, and not being related to anyone made the two of them form a bond. Gus and Emma died in the early 1930's. They have a small stone in the New Pittsburg Cemetery that says "G. A. and Emma Anderson (no dates) with a fraternal order emblem, cross, and a Masonic emblem. A stone maybe 20 inches square. I have often wondered what stories they could tell. Would their lives have formed a story like "Upstairs, Downstairs" or maybe another "Downton Abby". Why did they choose New Pittsburg? Will anyone ever write an award winning screen play "The Lives of Gus and Emma"? Or should my wandering mind just continue to wonder?

Antique Tractors coming to Wayne County in June



If you enjoy old-time farming, and have an affinity for green tractors, you'll want to attend the Ohio Two Cylinder Club's Eastern National John Deere Expo IX at the Wayne County Fairgrounds on June 16-18, 2016. The Expo will feature antique John Deere tractors and lawn & garden tractors. There is a full schedule with seminars, displays, auctions, threshing demonstrations, parades, and kiddie events. Visit www.ohiotwocylinderclub.org for details. Hours will be Thursday and Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and Friday, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. with \$5 admission, or \$12 for all three days.

Shop Antiques in the Vault!

(name change coming soon)

What it is?

This wonderful antique store is full of fine antiques which have been donated specifically to this store to raise money for the WCHS.

Where is it?

Soon to be located at Uptown/Downtown Antique Mall, 215 W. Liberty Street, Wooster, Ohio.

What is for sale?

Items for sale in the shop usually include glassware, paintings, furniture, collectibles, vintage postcards and historical items. Stop in often! New items are added frequently.

Acquisition Report

Larry Drabenstott, Chair

V Calhoun	Encinitas CA	Clothing (Ca. 1905, 1950)
A Leisy	Wooster OH	Towels (Ca. 1940's)
D Broehl	Wooster OH	Clothing (Ca. 1840's)
Kidron Historical Society	Kidron OH	Photographs 1926, 1930
R Peterson	Wooster OH	Prescription Bottle - S H Boyd Co
D Broehl	Wooster OH	Shaving Stand, Bed Stand (Ca. 1850)
C Mykrantz	Wooster OH	Booklet, Photographs (Ca. 1850)
M DelPropost	Wooster OH	Fire Hose Cart (Ca. 1905)
P Dennehey	Arlington FL	Cook Book (Ca. 1886-1996)
Cincinnati Historical Society	Cincinnati OH	Pamphlet
D Snyder	Wooster OH	Clothing (Ca. 1935, 1950-55)
F Stinson	Orrville	Jacket & Pants (Ca.1974-1976)
"Old Collection"	Wooster OH	Young Girl's Dress
"Old Collection"	Wooster OH	Child's Jacket
F Stinson	Orrville OH	Military Uniform 1941-1945
C Moyer	Cannonsburg PA	Clay Pipe Collection (Roger Moyer)
K Beauchesne	Baltimore MD	Book: <u>A Christmas Carol</u>
Bogner Construction	Wooster OH	Fireman's Stretcher and Storage Case
"Old Collection"	Wooster OH	Coin Purse
J Norton	Wooster OH	Picture: 'Billy Lewis Farmstead'
J Norton	Wooster OH	Newspaper 'Wing Span' 1944
C Cotterman	Wooster OH	WWII (Wayne County) Scrapbook
Anonymous	unknown	Waffle Iron (Ca. 1930's)
C Snyder	Wooster OH	Land Grant Document (1847)
A Greene	Wooster OH	Book : <u>Ohio In the War</u> (1861-65)
L Drabenstott	Wooster OH	Photographs L COW (1946)
Jim Norton	Wooster OH	Child's Quilt
M Freedlander	Kings Mills OH	Freedlander Family Scrapbook
D Chapman	Shreve OH	Photos: USS Sutton & Crew
Anonymous	unknown	Photos: Wayne Co Bar Assoc. 1964, 70, 75
J Kraal	Hudson OH	Coverlet
"Old Collection"	Wooster OH	Grain Sacks
G Gunn	Wooster OH	T-Shirt 2003
J Norton	Wooster OH	Gold Headed Cane (Ca. 1909)
B Dotez	Wooster OH	Ohio Central Telephone - Training Booklet
D Broehl	Wooster OH	Coxon Belleek China
D Cicconetti	Wooster OH	Coxon Belleek China
J Retzler	Wooster OH	Wool Vest, Silk Purse
D Broehl	Wooster OH	Picture: Gerstenslager Carriage Factory
J Middleston	Smithville OH	Navy Uniform (Pearl Harbor Survivor)

