



Pickerington-Violet Township HISTORICAL SOCIETY

News for Members and Friends

FALL, 2018

Find us: 15 E. Columbus Street, Olde Pickerington Village ~ www.PickHistory.org

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

~~Afternoon Night~~ at the Museum

Sunday, September 16, from 2:00 – 4:00 PM

The inhabitants of the Pickerington-Violet Township Historical Society Museum will come to life on Sunday afternoon, September 16. This free, open to the public, family-friendly event happens from 2:00 to 4:00 PM. Guests can meet, interact with, and see “show-and-tell” skits about former residents including:

- **Abraham Pickering**, Pickerington’s 1815 founder, portrayed by John Cooper.
- **Andrew Carnegie**, Pennsylvania steel magnate who granted \$10,000 to build and furnish our Carnegie Library. He’ll be reincarnated by Ralph Portier.
- **W.B. “Doc” Taylor** will allow his grandson, Gary Taylor, to help guests experience early 20th century medicine and community involvement.
- **Ray Wetherell**, 1928 founder of Wetherell Dairy, will be revived by his grandson, Kevin Wetherell.
- **Cleo Mason Richter**, Pickerington’s postmistress for 27 years and lifetime collector of local artifacts, will be portrayed by Deb Boerema.
- **Anna Milnor Young**, who spent 42 years teaching in Pickerington Schools, comes back to life in the form of PHS Central H.S. student, Miriah Gabel.



See two Abe Pickerings!

In addition, the afternoon will include music, children’s games and prizes, complimentary punch and cookies in the Museum’s lower level. Games also will be available on the Museum’s front lawn, weather permitting.

Bring your family, neighbors, and friends to this FREE, fun and educational event that is part of Ohio History Connection’s “Open Doors” held at public buildings throughout Ohio for 10 days ending this weekend. For questions, email pickhistsociety@hotmail.com or leave a message at 614-382-5989.



The Pickering Family during the 19th Century Special Museum Exhibit thru September

Although Pickerington’s founder, Abraham Pickering, passed away August 2, 1833, his extended family left an extraordinary legacy for our community through homes, land, and personal artifacts. This summertime exhibit provides a glimpse of life during 1800’s Pickerington-Violet Township.

The woven coverlets shown at left were gifted to our Historical Society by Virginia Millar Nessley and her family. She was the great-granddaughter of Jacob Pickering (1845-1926) who was a great nephew of Pickerington founder, Abraham Pickering.

AROUND OUR MUSEUM

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 Coordinator: 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 and Tile (upstairs and downstairs)

Repair Loom to be able to offer demonstrations

Purchase equipment for Oral History Video Program with Pickerington Public Library

Recent Donations Appreciated!

Anonymous: \$1,000 contribution to help fund automated steel door at Museum rear entrance.

Pam Good: 4 microphones and 3 stands for our planned Society/Library Oral History Program.

Joan Heft and Barb/Gary Taylor: Donations in memory of George Hallenbrook, Historical Society officer/volunteer who recently passed away.

Mauger's Mini Donuts: \$123 for Historical Society volunteer help at July Farmers' Market.

Ohio Open Doors: \$150 to assist with *Afternoon at Museum* marketing expenses.

Jim Paxton: "Boots and Shoes" sign believed to have hung on Kraner's General Store.

Pickerington Elementary 3rd graders: "Thank You" letters/drawings after their Museum tour. See these fun letters at Museum!

Red Robin Fundraiser: \$144.94. Thanks to all members who ate at Red Robin!

Highlights of Pickerington History

Thursday, October 4, 7:30 PM
Museum Lower Level



Have you heard of the Price Brothers or Billy Moore? How about the IOOF? Bullwinkle? Do you know who owned Pickerington's first automobile? How about famous Pickerington fires and bank robberies?

Find answers during our Historical Society meeting on October 4, 7:30pm in our Museum's Lower Level, 15 E. Columbus Street in Olde Pickerington.

Fourth generation local historian, Gary Taylor, will share his knowledge of Pickerington residents, people, and events through a visual presentation. Guests of all ages will enjoy his fun, fast-paced journey through 200 years of local history.

This event is free and open to the public. Light refreshments available. Direct any questions to 614-382-5989.

Historical Society Events for remainder of 2018

Sept 3, 9:30am--Noon: Historical Museum open during Annual Labor Day Parade in downtown Pickerington.

Sept 16, 2:00-4:00pm: *Afternoon at the Museum.*

Oct 4, 7:30-9:00pm: Society monthly meeting featuring presentation about *Pickerington's History* by Gary Taylor.

Oct 6, 10am-1:00pm: Opening of Museum exhibit "*Honoring our Community's Military*" featuring residents' uniforms, equipment, rations, photographs, love letters, and more.

Oct 15-16, 4:00-10:00pm: Two-evening fundraiser benefiting our Historical Society at Kingy's Pizza Pub, 7470 Hill Rd.

Oct 30, 6:00-8:00pm: Enjoy Halloween fun at *The Haunted Museum* during Pickerington's annual "Haunted Village".

