Ottawa County Historical Society

www.ottawacountyhistory.org Second Quarter 2025

2025 Officers

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Corresponding Secretary, Newsletter Editor
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Countdown to 250 America 1776-2026

DAR Marker Dedication. Ottawa County has five American Revolutionary War veterans buried in the County. On Saturday, May 17 at 1 p.m. at the Wolcott Family Cemetery, we will dedicate a National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Patriot Marker. The DAR marker was purchased by the Society with a grant from the America-250 Ohio Commission. The marker is being placed near the gravesite of Benajah Wolcott and honors all five veterans: Isaac Ambler, John Clemons, Jr., John Green, Israel Harrington, and Benajah Wolcott. Please join us at the cemetery located approximately ¼ mile from the Wolcott Keeper's House at 9999 E. Bayshore Road, Danbury Township. Parking is limited at the cemetery and visitors are asked to park near the House and Annex. A golf cart shuttle service will be provided to the cemetery for those preferring not to take the 5-10 minute walk to the cemetery. Both the House and Annex will be open for tours after the dedication.

County 250th Initiatives – The Ottawa County-America 250 Committee is planning a number of events for 2026 including driving tours, historical performances, marker trails, and a countywide picnic. Organizations throughout the county are also planning 250th celebrations, such as concerts, re-enactments, and lectures. Please check periodically the websites of the Historical Society and Shores & Islands to read more about the County Committee and events in both Erie and Ottawa counties.

Websites:
www.ottawacountyhistory.org/america-250/
www.shoresandislands.com/america-250/

Keeper's House & Annex 2025 Hours

The Keeper's House and Annex will be open from May 24, 2025 through September 1, 2025 from 1-4 p.m. on Saturdays, Sundays, and Mondays.

Additional Volunteers and Docents are always welcome and needed. Please contact Becky Shemenski at 419-463-0295 (call or text) if you can lend a hand.

2025 Spring Cleaning at the Keeper's House

WHEN: Saturday, May 10th -
TIME: 10:00 a.m. - noon
WHERE: Keeper's House
9999 Bayshore Road, Marblehead

Calling all cleaners to spruce up the buildings and grounds at the Wolcott Keeper's House and Annex. Please bring your favorite cleaning tools; your favorite buckets, rags, paper towels, cleaning products, rakes, vacuums (we also will have some available).

Pizza will be served at noon for all workers. Any questions, please call Dave O'Neal at 419-707-3555.

Thanks so much!!

Orientation For Docents & Volunteers For The Wolcott Keeper's House & Annex
May 17, 2025 11:30 a.m.

Are you passionate about our local history and sharing it with others? Have you thought about volunteering at the Keeper's House or Annex but just haven't done it?? Now it is time! We are hosting an orientation for those interested (and for those who need their skills refreshed) on Saturday, May 17, 2025 at 11:30 a.m. No prior experience is needed. The orientation will be held at the Keeper's House. We will review the security code for the Keeper's House as well as procedures to make our guests feel welcome. Please join us! For questions you may call or text Becky Shemenski at 419-463-0295. Please make reservations with Becky for the training so we may be prepared.

Immediately Following the Orientation

at 1 p.m., you are invited to join us for the Daughters of the American Revolution Patriot Marker dedication at the Wolcott Family Cemetery. We would love to have you attend. For more information, please refer to our web page ottawacountyhistory.org.

Ottawa County Purple Heart Day

The third annual Ottawa County Purple Heart Day is scheduled for Thursday, August 7. Specific details including location and time will be available in the coming weeks. If you have a Purple Heart recipient you would like to add to the Ottawa County Purple Heart registry, please contact Dave Barth, drb360@gmail.com or by calling him at 419.357.2057.

Ottawa County Museum News

The Ottawa County Museum has a new Facebook page facebook.com/theottawacountymuseum. Note that we have added the word 'the' to the Facebook page. Check out the new addition to the page called 'What's It?" Wednesday every week an artifact from the museum is featured. So far, readers have been quite successful identifying the items.

We have a BGSU Masters graduate, Emily Kay, at the museum who will graduate with her Masters in August.

Our summer hours will begin after Memorial Day. We will be open 12 noon to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. To schedule a visit on other days call 419-732-1039.

Although the museum is not staffed to offer research services, individuals are available to answer questions and assistance to visitors conducting their own research.

