



Bulletin March-April, 2024

Volume III, Number 2

From Our President:

Dear Waterville Historical Society Members and Friends,

Perhaps, in part, it's a remnant from the "sugar high" I got from the piece of WHS birthday cake I had at our March program last week, but the next morning I was still excited about that program. The 30 attendees enjoyed a memorable presentation by Jim Conrad about the history of the WHS with stories and pictures of the members and events over the years. They also received a first look at the progress of the Wakeman Hall renovation, heard a remembrance about the early years of WHS by founding member Thad Jones and got the story behind his skunk skin hat!

Our 60th year promises to be exciting with many great activities and events. You can find out about them in our Bulletins, website and Facebook page. Please contact me or any board member if you would like to be a volunteer. We have a wide range of ways you can help! I look forward to seeing you at our events in 2024!

Best regards,
Steve Lauer

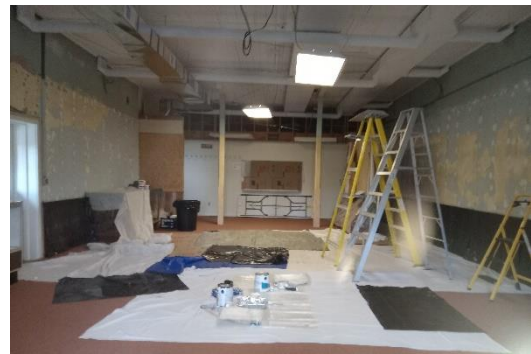
Wakeman Hall Renovations

As mentioned above in Steve's letter, changes are coming fast and furious inside Wakeman Hall. With the financial help provided by the grants awarded to WHS due to Beth Hyder's super-human efforts, renovations are underway. The carpeting that graced the walls downstairs is gone! The ceiling tiles have been removed, ductwork has been replaced and rerouted, the ceiling scraped and

painted, holes patched and soon the electric lighting will be replaced and the walls painted!



Early days. Beth inspects the start of demolition.



As of March 23—Lots of progress!



Scott Duncan's handicapped accessible work in progress.

New Tenants for the Gas Company Building

WHS is happy to announce that we have new tenants moving into our Gas Company building. Rachel Lowery and Noelle Noel (Yes, her first name is Noelle and she happened to marry a fella with the last name Noel!) recently signed a 5 year lease and are very excited about plans to renovate the interior, at their own expense and using only licensed contractors who meet with our approval.

Noelle and Rachel, both of whom are experienced cosmetologists, will be operating a business they call **The Collective** which will house a variety of beauty specialties aimed at “bringing the world of cosmetology and esthetics together” and they express delight at their location in Waterville.



Celebrating the lease signing!

An Opportunity to Share in the Excitement

As you become aware of, and learn about, the Waterville Historical Society’s programs and activities in our Bulletins, our Website, our Facebook page or read about us in *The Mirror*, you no doubt find yourself wishing you could share in the excitement!

No, seriously! Our Society is made up of volunteers who enjoy using and sharing their talents. Whether baking a treat to share at a program, researching local people and history, fashioning vintage costumes, designing and/or setting up displays, registering *Haunted Waterville* attendees, setting up or taking down chairs and tables, hammering

nails and painting walls or just dusting and vacuuming, WE NEED YOUR HELP. If you just want to help for one event or volunteer for one task WE WELCOME YOU! Once you try it you may find yourself addicted! If not, that’s okay too. Visit our website, shoot us an email or call any Board member for more information.

In Memoriam

Just a brief mention to bring you up to date, we recently lost two of our longtime members:

Marjorie “Kay” Munger Burdo and Mary Frances Berger both passed away this past February. Marjorie is survived by her husband Dick and daughters Christie and Elizabeth and seven grandchildren and step-grandchildren. Mary Francis who volunteered as a docent for WHS is survived by sons Mark, Tim, Matthew and Philip and numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren. May they both rest in peace.

Membership Reminder

If you have not already renewed your WHS membership for 2024, time is running out! Remember that members get a special head start until April 15th on ticket sales for themselves, friends and family for our wildly popular *Haunted Waterville Tours*! Membership dues go a long way in helping to support our various programs, projects and activities. Visit our website for more information. Membership envelopes can be picked up at the Waterville Library, Wakeman Hall on Wednesdays 10-2pm, or the Chamber Office.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Our next program features Ted Long, local historian and author, who will present a program titled “The Toledo Papers” on April 17th at 7pm at Wakeman.

On May 15, also at 7pm at Wakeman, certified arborist Patrick Savory will present a natural history program, “The Evolution of Tree Care in Northwest Ohio: The Tree Skinner’s Passion for Preservation.”