

# Pickerington-Violet Township



## HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### News for Members and Friends

SPRING 2018

Find us: 15 E. Columbus Street, Olde Pickerington Village ~ [www.PickHistory.org](http://www.PickHistory.org)

Call us: 614-382-5989 ~ Email us: [pickhistsociety@hotmail.com](mailto:pickhistsociety@hotmail.com) ~ We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

### Historical Society 2018 Events Calendar

**April 5, 7:30pm:** Society Meeting/Program:  
*Madame X* by Travis Risner at Museum

**April 7, 10am-1pm:** *Museum Open Houses*  
held each Saturday thru December 15

**May 3, 7:30pm:** Society Meeting/*Tour of  
Pickerington's New Fire Station #591.*  
Meet at Historical Museum

**May 12, 10am-4pm:** *Treasure Sale* at  
Museum during *Olde Pickerington  
MayFest*. Crafts, food, music and more!

**June 7, 7pm:** Society Meeting/*Tour of  
Historical Aircraft Squadron Museum* at  
Fairfield County Airport in Carroll, Ohio

**August 2, 6:30pm:** Society Members-Only  
in-door Picnic /*Tour of National Barber  
Museum* (Grand Opening May 5 at new  
location: 135 Franklin St, Canal Winchester)

**Sept 13, 6:30-8:30pm** *Night at the Museum*  
Fundraiser for Historical Society at Museum

**Oct 4, 7:30pm:** Society Meeting/Program:  
*Pickerington-Violet Township History*  
visual presentation by historian, Gary Taylor

**Oct 30, 6-8pm:** *Haunted Museum* during  
Pickerington's annual "Haunted Village"

**Nov 1, 7-8:30pm:** Society Meeting/Program:  
*World War I* by Bruce Jarvis at Pick Library

**Dec 6, 6:30pm:** Society Members-Only  
Christmas Potluck at Senior Center

**Dec 7, 5-8:30pm:** Annual Holiday Gathering

**Volunteers needed! Call 614-382-5989.**



### Historical Society Museum Saturday Open Houses Resuming April 7 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

When our Historical Society Museum opens its doors for the 2018 season on Saturday April 7 at 10 AM, visitors will be greeted by a new Wheelchair Lift.

The lift will allow handicap access to our Museum's main level. It can be accessed via a ramp from the Lockville Road sidewalk to the rear of the Museum. On-street parking is available on Columbus Street along with

Saturday and evening public parking at 51 E. Columbus (Pickerington's Building Department lot located across from the Olde Village Diner).

The lift was purchased through grants the Historical Society received from PNC Bank and the Fairfield County Foundation. Our thanks to the City of Pickerington and Violet Township for helping fund and coordinate this project with contractors and the lift supplier.

### Historical Society Meeting/Program: *Madame X* Thursday, April 5 – 7:30-9:00pm Historical Museum: 15 E Columbus Street

Join us April 5, 7:30pm for our first meeting and program of 2018 in the Lower Level of our Historical Museum. Access is now available from the Lockville Road sidewalk via a ramp to our Museum's Lower Level rear door.

Agnes Meyer Driscoll (1889-1971), known as "the first lady of naval cryptology," came to Westerville with her family when she was six. She studied math, physics, music, and languages at Otterbein and OSU. Driscoll joined the Navy and became one of its top WWI cryptographers. Her principal achievement was decrypting secret codes used by the Japanese military and diplomats before and during WWII. Hear Travis Risner of Westerville as he provides a glimpse into the life of this extraordinary woman. This program and refreshments are free and open to the public.



## AROUND OUR MUSEUM



### Museum Volunteer Help Needed

**Museum Cleaning Crew:** Mary Herron, Peggy Portier, and Barbara Freeman (from left to right in photo) are looking for help to clean up the dust created by installation of our new wheelchair lift. Can you help on one of these dates?

**Tuesday, March 13: 9:00am until Noon**

**If needed, another TBD date during week of March 19**

We'll be dusting artifacts/furniture, windexing, mopping, vacuuming, and more! Refreshments available.

**Become a Saturday Volunteer:** During April and May Saturdays, veteran Museum volunteers will be training new volunteers to greet guests, sell merchandise, and share local history. This volunteer job is easy and fun!

If you would like to learn more about local history, discover interesting artifacts in our Museum, and make new friends on Saturdays from 10 AM to 1 PM, sign up for training today!

**To sign up or ask questions about either of these volunteer opportunities:**

**email [pickhistsociety@hotmail.com](mailto:pickhistsociety@hotmail.com)**

**or leave a message at 614-382-5989**

### 2018-2019 PICKERINGTON-VIOLET TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY EXECUTIVES

#### Elected Officers

President: Peggy Portier

Advisor (Past President): Gary Taylor

Vice President-Administration: Keith Ebright

Vice President-Programs: Jack Whitaker

Secretary: Mary Herron

Treasurer: Fiona Spears

Members-at-Large: Barbara Freeman, Stephanie Johnson, and Greg Karoly

#### President's Appointees

Librarian: Suellen Goldsberry

Membership/Volunteer Chair: Stephanie Johnson

Publicity Chair/Newsletter Editor: Maggie Arendt

#### Open Appointed Positions

Historian, Curator

#### 2018 Historical Society Projects

Replace Museum's Lower Level deteriorated outside door

Clean Museum Carpets (upstairs and downstairs)

