

**Mar/Apr2023**

Historical Society  
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PO Box 243  
Vandalia, Ohio 45377



### **Mission Statement**

The mission of The Historical Society of Vandalia Butler is to perpetuate the history of the Vandalia-Butler Community and to educate people about the importance of this history.

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## **The Historical Society of Vandalia Butler Calendar**

### **March**

13 Board Meeting, Meeting House, 7PM  
20 General Meeting Vandalia Library, 7PM  
25 Building & Grounds Cleanup Day 9 - Noon

### **April**

1 Alternate Building & Grounds Clean Up 9 - Noon  
10 Board Meeting, Meeting House, 7PM  
2 Open House, 1PM – 3 PM  
16 Open House, 1PM – 3PM

For future events visit our Website at [www.historicalsocietvandalia-butler.org](http://www.historicalsocietvandalia-butler.org)  
or our Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/historicalsocietyvb/](http://www.facebook.com/historicalsocietyvb/)



# *The Homestead News*



## **MARCH – APRIL 2023 NEWSLETTER**

### **Board Officers:**

President: Al Tuttle  
V-President: Brandon Sucher  
Secretary: Wanda Weber  
Treasurer: Donna Shirley

### **Trustees:**

Trustee: Arlene Setzer  
Trustee: Linda Karns  
Trustee: Jack Shirley  
Trustee: Mary Geiger  
Trustee: Tiffany Goodman

### **Committee Chairs:**

Membership: Tonya Hittner  
Program: Jean Harman  
Rentals: Wanda Weber  
Education: Linda Karns  
Acquisitions: Wanda Weber  
Gardens/Pollinator Plantings:  
Mary Geiger



### **From our President ... Al Tuttle**

We are gearing up for the 2023 season, including the open houses. The plaques for the past presidents have been updated to show the terms that they served and are ready to be put back on the wall in the Meeting House. We are missing two pictures. Please let me know if anyone has a picture of Steve Amlin or Dave Morgan that we can have or make a copy.

We were still not able to have any fundraising events, so we are relying on water sales, recycling, and donations which can be made to The Historical Society of Vandalia Butler, PO Box 243, Vandalia, OH 45377-0243.

### **Address**

336 East Alkaline  
Springs Road,  
Vandalia, Ohio 45377

### **Mailing Address**

PO Box 243  
Vandalia, Ohio 45377

937-898-5300

### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

From our  
President.....1  
Membership.....2  
Updates/General  
information.....3&4  
Open Houses.....5  
Program Chair .....6  
Our Sponsors.....7&8

## **PURPOSE OF OUR SOCIETY:**

The Mission of the **The Historical Society of Vandalia Butler** is to perpetuate the history of the Vandalia-Butler Community.

### Upcoming Meetings:

March 13 – Board Meeting 7:00PM Meetinghouse

March 20 – General Meeting 7:00PM Community Room of the Vandalia Library

April 10 – Board Meeting 7:00 PM Meetinghouse

### Upcoming Events:

March 25 – Spring Cleanup of Buildings/Grounds 9-Noon

April 2 – First Open House of 2023 1-3PM

We would love to have you join our Vandalia Butler Historical Society as a member, our dues are:

- Participating (each individual) - \$10
- Student (High School or College) - \$1
- Family (Parents & Children under 18 yrs) - \$20
- Supporting Membership - \$35
- Business/Organization Membership - \$50
- Lifetime Membership - \$500

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## *“Your Membership Matters”*

### **Membership Happenings**

Thank you to all of those members that have renewed their memberships for 2023. The following have renewed membership: Anne Borchers, Linda & Pete Breidenbach, Doug Cannon, Mary Geiger, Chuck & Gerry Geloff, Tiffany Goodman, Julia Gearhart, Jim & Sherry Hartings, Jane Logan, Judy Hollon, Jane Logan, Lori Miller(new), life time members George & Susan Pavlakos (donation), Marguerite Ressler, Mike & Barb Runyan, Arlene Setzer, and Jack & Donna Shirley.

Business renewals include: Boord Henne, Coldwell Banker, Sparks Electric, and Vandalia Shopping Center.

We are working on our preparations for hosting open house beginning in April. We would gladly welcome volunteers who are interested in joining us to help preserve our history.

**PLEASE** renew your membership. We need your continued support.

You may contact me with any membership questions.

