



# Waterville Historical Society Newsletter

Toni Stoma, Ed.

## 2017

### Events:

#### SEPTEMBER 23

Roche de Boeuf Festival  
Robbins & Sargent Houses open

#### OCTOBER 11

Ghostly Encounters IV,  
Wakeman Cemetery, 6:30 pm

#### OCTOBER 21

Open Houses 9am-12pm  
Wakeman Archival Center,  
10am-2pm

Downtown Walking Tour,  
9am from Robbins House

Uptown Walking Tour, 11am,  
from Wakeman Hall

#### \*\*OCTOBER 26

Waterville Haunted History  
Spooktacular

Downtown Waterville

NOVEMBER 15 "The American  
Soldier In World War I,  
A View From the Field"

Speaker: Dave Westrick  
Wakeman Hall, 7pm

DECEMBER 06

Christmas Dinner

6 pm, Fallen Timbers

Country Club Clubhouse  
\*\*NEW EVENT We'll Keep  
You Posted!

Don't forget to visit the  
WHS Museums during  
RDB and buy some raffle  
tickets.

Raffle prizes will include a  
Brian Lonsway bottle, a  
Larry & Paige Koosed car-  
ving, a Clarence Shields  
Limited Edition print of the  
Waterville Railway station  
and more.

## A letter from the President

Dear Members of the Waterville Historical Society,

It's been another busy spring and summer for our society. As of this writing, we have conducted three programs, six open houses and five historic walking tours. The Archival Research Center at Wakeman Hall has been noticeably busier than in the past. Our biggest accomplishment by far was the success of our first historic homes tour since 1989, thanks largely to Rose Kandik, Karen Wiggins and their unbelievably hard working committee. Many thanks also to the generous homeowners, without whom this tour could not have been possible. Next on our agenda: the Roche de Boeuf Festival, two more programs and our annual Christmas Party.

Our effort to save the Sargent House and put the WHS on improved and sound footing for the future has made remarkable progress as well. We hired Dennis Jones last year on a month-to-month basis to help us organize and conduct a successful fund raising campaign. We liked him so well that we have now increased his responsibilities. Under the same contract, he will continue to focus primarily on the campaign while serving as our first Executive Director.

Thank you for your steadfast support of both our present and future vision of the Waterville Historical Society.

I look forward to seeing you at our remaining activities.

Sincerely,  
Jim Conrad

## A Message from the Executive Director

As I begin my work with the Society as the new Executive Director, I am obviously focused on making sure that our major capital campaign is successful and to that end I am pleased to report that the Waterville Historical Society's capital campaign is progressing nicely with many new friends and committed volunteers leading the way. Since our last newsletter, the volunteer **Save our Sargent Committee** has held numerous meetings to identify and recruit top talent from our community to assist us in our campaign.

To date the committee has recruited fourteen community leaders and formed two important campaign committees. The **Prospect Development Committee**, which has had one meeting as of this writing, will help us identify and evaluate the area's top campaign prospects and the **Special Events and Public Awareness Committee**, which is tasked with heightening awareness of the Society through new high visibility events and programs in conjunction with the campaign, has had three.

I am very happy to report to you that the enthusiasm and commitment of all the campaign committee members is extremely high not to mention gratifying and contagious! We are currently in the process of actively recruiting a **Student Advisory Council** from Anthony Wayne School District for the campaign and over the next couple of months we will complete our campaign structure with three more committees including: a **Steering Committee**, **Marketing Committee** and **Friends and Family Committee**.

When fully developed and staffed, the campaign will have six committees and approximately 70 volunteers intimately engaged in helping us raise critically needed dollars for refreshing our facilities and implementing new educational programs. While we have a long way to go before we are able to declare victory, I am confident that our WHS Board and our newly (and yet to be) recruited volunteers are committed to the task and we will, *with your help*, be successful.

Dennis Jones

Please watch this space for future updates!

