

FULTON COUNTY PIONEER



8848 State Highway 108 , P.O. Box 104, Wauseon , Ohio 43567

Volume XVII, No.3.

Fall 2020



NEW EXHIBIT

Learn about the non-traditional roles of women in Fulton County during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Highlighting the Abolitionists movement, the Civil War and the Suffrage movement, travel a timeline of exceptional women from our county. Included in this story is historic clothing on loan from the Maumee Valley Historical Society as well as some of the quilts now on display.

Join us at the member preview night September 25th at 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Exhibit opens to the public on Saturday, September 26th.

THE GREAT FULTON COUNTY ROAD RALLY

Saturday, September 5th, 2 P.M.
Get your tickets early! Prepaid
Reservations Required

Do you like puzzles and scavenger hunts?? Well, if you do, grab some friends and join us on the **Great Fulton County Road Rally** on September 5th at 2 P.M. Compete against other teams as you solve clues that lead you on an adventure across the county while you try to track down a WWII era spy. Enjoy a BBQ chicken dinner prepared by Pettisville Meats following the fun. Road rally **and** meal tickets are \$20 per person. Don't enjoy puzzles? A dinner only ticket is available for **advance** purchase at \$10.00 per person. Meals will be served 5-6 P.M. carry out only. Call 419 337 7922 for reservations which are due by August 28, 2020.

The Legacy Shop is having a sale!!!

WOMEN ALIVE, In Search of Our Past
Women of Northwest Ohio Volumes VII, VIII, IX and X. These are stories and biographies of the women that made history in our community.
They are \$5.00 each thru September 28th



HAUNTING HISTORY TOURS ARE COMING! SEE PAGE 4

A. D. Baker Company, Swanton , Ohio

A Story from: Old Tractor –Engines Blogspot

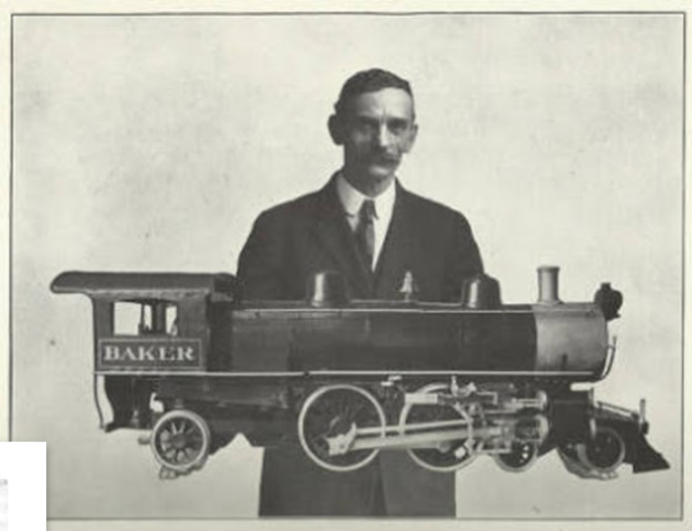
Few men in the machine business gained higher respect from their colleagues than A. D. Baker. Born in Ohio in 1861, Baker learned the machinist trade and worked for such firms as the Empire Reaper Works at Akron, Ohio. In 1895, Baker opened a shop in Swanton, Ohio. The first Baker steam traction engine was built in 1898, and the business was incorporated in 1901. On March 3, 1903, Baker was granted Patent No. 721,994 for his revolutionary steam valve gear. The general design was also used extensively in locomotives.

When tractors began taking over, almost all of the old-line steam engine builders got into the act, but with few exceptions they gradually switched over to gas tractors. The peculiar thing is none of the steam engine builders made any efforts to stem the tide. Except for a lot of hollering, none of them took any action to demonstrate the superiority of steam over gas tractors.

Baker had a hunch that if an improved engine was put on the market, it would be a good competitor for the gas tractor. In 1921, Baker introduced a 15-30 steam tractor, using unheard of innovations on a farm engine. It was followed a couple of years later by a 20-40 model, and in May, 1925 a 22-45 steam tractor appeared. Regardless of their merits, farmers were tired of steam engines, and the whole operation folded up. When Baker finally relented and began building gas tractors, they received the same care in design and workmanship as the steamer had shared.

A 22-40 gas tractor was introduced in early 1926, complemented by a 25-50 model introduced in late 1927. Although Baker built an excellent tractor, it was a built-up affair— only the front axle and frame built by Baker. The Foote transmission and Differential, Twin Disk clutch, Stromberg carburetor, and American Bosch ignition typified these Baker models. Many other tractor builders utilized the mass production methods of Foote, Nuttal, and other transmission specialists, and a great many other tractors used clutches built by Borg & Beck, Hilliard, Twin Disk, and others.

When the Baker 25-50 was tested in Nebraska in 1929, it pulled over 43 HP on the drawbar and over 67 HP on the belt. Thus the 25-50 was re-rated as the 43-67. Baker ended tractor production during WW II.



