

# FULTON COUNTY PIONEER



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

Volume XX No.1

Winter 2023

## Valentine Histor-tea

February 11, 2023

at the

## The History Manor

Seatings at

11:00, 12:00, & 1:00

Reservations (419)337-7922

\$15 suggested donation



## New Special Exhibit for 2023:

### Happy Birthday Fayette!

2023 marks the one hundred fiftieth anniversary of the founding of Fayette, Ohio. The Museum of Fulton County is celebrating this birthday by highlighting objects, photographs, and clothing in its collection from this corner of the county.



Incorporated in 1872 during the boom of the Chicago and Canada Southern Railroad, this village on the Old Maumee and Western

Reserve Road has surprising local history stories to share!

## Murder at the Museum

An Interactive Mystery Event



March 25, 2023, 4-6 P.M.

Reservations required

\$25.00 per person

 [MuseumofFultonCounty.org](http://MuseumofFultonCounty.org)

## The Yoke's On Us

The agricultural exhibit that is currently on display in the great room has many fascinating stories, one of which is about ice making. In the January 1889 issue of *American Agriculturist*, it was called "The First Harvest of the Year".

During the winter when the pond was frozen, the men would cut large blocks of ice from the pond with an ice saw, then they would skate across the pond pulling the blocks to a wagon which would take the load to an ice house. The ice house consisted of a wooden framework covered with straw. A second roof was added for insulation. This also helped preserve the straw so the ice house would last for several seasons. The ice was sold in the spring and summer for the sum of \$ .50 a block. It seems amazing that the ice could be kept frozen for such a long period of time.

Other pieces of equipment on display are the mowers and rakes. Hay was an important crop on the farm since it was needed to feed the cattle and horses. Many

companies tried their hand at building a suitable mower. Some tried to combine a mower with a rake, but this was not very successful.



You can imagine how a mowing machine could reduce the work. Cutting a field of hay by hand could take several days while a machine could do it in hours. With the invention of the mower came the demand for a rake. There was a dump rake that gathered the hay and deposited it into a windrow for drying. By the 1880's, a side delivery model was perfected and it became the method of choice for raking. When the hay was dry, it was loaded onto a wagon and taken to the barn where it was stored for the winter. Farm life continued to improve over the years. Planting and harvesting became easier with each new invention, especially after WWII.

If you haven't been out to see this exhibit, you might want to think about bringing the children and/or grandchildren. Learning about the source of our food supply always seems to be of interest to almost everyone.

## **New Accessions**

Our Marjorie Whiteman collection keeps growing which we are happy about. The newest addition is the hair net that she wore when she attended meetings with foreign diplomats. We think that this may have been a requirement for women in that era.

*Look closely at the back of her head in this photo to see the hair net Marjorie's niece, donated.*



We want to thank Linda for helping us preserve the story of Marjorie Whiteman.

## **New Staff Members**

*Business Operations Manager*

**Doris Piercefield**

Doris retired after 38 years of operating her florist and gift shop. She is an experienced seamstress, costumer, crafter and instructor. She is experienced in working in volunteer organizations and is familiar with the use of social media platforms in business.

*Marketing and Events Manager*

**Katelyn (Kate) Huiskens**

Katlyn has a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing from Lourdes University and work experience as a marketing analyst. She has experience writing business and media campaigns, and has knowledge of interactive marketing and social media platforms. She is also familiar with website and video production.

## Friends of Lauber Hill Report

Fulton County has a restriction on rural lot size i.e., they need to be one acre or larger. The county has granted us a variance for the Meeting House property. We anticipate taking possession of our newest historical site, the Lauber Hill Meeting House, by the end of January.



While trying to write the history of the “New Mennist” community many questions have come up. If you can provide answers or any information about the early church, we would love to hear from you. Some of the question are:

- \* What is the official date of its founding?
- \* How and where was baptism done?
- \* How were the children educated?
- \* Were marriages performed in the church?
- \* Who could be buried in the cemetery?
- \* There were 3 Bishops, 3 Ministers, and 3 Deacons chosen from the congregation. How were they chosen?
- \* Who was allowed to vote?
- \* When and how was foot washing done?
- \* Did the church have a song leader?
- \* Records have it that English hymnals were used in 1917, is that when sermons were delivered in English for the first time?  
How did children receive religious training?  
Who administered communion?

These are a small sampling of things to learn about the Meeting House. If you have any information that could help us, call the museum.

### Museum Hours

Monday—Saturday 10 A.M.—4:00P.M.  
Closed Sundays during Winter months

## From The President

Dear Members and Friends,

New and change are not words that most people associate with museums and historical societies. However, as the Museum of Fulton County and the Fulton County Historical Society turn the pages of the calendar to 2023, they will become familiar terms to our leadership, employees, volunteers, and membership. It starts at the Board of Trustees with the decision of Carl Buehrer to leave the Presidency while still maintaining his seat on the board. We thank Carl for his many years of dedicated service as President, and especially for his leadership in guiding us through the building of the new Museum of Fulton County. I will most certainly depend on Carl’s advice and counsel as I assume my new role of President.

Change is also taking place with our staff due to the departure of our Operations Manager, Scott Lonsdale, in October. The Board decided to create two part-time positions of Business Operations Manager and Marketing and Events Manager. These new positions will help strengthen museum operations and increase our marketing activities. Both new positions will be looking for volunteers to help them, so please consider lending a hand when they put out the call.

There is no question that 2023 will be bringing new opportunities for change and growth for the Museum and the Historical Society.

Thank you for your continued support, and Best Wishes for the New Year!

John Myles, President



### A Gift That Keeps on Giving

Paul Gallagher, whose Miller Family lived in York Township, donated in 2007 our oldest rifle in the collection (*from a Miller who fought with Colonel Jackson in the War of 1812*) and a Civil War canteen from a great grandfather who was part of the March to the Sea. Recently, Mr. Gallagher passed away and remembered the Museum of Fulton County in his will. Paul understood that when something is donated, the caring for the items has financial ramifications for the collection staff and trustees. For this forethought, the society is deeply honored by Paul's gift.

### Heritage Alliance Events

Swanton Historical Society

#### Native Americans of Northwest Ohio

Thursday January 19, 2023

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Speaker: Robert Lucarelli

Place: Benfield Winery

102 N. Main Street, Swanton, Ohio

Admission free

Been Creek Valley History Center

#### Member Appreciation Day

Sunday, February 12, 2023

Time: 2:00 P.M.

Place: Family Life Center

306 E. Main Street, Fayette, Ohio

Freewill Donations Accepted

Lyons Area Historical Society

#### The President's Men

Sunday, March 19, 2023

Time: 2:00 P.M.

Speaker: Rad Jones, former resident, manager at Ford Motor Company and Secret Service agent 1963-1983 for five presidents.

Place: Lyons Christian Church  
138 E. Main Street

Freewill Donations Accepted



*May you all enjoy a peaceful and  
prosperous New Year*