Repair Loom to Offer Demonstrations (*Know anyone who can do this?*)

Begin Oral History Video Program with Pickerington Public Library

### Museum Treasure Sale

Our Museum is running out of space! So we're offering for sale our duplicate collectibles/antiques — such as original photos, frames, church directories, community event programs, magazines, books, and more during Pickerington Village's MayFest on:

**Saturday, May 12**

**10:00 AM to 4:00 PM**

**Treasure Sale**

**at the Historical Society Museum**

**15 E. Columbus Street**

**Pickerington OH 43147**



## LOCAL HISTORY



▲ **1955 photo of the new Violet Township Fire Station #591 at 21 Lockville Road. The Carnegie Library (now Historical Museum) can be seen at upper right of the fire station. The Violet Township Fire Department was created in 1955 and staffed by volunteers until 1985 when a full-time fire chief and four fire-fighters were hired. This fire station was razed in 2017 to make way for the new Fire Station #591 shown at right.**

### Fire Station Tour Set for May 3



▲ **2018: Our Historical Society is sponsoring a tour of the new Violet Township Fire Station #591 on Thursday, May 3. A short meeting in the Historical Museum's Lower Level (15 E Columbus St) begins at 7:30pm, then we'll walk to the Fire Station next door for the tour. Refreshments and conversation will be available at the Museum after the tour. This program is free and open to the public. Bring a friend and/or a new member!**

### Special April-June Exhibit: The Hanna Family



▲ **An early 1900's photo of Sylvia Hanna. She married Harry Hanna shortly after WWI. Hanna's Auto Repair garage was built circa 1923 with bricks from the Pickerington Tile Mill located down the street.**

Take a nostalgic tour through mid-1900's downtown Pickerington via artifacts donated by the family of Sylvia and Harry Hanna. The couple were known for their "Hanna House" hospitality at their home purchased for \$1400 in 1922 at 36 W. Columbus St. Their Chrysler-Plymouth dealership/garage was built next door at 30 W. Columbus St.

This exhibit will be featured at our Historical Museum April thru June. It includes dresses, hats, and other accessories worn by Sylvia Hanna (1891-1951) along with photos and memories of Harry H. Hanna's (1894-1974) auto dealership/garage and surrounding downtown Pickerington businesses.

Historical Society Lifetime Member, Betty Hanna, was married to Sylvia and Harry Hanna's son, Bill Hanna (1921-1986). Betty passed away December 12, 2017 at the age of 95. Betty and Bill were married in 1942 and lived in three different downtown Pickerington homes, including the "Hanna House".

In a 1997 recording for our Historical Society, Betty talked about downtown residents and businesses, including her father-in-law's car dealership and garage:

*"Someone from Columbus came in, bought a new car and paid for it with a can of silver dollars.*

*"The garage contained a coal stove surrounded by a bunch of seats. Guys would sit down and talk for hours. Lonnn Moore (for a long time I thought his name was 'lawnmower') would tell stories about his pitching days with the Cleveland baseball team. There were two gas pumps out front. People would stop and ask for gas in the middle of the night. One night Harry heard a noise, went for his gun, and headed out-doors. Sylvia ran after him shouting, 'Harry, Harry, here's the bullets!'"*

More of Betty Hanna's "Downtown Pickerington" stories can be read at the Historical Museum on Saturdays, 10 AM to 1 PM, starting April 7.



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PICKERINGTON-VIOLET TOWNSHIP  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
P O BOX 732  
PICKERINGTON, OHIO 43147

## THANK YOU TO OUR BENEFACTORS

Our Historical Society donors, supporters, and volunteers continue to amaze us with their generosity. The Franklin and Fairfield County Foundations' November fundraisers/matching funds, Barnes-Noble gift-wrapping fundraiser, plus individual holiday donors gifted to our Historical Society approximately \$2,500. Plans for these funds during 2018 include purchase of video equipment to begin our Oral History Program (creating videos of members' historic memories) in partnership with the Pickerington Public Library; replace the deteriorated Lower Level outside entry door to our Museum; clean carpets on both Museum levels; and repair the loom to enable us to offer demonstrations.

Our very sincere thank you to each of the following donors:

Maggie Arendt	Barbara Freeman	Mr/Mrs James McGill	Clover Rogers
Robert and Joyce Avers	Mr/Mrs Arthur J. Good	Douglas Merle	Rusty and Fiona Spears
Barnes/Noble volunteers	Nancy Groves	Carla Ricketts Moore	Gary and Barbara Taylor
Mr/Mrs William V. Corban	Joan Heft	Nationwide United Way	Susan Trumble
Rosemary Crum	Peggy Kose	Mr/Mrs Jim Paxton	Ira Weiss
Phyllis DeLooff	Virginia Kraner	Ralph and Peggy Portier	Jack and Bev Whitaker
FCF-Zimpfer Memorial Fund		John and Janet Price	

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS *(all from Pickerington)*

**Family Memberships**— Adam and Danielle Dinnell; Dan and Bertie Heitmeyer.

**Individual Memberships** — Peggy Tipton; Pearle Roe.

**Lifetime Memberships** — Eric Pawlowski; Lois Williamson.

**Business Membership** — The Family Church of Pickerington.

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