Acquisition Report, continued:

L Winchell	Wooster OH	Magazine: 'History of the Second
World War'Krabill		
J Krabill	Wooster OH	Picture: Wooster Century Celebration 1908
A Ross	Orrville OH	Travel Trunk (JD Overholt)
C Manes	Wooster OH	Vietnam Vern Memorabilia

Harry's Mystery Question, continued:

It was the first time in all the history of Wooster that Christmas Run Valley in that section of the city attracted so large a crowd. The swimming pool appeared decidedly popular and it will attract scores of bathers during the warm summer afternoons and evenings. The illumination was decidedly pretty. Mr and Mrs Drabenstott who provided the resort intend to make further improvements including the construction of picnic tables in a space beneath the trees east of the stream. There will also be an added facility for a tourist camp."

On July 29, 1924, the last article on this subject appeared. "USE CITY WATER AT SPRING LAKE ... G H Drabenstott, proprietor of Spring Lake, is making arrangements with city officials to run a four inch line from city's main into the lake in order that less time will be lost in future in filling up the pool after it is drained. It is believed that a four inch main will carry sufficient water under regular city pressure to fill pool over night. At present it requires two days pumping from adjoining well. Water from the spring will continue to flow into the pool and keep the water fresh. At this time the pool held approximately one million gallons of water.

Do not many of you wish you could still take a dip in that pool? Stay tuned for further tidbits of Wooster's past.

WAYNE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY SUMMER COMMUNITY BAND

2016 REHEARSALS BEGINNING MAY 18!

The WCHS Summer Community Band (sponsored by an anonymous donor for the Wayne County Historical Society) is looking forward to another summer of fine concerts. This band is an effort to remind us of the bands which many communities had back a century or so ago. The Wooster "Board of Trade Band" with their concerts in the old bandstand in front of the now "Everything Rubbermaid" store was an example of this type of band. Great appreciation is extended for our donor's generosity!

The band will be performing under the baton of Mr Randy Claes of Wooster. The Wednesday, June 15 Concert is planned to be on the Wayne County Historical Society Campus. The Thursday, July 21 concert is scheduled to be in "Downtown Wooster" in front of the "Everything Rubbermaid" store. Spectators will need to bring their own chairs to the outside concert. If the weather does not permit being outside, concerts will be held in St. Mary's School Gymnasium (across Bowman St. from the Historical Society).

We plan to begin rehearsals in the College of Wooster Scheide Hall rehearsal room on Wednesday, May 18 at 7:00 pm. Rehearsals will continue on Wednesday evenings with the exception of the concert night until July 20. We greatly appreciate the wonderful cooperation of the College of Wooster Music Department and College Music Conductors Nancy Ditmer, Jeff Lindberg, and Ned Brooks with our Summer Community Band!!

Anybody that plays a band instrument (including percussion) is welcome to join us, young or not so young, experienced or not so experienced!! We have ranged from 13 to 94 years of age! We will be playing "fun" songs - marches, show tunes, patriotic songs, etc. If you haven't played your instrument for a while, now is the time to "dig it out" and get practiced up and join in the fun!!

Questions?- contact Jerry Payn, at [330-345-5547](tel:330-345-5547), [<gmpayn@sssnet.com>](mailto:gmpayn@sssnet.com) or Randy Claes at [<randyclaes@gmail.com>](mailto:randyclaes@gmail.com). Hope to see you there!



For more information on the Society and future events, please visit our website at
<http://waynehistoricalohio.org>