Tonya Hittner

Membership Chair



## Results of the voting for the 2023 Society Board

### (Officers and Trustees):

**President:** Al Tuttle

**Vice President:** Brandon Sucher

**Treasurer:** Donna Shirley

**Secretary:** Wanda Weber

**Trustee:** Jack Shirley (continuing 3<sup>rd</sup> year of 3-year term to expire 2023)

**Trustee:** Linda Karns (continuing 2<sup>nd</sup> year of 3-year term to expire 2024)

**Trustee:** Mary Geiger (continuing 2<sup>nd</sup> year of 3-year term to expire 2024)

**Trustee:** Arlene Setzer (First year of 3-year term to expire 2025)

**Trustee:** Tiffany Goodman (First year of 3-year term to expire 2025)

### *Enroll or Re-enroll in the Kroger Rewards Program*

If you want to enroll or re-enroll in the Kroger Community Rewards Program, we have been told to call Customer Service at 1-800-576-4377, select option 8 (all other calls) then option 3 (all other departments) and provide your Kroger Plus Card 12-digit bar code number (on the back of the card), your phone number and our organization number (PN902). The Customer Service Representative will help you register

## Recent Donation

One of the newest donations to the Historical Society is a set of wooden carolers. You might have seen this choir on display on Brantford Road and then on Stonequarry Road. The carolers were designed and built by Patty and Jim Upton. Patty was serving on a jury in September, 2001. The events of 9/11 unfolded while the jury was seated. There was much uncertainty during this time and the jurors spent a great deal of time together. One of the jurors showed Patty the choir that he and his wife had made and had on display at his family farm. Patty had Jim make a set and she painted and clothed them. They were on display in front of their Brantford Road home for several years. The Uptons always had music playing when the choir was on display. As storing them became more of a problem, Patty and Jim sold most of them to Steve Pelfrey. The choir has been on display at the Stonequarry Road home of Steve Pelfrey ("Pel") and Rose Chin for the last twelve years. When they were purchased from the Uptons, they needed new clothes. Friends of Rose and Pel donated clothing to dress them. They have been wearing an assortment of clothes including many sweatshirts, including ones from Miami, Ohio State, Michigan, and Menards. There is even a cheerleader. We will be redressing them as historic carolers and will plan to have them on display on the Historical Society grounds in December.





## March Meeting

Our March general meeting will be Monday, March 20, 2023 in the Community Room of the Vandalia Library. Our program will begin at 7:00 pm, followed by a short business meeting.

Our speaker will be Rachael Bussert who is Local History Librarian & Archivist. She works at the downtown Branch, which is where the library's archives are located. Her topic is:

### Wait! Don't Laminate! Preserving Your Personal Archives

In honor of American Archives Month this workshop will give participants basic information about protecting their personal archives at home. Topics covered will include the preservation of photographs and paper as well as electronic documents. Participants will learn about the best options for storage and environmental conditions as well as tips for simple file organization.

In addition, Rachael will meet with the Collections Committee and other interested members on April 5<sup>th</sup>. The topic and writeup are:

### Introduction to Community Archives Workshop

Have you found yourself in a situation where you are the archivist for your organization's records? In this workshop participants will get an introduction to preserving and organizing their records. We will also provide information on how Dayton Metro Library can provide support as you become the archivist for your own collection.

This is open to anyone who would like to attend.

## COLLECTIONS & ARCHIVES

We were offered two items with great Butler Township history recently. Bonnie Robinson, a long-time member, resides at Otterbein Home now and has offered us a rope bed and a corner cupboard that have been in her family for many years. Her family owned the property at Frederick Pike and Dog Leg Road from 1875 until 2019.

Thank you, Bonnie, we are so pleased to be able to display these items in the Federal House





## **Open Houses Resume in April**

Open houses are held from 1-3pm. on the first and third Sundays of each month from April through October. There will be a different theme each month. On April 2 and 16, we are featuring Mary Hoottinger, fondly known to many as Aunt Mary.

The Historical Society will always be grateful to Mary for donating her homestead of 8.5 acres to the Historical Society. Many community members knew her from her weekend sales of Alkaline Springs water.

We have learned many things about Mary as we have looked through our archives. We know she loved her dogs and her favorite breed seemed to be collies. We know she purchased many cases of dehydrated foods in the 70's and stored them in the basement of the Federal House. She was a saver of many things. On display you will find some of the costume jewelry she wore, her license tags for her dogs (a dog license cost \$2.00) , samples from her postcard collection, and some of the letters she saved. The letters are from a time when addresses were simple, handwriting was elaborate, and stamps cost three cents.

