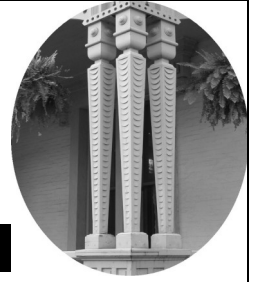


The Benninghofen Post

A Publication of the Butler County Historical Society



October 2010 Issue No. 2010-3

The Butler County Historical Society

327 North Second St.
Hamilton, Ohio 45011
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To help us prepare for your visit, please call ahead.

bchistoricalsociety.com

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Butler Co. Historical Society
Newsletter (ISSN383367-13)

RECENT EVENTS AND VISITORS

Right: BCHS board member Neil Sohngen, and volunteer Mike Fawns stand ready to greet passers-by at the 2010 Butler County Fair. A popular attraction was the "mystery item." Details about the mystery item can be found in the newsletter. Many thanks to the following volunteers who helped at the fair: Marcia Bunce, Curt Ellison, Mike and Patty Fawns, Larry Fiehrer, Nancy Follmer, Greg Fugitt, Jeff Hall, Ben Jones, Tom Redman, Deb Ripperger, Neil and Janet Sohngen, and Greg Young.



Left: Just two days before the annual Antique and Classic Car Parade, the BCHS welcomed guest speaker Al Hounshell from America's Packard Museum. Al's history of the Packard automobile was very enlightening. However, the 1935 Packard V-12 convertible that Al brought with him stole the show. Not only were we allowed to sit inside the car, but Al was kind enough to take everyone who wished on an unforgettable ride around the block.

Right: In August, the Village and Farm Garden Club from Ross and Morgan Townships visited the historic Benninghofen House. After walking through the gardens, they stepped inside and toured the house. They posed for a picture on the front steps of the house.



Left: On Monday, October 4th, the BCHS Board of Trustees presented a plaque to the Butler County Master Gardeners for their work with the gardens at the historic Benninghofen House. The plaque was donated by Tom Koehler of Hamilton Brass and Aluminum Castings, Inc. Since 2005, the Master Gardeners have completed many projects. We thank them for their hard work and dedication.

Frederick Douglass - October 1st—October 29th. In partnership with Hamilton City Schools, the Michael J. Colligan History Project presents an exhibit from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History that highlights the role of literacy in enabling Frederick Douglass to resist bondage and champion civil rights for all Americans. Exhibit located at Riverview Elementary School. For more information call (513) 785-3277.

Unlocking the Door to Hamilton's History - Saturday, October 16th, 10:00am. An introduction to Hamilton's rich and colorful past through the many historical documents housed in the Cummins Local History Room at the Hamilton Lane Library. For more information call (513) 894-7158.

What is Military History and Why Should I Care? - Wednesday, October 27th, 7:30pm. Dr. Allan R. Millett will discuss the development of military history as an intellectual domain, an academic specialty, and a subject of mass audience, books, and movies. Program will be held at the Parrish Auditorium, Miami Hamilton. For more information call (513) 785-3277.

Fall Harvest at Governor Bebb Preserve - Sunday, November 7th, 1:00pm - 5:00 pm. Join the Pioneer Group as they demonstrate how food was prepared in celebration of a successful harvest. Free. Metroparks motor vehicle permit required. For more information call (513) 867-5835.

Remembering the Early Cold War Years - Tuesday, November 9th, 7:30pm. A panel discussion moderated by Jim Blount and featuring area veterans John Moser, Carl Crane, Earl Bowman, and Chuck Ramage. The veterans will share reflections on their wartime experiences. Program will be held at the Harry T. Wilks Conference Center. For more information call (513) 785-3277.

Butler County vs. German U-Boats! - Saturday, November 20th, 10:00am. Butler County historian Jim Blount will discuss the small but vital part the Butler County area played in overcoming Germany's U-Boat successes in World War II. Program will be held at the Morgan Township Administration Building. For more information call (513) 738-0910.



OLIVE RANDALL REMEMBERED

The Butler County Historical Society lost one of its most devoted friends on September 6, 2010 when Olive Randall passed away. She enjoyed 47 years of happy marriage with Herbert Thomson Randall, who preceded her in death in 1986. Mrs. Randall contributed generously to many organizations, including the Butler County Historical Society. The planned Research and Orientation Center, sched-

uled to be completed in 2011, was made possible by the generosity of Mrs. Randall. Several artifacts in the care of the BCHS were donated by Mrs. Randall, including her painting of Shawnee war chief Blue Jacket. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials to the Hamilton Community Foundation or any charity of their choice.

NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS

- * David and Marge Belew - Hamilton, OH
- * Bill and Marcia Bunce - Liberty Twp., OH
- * Butler County Genealogical Society
- * Carl and Joan Crane - Hamilton, OH
- * Steve and Karen Gagle - Hamilton, OH
- * John and June Gilmore - Middletown, OH
- * Mike and Debbie Greskamp - Liberty Twp., OH
- * William and Jackie Groth - Hamilton, OH
- * Laura E. Hicks - Middletown, OH
- * Eugene Jacoby - Hamilton, OH
- * David and Mary Ann Keller - Hamilton, OH
- * Steve and Cathy Mayhugh - Oxford, OH
- * Tim Meehan - Hamilton, OH
- * Alice M. Miller - Oxford, OH
- * John and Shirley Moser - Hamilton, OH
- * Jean Nathan - Cincinnati, OH
- * James O'Dell - Fairfield, OH
- * Doris Page - Trenton, OH
- * Jim and Sue Paulus - Hamilton, OH
- * G. Michael and Patricia Pratt - Middletown, OH
- * Kenneth Purdy - Hamilton, OH
- * Charles J. Ranke - Hickory, NC
- * James and Linda Reboulet - Hamilton, OH
- * Kate Rousmaniere - Oxford, OH
- * Richard Scheid - Hamilton, OH
- * James and Karen Schwartz - Fairfield, OH
- * Joan M. Stitzel - Fairfield, OH
- * Sons of Union Veterans - Camp #8

The Butler County Historical Society is dedicated to preserving the history of your family for future generations. Please help us in this endeavor by remembering us in your will and estate planning.

Now Accepting Nominations for the 2010 Butler County

HISTORIAN OF THE YEAR!

Do you know someone who has made a significant contribution to understanding or interpreting our history?
If so, we want to hear about them!

Please fill out the form below and send to:

Butler County Historical Society

327 North Second St.

Hamilton, Ohio 45011

Nominees must meet the following CRITERIA:

- * Has contributed to the preservation or interpretation of a local historic resource (site, building, object);
- * Has produced or authored any electronic media or publication about local history;
- * Has undertaken any sort of project that incorporates, promotes, or preserves local history;
- * Has generally contributed, in some way, to the understanding of our local history;
- * Has not before received the Historian of the Year Award.

Please note the following:

- * The award recipient will be chosen by the Board of Trustees of the Butler County Historical Society;
- * The award will be given at the Annual Meeting of the Butler County Historical Society;
- * **Deadline is Friday, October 29th, 2010.**

Your Nomination

Your name: _____

Your best contact phone #: _____ Your email: _____

Nominee's name: _____

Nominee's best contact phone #: _____ Nominee's email: _____

Summary of nomination/reason for nomination (use back or attach paper if more space is needed):

Past Award Recipients:

2009: Nancy Poe
2008: Greg Wilkens
2007: Myron Van Ness
and Emily Reed

2006: Oxford Museum Association
and Oxford Township Trustees
2005: Franz Klaber Orchestra
2004: Anne Koch Jantzen
2003: Pat Hoelscher

Please continue writing in the space below:

Larry Fiehrer, Vice President of the Butler County Historical Society, has been practicing law in Butler County since 1974. He holds degrees from the Salmon P. Chase College of Law and the University of Dayton. Larry has also served on the board of the American Red Cross, Hamilton Area Chapter and is past president of the Butler County Bar Association. He and his wife, Carla, have 5 children and 6 grandchildren. Larry has been interested in history from a young age when he and his brother accidentally stumbled upon a medallion thought to have belonged to President William Henry Harrison.



Marcia Koehler Bunce is a life-long resident of Hamilton and graduated from Taft High School in 1971. She earned a B.A. from Ohio Wesleyan University and J.D. from the Salmon P. Chase College of Law. Marcia devotes much of her time as a community volunteer. She has served on the Boards of Lifespan and Hamilton Living Water Ministry. She has also served on the Harry T. Wilks Hamilton Celebrates Education Committee, and the Scholarship and Youth Philanthropy Committees of the Hamilton Community Foundation.

