



Pickerington-Violet Township HISTORICAL SOCIETY

News for Members and Friends

SPRING 2021

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

Time for some Fun in 2021!

Although our Museum's doors are still closed to the public because of Covid-19, your Board of Directors has been busy this past year! We've been overseeing necessary Museum repairs and updates, accepting and cataloging donations of local artifacts, creating new exhibits, and posting photos/stories on PickHistory.org and Facebook.

We still are unsure when life will return to normal and we can safely reopen our Museum. However, some of our tentative plans include:

- **Summer Outdoor Museum Yard Sale**
- **Summer Members' Outdoor Picnic**
- **September Founders' Day Event**
- **October Haunted Museum**
- **Christmas Potluck/Society Annual Membership Meeting & Election**
- **December Holiday Gathering**

We'll continue to keep you posted on 2021 news and event details via email, newsletters, our website, and Facebook.

—Peggy Portier, President
Pickerington-Violet Twp Historical Society

What to see when our Museum opens in 2021

We can't wait until COVID-19 is under control so we can, once again, welcome your safe visit to our freshly cleaned and sanitized Museum. You'll be able to see and enjoy new collections of vintage treasures donated by Pickerington-Violet Township families.

New offerings include old-time music generated by Howard Milnor's player piano and Cleo Richter's newly repaired melodeon organ. Visitors also can enjoy seeing recently acquired items from the late 1800's Kraner General Store; and Dorothy Harmon Taylor's 1924 framed graduation certificate. A new large wooden display case donated by the Good Family will showcase new donations from the children of the late Lloyd and Agnes Creager Stemen.

These donations from David Stemen and his sister, Diana Stemen Auten, include their mother's 1952 bridal gown and a 12-piece place setting of Royal Stone China Wedgwood's popular 1800's "Tea Leaf" pattern with serving pieces, pictured here →



We'll keep you informed as to when our Museum will re-open in 2021 so you can make plans to see all of the wonderful new artifacts and exhibits. In the meantime, when the weather is sunny, pick up a **"Self-Guided Walking Tour"** from the brochure box outside our Museum and enjoy a nostalgic stroll through historic Olde Pickerington Village.



← The mid-1800's cast-iron pot belly stove that once heated the one-room Peru School was carefully moved by professional movers from our Museum's Main Level to its new home with other school exhibits in the Lower Level.

The original Peru School still stands on private property at the NW corner of Stemen Road and Huntington Hills Way. It remains one of just a few of the 19 one-room schools that once existed in Violet Township.

AROUND OUR MUSEUM

Thank you for your support of Local History!

Despite the hardships created by COVID-19 during 2020, Pickerington-Violet Township Historical Society members and friends continued their spirit of generosity during the year. Fairfield County Foundation’s December 31-Hour Give and its matching funds plus year-end/holiday donations resulted in gifts to our Historical Society that totaled \$2,400. These generous donations will allow our Historical Society to work on the huge undertaking of digitizing our collection of framed 1909-1981 Pickerington High School graduation photos along with purchasing a panel display rack for the photos. A very sincere thank you to the following donors:

2020 donors:

Maggie Arendt
 Kathy Bowden
 Roger Burnard
 Earlene and Bill Corban
 Rosemary Crum
 Terry Dunlap, Sr.
 Dwayne R. Spence
 Funeral Home
 Dorothy Ebright
 Joan Heft
 Matthew Glanzman
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 Carol Taylor Scheetz
 Fiona Spears
 Cynthia Symansic
 Gary and Barbara Taylor
 Susan Kraner Trumble
 Charles Turley
 Ira Weiss
 Jack Whitaker
 Carol Yurt
 Charles and Bev Zurhorst



Happy Easter!

← This Easter Greetings postcard bears a March 31, 1911 postmark. It was mailed to “Mr. Phil Mason, Pickerington Ohio” with a short unsigned note: “Will be home Saturday”. The recipient was the owner of Mason’s Meat Market in downtown Pickerington. It’s part of a vintage postcard collection in our Museum.

Fairfield County Park District Renewal Levy Election: May 4, 2021

You are encouraged to get out and vote on May 4. This is only a .04 mill **Renewal Levy (no new taxes)**.

We’ve enjoyed seeing the development of Fairfield County Parks these past 10 years and appreciate the efforts made toward historical preservation.

Fairfield County parks include Rock Mill, Smeck Farm, Lockville Canal Park, Zeller Park and a dozen or so more!

Do You Remember Ohio’s Sales Tax Stamps?

Use of sales tax stamps began in depression-era 1935, after Ohio’s General Assembly and Governor passed December 1934 legislation to generate more state revenue. Businesses had to buy the stamps — ranging from 1¢ to \$15 — from the state, only getting their money back when they sold merchandise and collected the sales tax from customers.

To simplify the sales tax stamp process for retailers, NCR of Dayton invented a sales tax stamp dispenser (*shown in photo at left*). This gadget enabled sales clerks to easily tear off the proper amount of stamps for a customer while leaving the retailer’s stub firmly fastened under the dispenser’s flanges.

Initially, the sales tax and stamps were to be in place for only one year. However, they lasted until 1961 when sales taxes continued but without the stamps. This dispenser at left and more stamps can be seen at our Historical Museum. By the way, a similar dispenser recently sold on EBay for \$199.