## Exciting Happenings at WHS:

### Book Launch~

A very successful launch event for the newly published book *Waterville*, written by **John & Verna Rose and Phyllis Witzler** was held Saturday, August 26th on the patio of Wakeman Hall with coffee and refreshments. Over 130 books were autographed by the authors and sold in six hours with visitors often staying to tour the Wakeman archives and see the Waterville town diorama and Rupp store display.

Books were also delivered to Smoke & Fire, the Chamber of Commerce, Uptown Salon, Clayful Arts (where Koral Hamburg was), Waterville Hardware and House of Tradition, who will be selling books for WHS for a \$20 donation. A second book signing was held on Friday September 15, at Costco in Perrysburg. The authors will also be on Third St. promoting the book during Roche de Bouef.



### Waterville Library Display~

"Then and Now", a display of local artifacts collected and be viewed in the Waterville Branch Library showcase clothing, toys, lighting and technological changes are how our world has changed in the last 200 years.



arranged by **Bob Chapman and Kathy Saco** can throughout the month of September. Articles of included. Take an opportunity to stop and see

### Historic Homes Tour Recap~

With 80+ volunteers on hand to bring the Historic Homes tour to a resounding success, the event saw ticket sales nearing 300 and a profit for the Historical Society of over \$5,500. Committee co-chairs **Rose Kandik and Karen Wiggins** and their committee, spent almost a year locating homes and homeowners willing to put their homes on display, and organizing the event with beautiful results. The tour included six Waterville historic homes plus two WHS River Rd. House Museums. Even local businesses got involved. Anthony Wayne Floral, 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Blooms, Lee Winters Florist and Swesey Florist donated beautiful arrangements to decorate. Mayor Lorie Brodie was the Honorary Chairperson.



### Keeping In Touch With Our Members

Congratulations are extended to WHS members **Verna and John Rose** who celebrated their 61<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary on Sept. 1, 2017. The Roses have spent many hours and years volunteering at the Waterville Archival Research Center and are the authors of several books. They were married at the Whitehouse E.U.B. Church on Sept. 1, 1956.

Get well wishes are sent to **Bernie Utz** who is recuperating from a broken ankle. Bernie and his wife, **Vonnie**, live at the Browning Masonic Community. Hope you're up and about soon, Bernie!

Get well wishes have also been sent to **Charles (Chuck) Witte** who contracted a serious infection in a knee replacement and treatment required removing the artificial knee. He will have to have a new knee replacement once the infection is completely healed.

Correspondence Secretary, **DeAnna Bradley** has been sending wishes to other members, meanwhile she is recovering from a pacemaker implant. Please keep her in your thoughts.



### IN MEMORIAM!



The Waterville Historical Society extends its sympathy to the friends and family of member **Sally Waggoner** who died June 10, 2017. Born August 29, 1932 in Moline, Ohio, Sally worked at her father's Red & White grocery store and graduated from Lake High School in 1950. For much of her career, she worked as an executive secretary at Owens-Illinois. Sally and her husband, Robert, were married in 1956, and enjoyed 55 years together until Robert's death in 2012.

Sally had many interests involving genealogy and local history. In addition to her membership in the WHS and the Genealogy by Computer Society, she was a member of the Wood County Historical Society and co-authored a book, *A History of Lake Township, Wood County, Ohio*. Sally was a volunteer for the Waterville Archival Research Center and assisted each month with the Society's website and Facebook. She wrote six or more articles about the Rupp store and did indexing for the Archives. Her volunteer endeavors also included the Lucas County and Wood County Board of Elections and breast cancer awareness.

Fond of traveling, Sally and Bob toured the United States and Canada. More recently, Sally visited Peru, Ecuador, the Galapagos Islands, and Iceland.

Sally is greatly missed by her co-volunteers at the Archives. She is survived by her children, Gary (Kara) Waggoner and Susan (David) Sisler; grandchildren, Zachary and Austin Sisler; brother, Keith Brooks; sister, Kay Parker.

