
NEWS

Butler County Historical Society

Preserving and Interpreting Butler County's Rich Heritage

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GARDENERS TO BE RECOGNIZED FOR GREEN WORK

Butler County Master Gardeners will be recognized for their work and dedication at the historic Benninghofen House

(**Hamilton, OH**) – The oldest images of the historic Benninghofen House are in shades of black and white. Yet in recent years, the hard work and dedication of the Butler County Master Gardeners have transformed the grayscale appearance of the house into a vibrant display of color. The Butler County Historical Society (BCHS) operates the Benninghofen House as a museum, archives, and meeting space. The beautifully tended gardens add yet another element of attraction to the Historical Society and house.

On Monday, October 4th at 9:30 a.m., the Butler County Historical Society will dedicate a marker to the Master Gardeners, recognizing their diligent work. The dedication will coincide with a gathering of the Master Gardeners who regularly meet at the Benninghofen house to plant, prune, and clean garden beds. The dedication will also be attended by several BCHS board members who will extend the thanks of the Society to the Master Gardeners for their work. The public is welcome to attend the dedication and afterwards view the gardens.

Over the course of several years, the Butler County Master Gardeners have worked to improve the house and grounds of the BCHS and Benninghofen house. Working with the existing landscape, the Master Gardeners weeded beds and removed undesirable plants. They then created new beds, moved existing plants to locations better suited for their needs, and introduced new plants to the landscape. They have completed several projects including establishing shade and herb gardens. With funding from a Community Connection Grant provided by Butler Rural Electric Cooperative, they designed and completed a Victorian-era history garden.

Throughout the process, the Master Gardeners have incorporated plants and designs appropriate for a historic landscape. Several projects have even used historic materials. For example, hitching posts, carriage steps, and bricks from one of Hamilton's recently torn-down school buildings have all been worked into the design. All such projects were completed with hundreds of hours of volunteer time, donated materials, and much TLC. The BCHS and the Benninghofen House is certainly a more colorful place thanks to the Butler County Master Gardeners.

Simply put...

WHAT: Butler County Master Gardener Recognition and Marker Dedication
WHEN: Monday, October 4th at 9:30 a.m.
WHERE: Butler County Historical Society and Benninghofen House
327 North Second St.
Hamilton, OH 45011

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.