LOCAL HISTORY

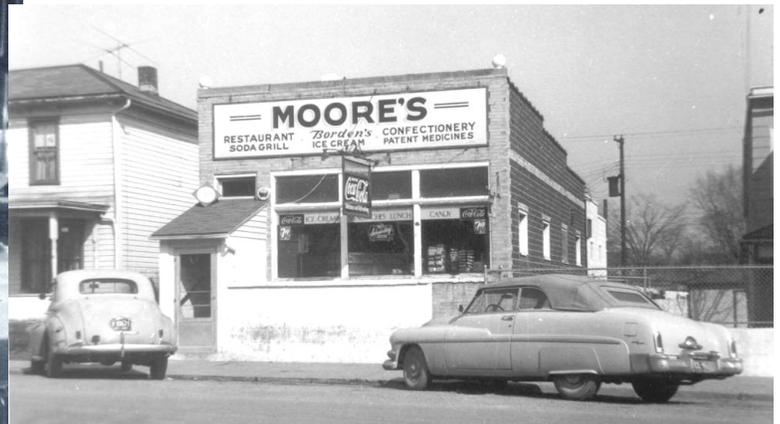
20th Century Hot Spots for Dining Out in Olde Pickerington



← **Isaly's Coffee Shop on Center Street** (next door to Patrick & Exline Grocery) thrived during the mid-1900s. Behind the counter in top photo is owner, Russell England. Sitting on stools are Tully Bowers (left) and Calvin Walton.



The sign on the wall shows steak dinners were 40¢, meatloaf dinners 35¢. The candy counter features Dum Dum suckers, Clark bars, and Beach Nut, Spear-mint, and Juicy Fruit Gum.



↑ **Walter ("Butch") and Wilma Moore owned and operated Moore's Restaurant at 14 E. Columbus Street** from 1942 to 1956. The main level restaurant featured pies baked by Peggy Beglin — standing behind the bar in the photo at left. Wilma Moore made customers' other favorites: potato salad, baked beans, and homemade soups. A pool room was located in the basement of the building.

Shortly after they closed this restaurant, Butch and Wilma opened another restaurant/pool and card room next door at 18 E. Columbus Street. The Moores retired from the restaurant business in 1983.

Wilma's cook stove and hundreds of photos that once graced the restaurants' walls are now featured in the Lower Level of our Historical Society's Museum.



↑ **Dot's Diner at 46 E. Columbus Street** in 1988. The building now houses Olde Village Diner.

2020-2021 PICKERINGTON-VIOLET TWP 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

Historian: David Williard
Librarian: Suellen Goldsberry
Membership/Volunteer Chair: Stephanie Johnson
Publicity Chair/Website & Newsletter Editor: Maggie Arendt

Open Appointed Position: Curator

2020-2021 Historical Society Projects

- Digitize Pickerington High School class photos and purchase display rack for them.
- Install children's "Try It On" vintage clothing exhibit.
- Purchase Video Equipment for "Oral History Program".
- Encourage donations to our Historical Society's Operational and Endowment Funds.

REMEMBERING 1961

I loved the Holiday edition of our Society's newsletter. It made me think about the 1961 town gathering in the multi-purpose room of the only elementary school in Pickerington. I was 6 years old and nervously excited about receiving a vaccine that would keep us safe from horrible polio. There were long lines before entering the school, so we had lots of time to catch up with neighbors not regularly seen. Everyone knew everyone in those days. I don't have a picture of this polio vaccination occasion, but maybe someone else does?

—Nancy Fisher Groves, PVTSH member from Gilbert, Arizona

IN MEMORIAM



Lyle E. Diley, age 80, passed away Dec. 15, 2020. Known as "the man with a smile", Lyle was born, raised, and became a skilled farmer on the Diley Road family farm. Lyle also found time to serve as a Violet Township Trustee for 29 years (1972 - 2001). Our sympathies to his wife, Margie, her son David, and Diley's three children: Kevin, Karin King, and Kathy Gastaldo.

Donna M. Kane (age 74) left this world on Dec. 18, 2020. Family and friends said Donna loved adventure, travel, and supporting charitable causes. Donna and her husband, Thomas, live in Pickerington and have been members of our Historical Society since 2010. Our thoughts and prayers go to Thomas and their three children: Kelly, Chris, and Stephen Kane.



New Historical Society Member

Travis and Amy Wolfe, from Baltimore Ohio, are new "Family" Historical Society members who recently were recruited by member Tammy Miller. If you would like to invite a friend or neighbor to join you as a member of our Historical Society, reply to this email or contact our Membership Director directly by email: stephanie.lee.johnson@gmail.com — she will happily provide you with a membership application and answer any questions you may have.

Bequests to Historical Society

Christa Marteny, daughter of Carol B. and Jack D. Drugan, presented a monetary donation in memory of her deceased parents and both sets of grandparents who lived in Pickerington. She included a note with the donation: "In January 2020, Peggy Portier gave a very nice talk at my mother's funeral service. Thanks for all the Historical Society has saved to keep local history alive."

In addition, the Pickerington-Violet Township Historical Society received an anonymous monetary donation in memory of another recently deceased member.

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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