Save the Date: **DECEMBER 06, 2017**

**WHS Christmas Dinner, 6 pm, Fallen Timbers Country Club Clubhouse**

**Program by *Close Harmony*, AWHS Vocal Jazz Choir**

## WHS Members in the News:

~Featured in the *Toledo Blade* was the exotic garden of **Bill Albert**, WHS Board member and gardener extraordinaire. He's been growing banana plants, elephant ears, crotons, castor beans, princess lilies and more, some plants reaching 16 foot in height. Brightly colored pots and hanging parrots add to the color. Following a severe illness, Mr. Albert started the garden to honor the donor of a liver transplant and he's gone tropical ever since. His solution to winter's grey and cold is severe pruning and layer upon layer of leaf mulch for the outdoor plants and winter blooming bird of paradise in the family room.

~Longtime member, **Fred Miller** was featured in the *Anthony Wayne Mirror* in August about his service in the Merchant Marines in the Philippines, supporting the Allies during WWII. His assignments, based out of San Francisco, included the *Sea Corporal*, the *Mormac Sea* and the Liberty Ship, the *Jan Pieterszoon Coen*. Upon completion of his service, he married and moved to Waterville to raise a family. He has lived here for over 60 years.

~Our indomitable **Frank Butwin**, as Gen. Anthony Wayne, returned to the stage (er, field), on Sunday, August 20th for the 223rd Fallen Timbers Battlefield Walk. Along with more than a dozen other re-enactors, including Kentucky militiamen, Native Americans, Canadians and British, he portrayed the events of the August 20, 1794 Battle of Fallen Timbers.

~Current Board member, **Karen Wiggins** was named to the Anthony Wayne High School Hall of Fame for her many years of service to the school, her leadership as Director of the Waterville Branch Library and her longstanding involvement in the Waterville Community.

~On Wednesday, Sept. 27th, at 6:30 pm, WHS member, **Al Geha** will present a lecture about the stories of art stolen by the Nazis during WWII. To attend, you will need to register at the library: [www.toledolibrary.org](http://www.toledolibrary.org) and go to "Programs & Events." The phone # is 419.878.3055.

### WHS Has New Docents.

Along with our regulars, Bill Albert, Mary Frances Berger, Frank Butwin, Bob Chapman, Jim Conrad, Marje Fowler, Rose Kandik, Ann Lotshaw, Pollie Miller, John Rose, Kathy Saco, Diane Saunders, Jim and Toni Stoma, Florence Wheelden, Louise Witzler and Phyllis Witzler, 14 new members have volunteered to "man" the House Museums during Saturday Open Houses and special events. They include: Pat Athanitis, Jim and Sue Bagdonas, DeAnna Bradley, Al Geha, Trina Houser, Chuck Larkins, Tyler and Nicole Madeker, (pictured below) Holly Schmidbauer, Jackie Shank, Kurt VanMeter, Nancy Verner and Lynn Wittenmyer.

We welcome their involvement.



## #GIVINGTUESDAY™ NWO

#GivingTuesday™ is a national day of giving at the start of the holiday season that celebrates and encourages charitable activities that support nonprofit organizations. The Toledo Community Foundation works to support local nonprofits in this effort by promoting the program and encouraging donations through a matching grant opportunity.

This year #GivingTuesdayNWO will be held on **November 28, 2017**. Once again we will be promoting local giving for WHS! Last year we earned \$1880.00 which included the matching grant of \$500.00. We think we may be able to do even better now that our community has learned about this day of giving. If you or your employer is willing to match an amount, please call one of the officers listed on the back of the newsletter for more information. Watch for #GivingTuesdayNWO promotions coming soon!

Welcome to Our Newest Members !

-Jim and Sue Bagdonas

-Robert and Carol Tomasic

### Membership Updates

Please note that our Constitutional Bylaws have changed this year. These will be presented more fully at the November 15 program at Wakeman Hall. Regarding membership: "dues ...shall be due at the beginning of each calendar year." Members need to renew their place in the Society by May of each calendar year. **The renewal timeline to be posted for membership will be from January through May 1<sup>st</sup>** each year. New members, of course, will be accepted at any time. Watch the USPS mailed newsletter in January for the membership envelope which makes it simple to fill out and mail in with your check tucked inside. You may also renew online: [watervillehistory.org](http://watervillehistory.org)