The museum has a continuing need for volunteer assistance, including: cataloging, maintaining the database, researching, and greeting/assisting visitors.

The museum keeps many school documents as well as all Revistas. It has a file dedicated to class reunions that can be very useful for catching up on old friends or doing genealogical research. Reminder- turn in your class reunion information for use by future researchers! PEGGY DEBIEN

Genoa Homecoming
May 29th - May 31st

Thursday Car Show - *Name That Tune* Contest

Friday Grand Parade 6:30 p.m.

Entertainment Tent

Saturday 3 p.m.

Cornhole Tournament - Entertainment

Fireworks

For information check

genoahomecoming.org

Surplus Fruit Is All Moved

Port Clinton Herald

December 10, 1937

Federal Agency Saved Excellent Food From Going to Waste

Ohio weather in 1937 having been a bit too generous in orchards and vineyards, fruit growers of this state had sold to the Surplus Commodities Corporation, of the United States Department of Agriculture, 49 carloads of apples, many of the latter coming from Ottawa County

Both apples and grapes have been distributed to relief agencies in this and other states.

Purchase of this fruit served two purposes, growers were aided in moving crops which could not be absorbed by the regular market except at very low prices, and the fruit was saved for distribution to people who would have been unable to obtain it otherwise. Many Ohio fruit growers do not have storage facilities for their crop so it has to be moved to market immediately after harvest.

Purchases of fruit in Ohio were only a part of the Corporations activities. Ohio growers were paid approximately $65,500 for their apples out of a total of $650,000 spent by the government in buying 1,744,206 bushels of apples in the United States. Ohio growers also received $16,630 for grapes.

PEGGY DEBIEN, OTTAWA COUNTY MUSEUM

Columbus Firemen - Danbury Fruit House

Courtesy Ottawa Co. Museum

2025 OCHS Coming Events

Saturday, May 10 @ 10 a.m.
Spring cleaning Keeper's House & Annex

Saturday, May 17 @ 11:30 a.m.
Volunteer Orientation

Saturday, May 17 @ 1 p.m.
Daughters of the American Revolution Patriot Marker dedication at the Wolcott Family Cemetery

Friday, May 24, 1-4 p.m.
Keeper's House & Annex open for the season

Saturday, June 7 @ 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Hearth cooking

Sunday, June 22 @ 12 Noon
Portage River Festival table/booth

Saturday, July 12 @ 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Summer Food & Music

Saturday, August 16 @ 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Port Clinton Lighthouse Festival table/booth

Wednesday, August 20 @ 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Annual Potluck Picnic

Monday, September 1
Keeper's House & Annex
Close for the season

Saturday, October 11 @ 11 a.m.
Fall Festival/Civil War Encampment

Sunday, November 9 @ 11:30 a.m.
Fall meeting of the Membership @ CIC
Speakers - George & Martha Washington
from *We Made History Cleveland*

Elmore Portage River Festival
June 22, 2025
Depot Park, 353 Ottawa St, Elmore, Ohio

Arts & Crafts - Live Entertainment - Pony Rides

Bicycle Tour - Rat Rods & Car Show

Garden Tractor Pull - Model Trains

Historic Buildings & Museum

Great Food!

Ottawa County Historical Society
P.O. Box 385
Port Clinton, OH 43452

Help Support the
Ottawa Co. Historical Society

Online: Using PayPal, you can make a donation directly to the Society by clicking the PayPal button on our new website.

Through purchases you make: Kroger supermarket and designate your charity as Ottawa County Historical Society, a portion of your purchase will be donated to the Society

OTTAWA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES – Membership year January 1 through December 31

Levels and Dues: (check one)

____Single ($20) ____Family ($35) ____Sustaining ($50) ____Patron ($100 or more) ___Lifetime ($500)

Name_____

Address/City/State/Zip _____

Phone Number_____

Email_____

In addition to the above membership dues, I/we make the following donation(s):

____ General Fund
____ Scholarship Fund
____ Wolcott Keeper's House

The newsletter is sent quarterly via email. If you prefer a **paper** copy via US mail, please indicate here:

____ Yes, send a paper copy via US mail

Total enclosed_____ Date_____ Check #_____

☐ I am interested in volunteering.

The OCHS is a non-profit organization. Your donation may be tax deductible.
Duplicate membership payments are considered a donation to the General Fund.

Mail to: OCHS, P.O. Box 385, Port Clinton, OH 43452