Abner Baker and a model Locomotive (right)



Abner Baker and brother, Chauncy Berkabile with Engine #1 at the Baker Farm (left)

Dear Friends,

Well, for the first time, we will NOT be in our Canfield Cabin and Reighard Blacksmith Shop this year at the Fulton County Fair. County residents though are proving that they can “Find a Way AND Make a New One.” When it comes to events and fundraisers.

We did not have any events this spring but did raise over \$2,000 through our Un-Gala (thank you!) for our AmeriCorps distance learning program. We also hope to raise over \$1,000 from our quilt raffle (proceeds to benefit our quilt restoration project) at the Annual Meeting & Tailgate party on Saturday, October 10.

You are being invited to the Annual Dinner in this newsletter, but also to the opening of “Women Working for Change,” sponsored by First Energy, which highlights Fulton County women throughout the century before they received the right to vote in 1920. This member only event will be on Friday, September 25th from 4 – 7 pm. This exhibit will be open through April of next year. We are hoping that you will be able to meet our new AmeriCorps member the night of the exhibit preview as well.

This pandemic will be temporary, unlike our organization which has been preserving history since 1883. Our longevity has been due to county supporters who passed the torch of responsibility from one generation to the next. Please consider your link in the chain of Fulton County’s history by remembering us in your estate planning. In the past several years, we have had members who have not only made financial contributions to our Endowment Fund, but also left property to us (while still living on it), made us the beneficiary of one of their life insurance policies, or transferred stocks into our name. Please consider including us in your next discussion with your financial planner.

This will be our last newsletter of the year, so I want to wish everyone, on behalf of our organization a healthy and happy holidays! See you in 2021.

Sincerely,

Carl Buehrer, President

NEW ACQUISITION



Mary Gregory glass can be divided in to old and new. Old Glass was made between 1879 –1939 and new glass was made after WWII. The distinguishing feature is white enamel painting usually of a child in an outdoor setting. Trees and foliage have a feathered appearance. Old Mary Gregory glass is in the Victorian colors of cranberry or green. Once you have seen a few pieces you will recognize it easily. For a long time it was thought that Mary Gregory glass was made by the Boston and Sandwich Glass Company, USA. and painted by a decorator named Mary Gregory. This story started in the 1920s when the name Mary Gregory Glass was coined.

The pitcher and glasses that were donated are circa 1890.and belonged to Jan Boyers who inherited them from her mother. We plan to add them to our Permanent Exhibit in the future.

R
O
A
D



R
A
L
L
Y

HAUNTED HISTORY TOURS 2020

Winameg, an old Indian Village, sits along Bad Creek in Fulton County. It was the site of the famous Council Oak, Colonel Howard's home, Indian mounds, and the burial site of mastodons as well as many interesting characters.

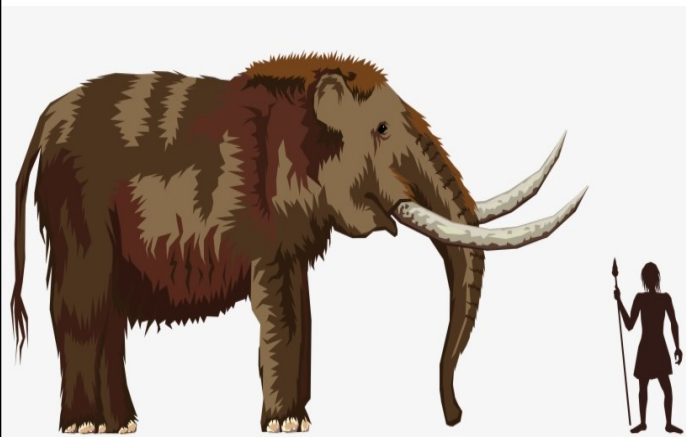
With all this history, we decided to travel to Winameg for our annual Haunted History Tours. We will visit historic sites and tell the stories of former residents--all of which just might be the reason for the unusual and haunting happenings occurring today.

Tickets must be purchased in advance. Tours will start and end at the Winameg Christian Church. This walking tour will be about one mile. We encourage walking shoes, jackets, flashlights, and rain gear (in case of rain). The cost is \$10.00 for non members and \$8.00 for members.

Call 419 337 7922 for reservations.

Tour dates are October 23 and 24 with first tours starting at 6:30 P.M. and lasting for one hour. Last tour will start at 8:30. Each tour is limited to 10 people.

Paid reservations must be made by October 16th .



ADDITIONAL COMING EVENTS

Due to Covid- 19 we are awaiting word from Columbus on final plans for activities. They are all tentative at this point.

September 26,

Hobo Festival at the Depot

Watch our social media for more details about this third annual event.

November 23,

Volunteer Potluck

This also may be a little different this year. Contact Scott closer to the date for more information.

December 11 & 12

Christmas at the Fairgrounds

Plan on celebrating Christmas at the Fairgrounds this year. There will be games and other activities as well as a visit with Santa. Save the date.

Support has been provided by Ohio Humanities the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Federal Cares Act of 2020



OH CARES