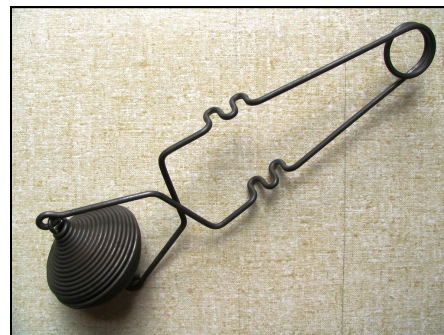
NEW EXHIBIT OPENING AT HERITAGE HALL

Millstones and Milestones: 19th Century Hamilton Industry - Opens Friday, October 22nd, 6:30 pm

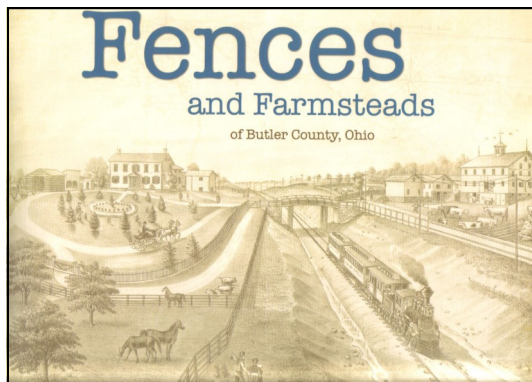
You are invited to attend the opening of the new exhibit at Heritage Hall featuring the growth of industry in Hamilton! The exhibit explores the early grist mills through the development of light industry located on the Miami Erie Canal and the Hamilton Rossville Hydraulic Canal to a center for major industry including Beckett Paper, Champion Paper, and Mosler Safe. A reception at 6:30 will be followed by a talk at 7:00 by Hamilton historian Jim Blount entitled "Hamilton's Industrial Heritage." The exhibit will be on display through March of 2011. No reservations necessary. For more information call (513) 737-5958.

MYSTERY ITEM AT THE FAIR

Congratulations to **Jennifer Tumlin** who correctly guessed that this year's mystery item was a "flour sifter." Manufactured by Nisse Carlson Co. in Rockford, Illinois, the product label reads "For sifting flour and other ingredients of a similar nature into gravies and like dishes where it is desirable to add the ingredients gradually to prevent lumping." For her correct guess, Jennifer has been given a free one-year membership to the Butler County Historical Society. The answer we received most often was "hand strengthener." Other guesses included: spaghetti server; butter skimmer; firefly catcher; egg cracker; spider catcher; honey scoop; potato masher; hair curler; small-fish catcher; and potato chip maker.



"FENCES AND FARMSTEADS OF BUTLER COUNTY"



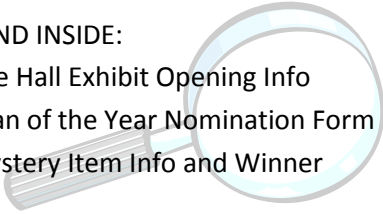
Fences and Farmsteads of Butler County, Ohio is an attractive and informative sourcebook that brings to life the scenes depicted in the *Combination Atlas Map of Butler County, Ohio, 1875*. The book was produced by the Friends of Chisholm Historic Farmstead and the MetroParks of Butler County as a local component of the Smithsonian Between Fences Exhibition. The importance of fences for 19th century farming and an overview of L.H. Everts *Combination Atlas Map of Butler County, 1875* are explained in two short essays. Copies of *Fences and Farmsteads of Butler County, Ohio* can be purchased at the Butler County Historical Society for \$10.00 (tax included).

**BUTLER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
327 NORTH SECOND STREET
HAMILTON, OH 45011**

**Non-Profit Organization
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WHAT YOU'LL FIND INSIDE:

- * New Heritage Hall Exhibit Opening Info
- * 2010 Historian of the Year Nomination Form
- * 2010 Fair Mystery Item Info and Winner



THE 2010 ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

Tuesday, November 16th

Featuring G. Michael Pratt, Miami University Associate Provost & Regional Campus Dean

WHAT: 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 16th
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



In World War II, the 100th Bomb Group of the Eighth Air Force, fictionalized in the 1949 movie *Twelve O'Clock High*, was the Hard Luck group thought to be a special target of the Luftwaffe. A 22-year-old B-17 pilot, 2nd Lieutenant Wade Pratt recorded the final months of the war through almost daily letters to his parents in Middletown, Ohio. This illustrated presentation by G. Michael Pratt, Dean of the Regional Campuses and Associate Provost at Miami University, places his father's personal experiences in the context of the Air War over Europe.

NOTE: Reservations required. \$40/person, \$80/couple, \$150/patron. Questions? Please call (513) 896-9930 or send email to bcomuseum@fuse.net.