We welcome personal stories from people who knew Mary. These stories will increase our knowledge of this fascinating woman. Please email your stories to us at [info@historicalsocietyvandalia-butler.or](mailto:info@historicalsocietyvandalia-butler.or)

### ***Recycle Your Aluminum***

Thanks to all who deposit aluminum cans at the Society dumpster (the West side of the Barn). This is one of the few sources of revenue.

### ***Spring Clean Up Day***

March 25<sup>th</sup> has been marked as "Spring Clean Up Day" on the Society's calendar. We usually work 9-noon and ask that people working outside bring rakes, clippers, work gloves, etc. Inside cleaners need to bring some cleaning supplies, vacuum or broom, windex, paper towels and whatever else they like to use.

If the weather on the 25th is not conducive to be outside the inside cleaning could still proceed and we would push the outdoor activities to April 1 (which is the day before our first open house).

### **Topics for 2023 Open Houses:**

**April – Mary Hoottinger**

**May – Medical/Nursing Collection**

**June – Fancy Dresses & Music**

**July – Military**

**August – Schools & ATA**

**September - Vandalia Businesses & Technology**

**October - Vandalia Politics**



### **Education Chair**

Linda Karns is the Society's Education Chair. She has been working to get the programs ready for the open houses. To make them successful, we need members to help guide the attendees through the building by providing information about the buildings and their contents. There are scripts to provide the talking points for the guides. Please contact Linda if you can help with this important project at 937-890-5979, or email Al Tuttle at [altuttle@prodigy.net](mailto:altuttle@prodigy.net) or call 937 776-9829.

### ***Program Chair***

Thanks again to Jean Harman for serving as the Program Chair for many years. She has asked that someone take over finding and scheduling programs for our three General Meetings. Please contact President Al if you would like to serve as the program chair.

### **Home & Garden Tours**

**Please Stay Tuned**

### ***Jack Hollon***

***May 28, 1934~ January 9, 2023 (age 88)***

Jack passed away unexpectedly on Monday, January 9, 2023, at Miami Valley Hospital – Main Campus. Jack was born May 28, 1934 in Franklin, Ohio to the late Curtis & Mary (Dunn) Hollon.

Jack is survived by his loving wife of 67 years, Judy (Alley) Hollon; two children, Jack “Dutch” Hollon & his wife, Terry and Jan Hollon & her husband, Mike Heier; two granddaughters, Jane and Bridget Hollon; and by his extended family & many good friends.

Jack was a 1952 graduate of Franklin High School where he excelled in several sports. He went on to Miami University where he earned his teaching degree in industrial arts and played both football and baseball. He was a proud member of the 1955 undefeated Redskins championship football team.

Beginning in 1962, Jack taught Industrial Arts at Vandalia-Butler High School for 35 years. While at Vandalia-Butler he was athletic director for several years and head football coach for 29 years. He continued his football coaching career at Troy High School (20 years) & Troy Christian School (8 years). Jack earned numerous athletic and coaching accolades for his years of excellence and service.

Since 1976, Jack and Judy have loved living and working on their “gentleman’s farm” in Butler Township. He enjoyed attending to the enhancement and maintenance that comes with the land he cherished so much. He enjoyed his horses, tractors, mowers, barn building, weekly breakfasts with his friends, and spending time with his family.