Nov. 1, 7:00-8:30pm: Historical Society/Pickerington Library program about *WWI*; speaker is Bruce Jarvis. Location: PPL, 201 Opportunity Way, Pickerington, Ohio 43147.

Dec 6, 6:30-9:00pm: Historical Society members-only *Christmas Potluck* at Pickerington Senior Center. Food and dulcimer entertainment! Reservations required.

Dec 7, 5:00-8:30pm: *"Holiday Gathering in the Village".* Museum open during this popular family downtown event.

LOCAL HISTORY

20th Century Medicine in Pickerington

By Gary Taylor, Pickerington-Violet Township Historian

The following is a continuation of Gary Taylor's story in our last newsletter about the medical profession in Pickerington during the 19th and 20th centuries. He compiled this information from notes written by Dr. K.W. Taylor (his uncle) and other research.

Dr. Georgia Finley was a progressive physician in Pickerington from 1902 until 1912 and was a member of our first local library board of trustees. She was remembered to be "hard of hearing" and used a long horn device held up to her ear to assist her in hearing.

Dr. Charles Kraner, who spent his long life entirely in Pickerington, practiced medicine from 1910 until 1912 following graduation from medical school. The medical phase of his life was cut short by a physical handicap. Dr. Kraner also was a registered pharmacist and legally qualified to practice as an attorney, but spent his life here in the mercantile business — much of it at Kraner's General Store.

Dr. F.G. Taylor, a graduate of Cincinnati Eclectic Medical College and grandfather of Dr. K.W. Taylor and N. Emerson Taylor, practiced in Pickerington during 1876 and 1877. He then moved to Reynoldsburg where he continued to practice until his death in 1909. He was married to Mary Tussing who was born in a large home on Refugee Road, just east of Harmon Road. She received her education at the one-room Mingo School.

Their son, **Dr. W.B. Taylor** was born during their short stay in Pickerington. He returned here in 1902 after his graduation from Ohio Medical College. "Doc" W.B. Taylor continued a large comprehensive practice here until his death in 1944. Dr. W.B. was keenly interested in community affairs and was a member of the first library board of trustees as well as a founding board member of The Pickerington Bank in 1909.

In 1930, he was joined in his practice by his son, **Dr. Kenneth W. Taylor**, who continued to practice in Pickerington for the next 46 years. Their practice was located in a small office adjoined to Dr. W.B.'s home at 47 West Columbus Street. After the death of Dr. W.B., the office building was moved to 30 Cross Street where Dr. K.W. continued to practice until his retirement. There was no pharmacy in Pickerington



↑ Dr. W.B. Taylor's home at 47 W. Columbus Street and the office he shared with his son, Dr. K.W. Taylor.

during most of Dr. K.W.'s practice, so he had his own "pharmacy" within his office. He would prepare the prescriptions for his patients and leave them "on the mantle" in the waiting room of his office for patients to pick up at their convenience and pay him later.

In 1961 **Dr. Paul McMullen** entered the medical scene where he served many patients at 181 West Church Street. He also became very involved in local government by serving on the village council from 1968 until 1976 at which time he became mayor of Pickerington and served until mid-1978. Dr. McMullen also was active in the Ohio National Guard, and in August 1980 decided to join the Army full-time as a Lt. Colonel stationed at Kenner Army Hospital in Fort Lee, Virginia.

Dr. Rene V. Blaha arrived in Pickerington in September 1980 to take over Dr. McMillen's practice. Dr. Blaha grew up in Brazil, and emigrated with his parents to Granville, Ohio in 1960. There, he attended high school, was a pre-med student at OSU, then moved to Munich Germany where he graduated from medical school. He returned to the U.S. and spent 3 years in family practice at Grant Hospital before coming to practice in Pickerington.

After 1980, a number of other physicians arrived (and some left) who specialize in various medical areas. Many are affiliated with different hospitals in central Ohio and, therefore, bring very good medical services to our residents.

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



August Member Event: Nearly 3 dozen Society members gathered at the National Barber Museum for an indoor picnic/tour on August 2.

**Your Volunteer Help with
Oktoberfest
will net \$\$\$ for our Historical Society!**

*September 22, 11am-8pm
Combustion Brewery Parking Lot
80 West Church Street*

*Volunteer an hour or two or more by
checking out the list of “jobs” available —
everything from selling tickets to pouring
beer — on Signup Genius which you can
access via www.PickHistory.org.*

*Or phone Peggy Portier at 614-595-5867
with questions or to sign up.*

Welcome New Members: Jerry Weaver (Lifetime Member) and Weaver Racing (Business Member) from Thornville, OH; Benjamin White (individual Member) from Pickerington; Robert McWilliams (Individual Member) from Blackstone, VA , plus a monetary donation to our Historical Society.

Like or follow the Pickerington-Violet Township Historical Society on social media by visiting our pages at:



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PickeringtonHistoricalSociety](https://www.facebook.com/PickeringtonHistoricalSociety)



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