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# NEWS

## Butler County Historical Society

*Preserving and Interpreting Butler County's Rich Heritage*

**For Immediate Release**  
11/5/2010

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### **LOCAL FAMILY LEGACY AND EXPERIENCES OF A WORLD WAR II AIRMEN WILL BE HIGHLIGHTS OF ANNUAL DINNER**

*The Butler County Historical Society's Annual Dinner will include the initial release of a booklet on the historic Benninghofen House and Family and feature Miami University's G. Michael Pratt as its speaker*

(Hamilton, OH) – G. Michael Pratt, the new Associate Provost & Regional Campus Dean for Miami University, is known for his involvement with the Fallen Timbers and Fort Miamis National Historic Site. The setting of his talk for the Butler County Historical Society's 2010 Annual Dinner Meeting takes place exactly 150 years after this historic battle, in the skies above Europe. On Tuesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Pratt will speak about his father's experience as a 22 year-old B-17 pilot during the Second World War. Wade Pratt and his comrades were part of the 100<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group of the Eight Air Force, fictionalized in the 1949 movie *Twelve O'Clock High*.

Also planned for the Society's Annual Dinner is the release of a new booklet on the Benninghofen House and Family. The booklet titled "Benninghofen: a House, a Family, a Legacy", co-authored by Richard Scheid and Benninghofen descendant Christine Carroll, is in time to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of construction of the Benninghofen House (ca. 1861). "Benninghofen" provides an in-depth look at the resident families and their lives during Victorian Hamilton's golden age. The booklet contains many color photographs of the interior and historical pictures. At \$10 each, the booklet is reasonably priced and makes a great souvenir/gift. Come ready to purchase your very own copy!

As is tradition, the Society will review highlights of the past year and reveal the Historian of the Year and Volunteer of the Year awards. Please note that a reservation for the event is required. For complete information, please see the details below.

Simply put...

**WHAT:** Butler County Historical Society's 2010 Annual Dinner Meeting  
**WHO:** Dr. G. Michael Pratt, speaking about "Wade's War: A Bomber Pilot's Experience in the ETO"  
**WHEN:** Tuesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>  
Cocktails at 5:30 p.m.  
Dinner and Meeting at 6:15 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Courtyard by Marriott Hamilton  
1 Riverfront Plaza  
Hamilton, OH 45011  
**NOTE:** Reservations required for meeting and dinner. Cost is \$40/person; \$80/couple; \$150/patron recognition. To make a reservation, please call (513) 896-9930.

In 2009, the Butler County Historical Society (BCHS) celebrated 75 years of dedication to the preservation and interpretation of Butler County's rich heritage. The BCHS, a non-profit organization, operates the historic Benninghofen House – a showcase of Victorian Era lifestyle that includes all the furnishings and décor appropriate for a late 19th century home. Additionally, the BCHS manages an archive that consists of many original and secondary materials relating to regional history. To help us prepare for your visit (tour or research), please call ahead (513) 896-9930. The BCHS is also affiliated with Heritage Hall, a space for the display of rotating exhibits and the permanent location of the Robert McCloskey Collection. To learn more about Heritage Hall, please call (513) 737-5958.