## ***We Thank Our Business And Organization Sponsors For Their Support***

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<b>BDJ, LLC</b> , Vandalia Shopping Center, PO Box 644, Vandalia, OH 45377-0644	Provides professional services in the nonresidential commercial building real estate business
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<b>City of Vandalia</b> , (937) 898-5891 333 James E. Bohanan Drive, Vandalia, OH 45377	<a href="http://www.vandaliaohio.org">www.vandaliaohio.org</a> , Mayor Richard Herbst; "At the Crossroads of America"
<b>Collins Vision Care</b> , 407 Corporate Center Drive, Suite C, Vandalia, OH 45377, (937) 898-9333	<a href="http://www.drrosscollins.com">www.drrosscollins.com</a> , Vandalia Optometrist providing comprehensive vision care
<b>Tiffany Goodman/Coldwell Banker Realtors</b> , , 356 N Dixie Dr, Vandalia, OH 45377, (937) 470-6973	<a href="http://www.tiffanygoodman.com">www.tiffanygoodman.com</a> , Local Realtor for 14 years Call ME for ALL of your Real Estate needs!!
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<b>JP Signs</b> , (937) 890-4206 9000 Peters Pike, Vandalia, OH 45377	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/Vandalia.Ohio.JPSigns">www.facebook.com/Vandalia.Ohio.JPSigns</a> , Custom fabrication of signs, banners, and art.
<b>Metronet</b> , (937) 576-1556 336 E. National Road, Vandalia, OH 45377	<a href="http://www.metronetinc.com">www.metronetinc.com</a> , Provides cutting-edge fiber optic telecommunication services.
<b>Metro Fire Protection, Inc.</b> (937) 233-1333 7748 Wildcat Road, Huber Heights, OH 45424	Provides fire extinguisher and fire fighting equipment services.
<b>Monroe Federal Savings</b> , 264 E National Road, Vandalia, OH 45377 (937) 898-4372	<a href="http://www.monroefederal.com">www.monroefederal.com</a> Banking and lending services
<b>Morton &amp; Whetstone Funeral Home</b> , S Dixie Drive, Vandalia, OH 45377 (937) 898-4634	<a href="http://www.mortonwhetstonefh.com">www.mortonwhetstonefh.com</a> Funeral and cremation services, pre-planning



<b>Neely Dental Team</b> , 39 Dellsing Dr., Vandalia, OH 45377 (937) 898-8798 <a href="http://www.neelydental.com">www.neelydental.com</a>	Neely Dental Team looks forward to helping you achieve optimal oral health and a great smile, with gentle, patient-centered care.
<b>North Dixie Hardware</b> , (937) 898-0321 9125 N. Dixie Dr, Dayton, OH 45414	Serving the Vandalia/Butler community since 1990. <a href="http://northdixiehardware.com">northdixiehardware.com</a>
<b>R.B. Jergens Contractors</b> , (937) 669-9799 11418 N. Dixie Drive, Vandalia, OH 45377	<a href="http://www.rbjergens.com">www.rbjergens.com</a> , Concrete, demolition, paving, excavating, utilities, surveying and commercial.
<b>Sparks Electric Service, Inc.</b> , (937) 890-7188 8242 N. Dixie Drive, Dayton, OH 45414	<a href="http://www.sparkselectricservice.com">www.sparkselectricservice.com</a> , We keep all of your electrical systems current.
<b>Steve Reed State Farm Insurance</b> , 525 Helke Rd, Vandalia, OH 45377, (937) 898-1331	<a href="http://www.reedagencyvandalia.com">www.reedagencyvandalia.com</a> We specialize in helping clients make GREAT DECISIONS!
<b>Vandalia Branch Library</b> , 330 S. Dixie Dr., Vandalia OH 45377, (937) 463-2665	<a href="http://www.daytonmetrolibrary.org/locations/vandalia">www.daytonmetrolibrary.org/locations/vandalia</a> , Informing, Inspiring & Enriching Our Community
<b>Vandalia Optometry</b> , 33 Elva Ct., Vandalia OH 45377, (937) 898-3641	<a href="http://www.vandaliaoptometry.com">www.vandaliaoptometry.com</a> Private primary care optometry with on-site full scope optical
<b>Vandalia-Butler Alumni Association</b> , Contact President Greg Atherton at <a href="mailto:waldo74@icloud.com">waldo74@icloud.com</a>	<a href="http://www.vbalum.com">www.vbalum.com</a> , Our Mission is "Connecting The Past With The Present And The Future"
<b>Vandalia-Butler Chamber of Commerce</b> , 544 W. National Rd, Vandalia, OH 45377, (937) 898-5351	<a href="http://www.vandaliabutlerchamber.org">www.vandaliabutlerchamber.org</a> , Advance our local civic, economic, social and cultural welfare.
<b>Vandalia-Butler City Schools</b> , (937) 415-6400 306 S. Dixie Drive, Vandalia, OH 45377	<a href="http://www.vbcisd.com">www.vbcisd.com</a> , Students come first, supported by dedicated teachers, staff and administrators.
<b>Warehouse 4</b> , 335 S Dixie Drive, Vandalia, OH 45377(937) 387-6640	<a href="http://warehouse4coffee.com">warehouse4coffee.com</a> Local café offering specialty coffee, house made baked goods, breakfast sandwiches, and lunch.
<b>Woods &amp; Woods Associates</b> , (937) 898-5802 206 N. Dixie Drive, Vandalia, OH 45377	<a href="http://www.vandaliaacpa.com">www.vandaliaacpa.com</a> , Accounting, management advisory, wealth management and tax services.
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