



Pickerington-Violet Township HISTORICAL SOCIETY

News for Members and Friends

HOLIDAY 2019

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

Coming Up: Historical Society Holiday Programs & Events

Nov 29 (Black Friday) 10am-9pm at Barnes & Noble: Gift Wrap Fundraiser benefitting Pickerington-Violet Twp Historical Society. *Volunteers are needed to help wrap gifts.*

Dec 3, 8am to Dec 4, 2pm: Fairfield County Foundation's 30-Hour Give. Matching funds available for Pickerington-Violet Twp Historical Society donations. *Details on page 2.*

Dec 5, 6:30-8:30pm: Historical Society Members-Only Christmas Potluck & Election @ Pick Senior Center. *Reservations Required by Dec. 1.*

Dec 6, 5-8pm: "Holiday Gathering" in Olde Village. Children's stories and special "North Pole Village" exhibit from Keith & Dottie Ebright's vintage collection. Can also be seen Dec 9-13 (M-F) from 6-8pm in Museum's Lower Level.

Volunteers needed for Nov. 29 gift wrapping and Dec 6 reading children's stories. Please sign up to help!

*Email: pickhistsociety@hotmail.com
Or leave phone message at: 614-382-5989*

Historical Society Members-Only Annual Meeting & Christmas Potluck Thursday, Dec. 5 – 6:30pm Pickerington Senior Center



Pickerington-Violet Township Historical Society members will elect officers for 2020-2021, while Kim Richardson, a hammered dulcimer player from Reynoldsburg, will provide entertainment during the group's Annual Meeting and Christmas Potluck.

This event will take place Thursday, December 5, beginning at 6:30 PM at the Pickerington Senior Center, 150 Hereford Drive.

Food: Guests with last names beginning with A-H, are asked to bring a dessert. Guests with last names I-Z, can bring a salad, vegetable, or other side dish. The Historical Society will provide chicken, beverages, tableware, etc.

Reservations Required: Join old friends and meet new members by signing up for this event no later than Sunday, December 1 by email to: Pickhistsociety@hotmail.com; or leave a message at 614-382-5989. Guest fee is \$5 per person.

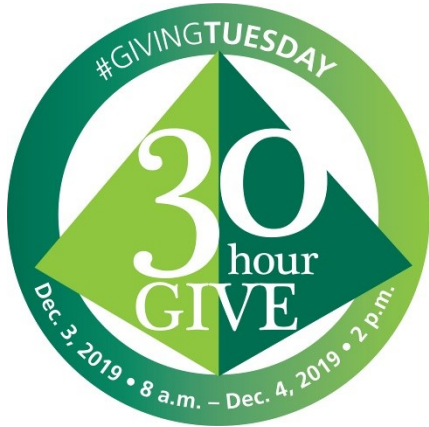


Call for Nominations for 2020-2021 Historical Society Officer Candidates

Historical Society members will be voting for the group's officers for 2020-2021 at their December 5 Annual meeting. Current candidates appearing in photo are: First row from left: Peggy Portier - President; Keith Ebright - VP Administration; Jack Whitaker - VP Programs. Back row, from left: Mary Herron - Secretary; Greg Karoly, and Barbara Freeman - Members-at-Large. Candidates not in photo: Fiona Spears - Treasurer and Stephanie Johnson - Member-at-Large.

Interested in serving? Contact Nominating Committee Chair Gary Taylor at pickhistsociety@hotmail.com or 614-382-5989.

AROUND OUR MUSEUM



Help your Historical Society by donating during Fairfield County Foundation's "30-Hour Give"

**8:00 AM Tuesday, December 3 until
2:00 PM Wednesday, December 4**

TO MAKE AN "ON-LINE" DONATION to the Pickerington-Violet Township Historical Society Fund:

1. Go to www.fairfieldcountyfoundation.org between Tues, Dec. 3, 8:00 AM and Wed, Dec. 4, 2:00 PM.
2. Click the secure **DONATE NOW** link on the Foundation's website home page. Enter the amount you wish to give along with your credit/debit card information or PayPal account. Sorry, Discover Credit Cards cannot be accepted.

3. At "select a designation", scroll down the long alphabetical non-profit list to find and click on **Pickerington Violet Twp Historical Society Fund**. At completion of your donation, a receipt will be emailed to you.

If you need assistance with making an on-line donation, volunteers will be available to help you at our Historical Museum (15 E Columbus Street) on Tuesday, December 3, between the hours of 10 AM and Noon.

TO MAKE AN "IN PERSON" DONATION to the Pickerington-Violet Township Historical Society Fund:

Deliver your check **dated December 3** to the Museum (15 E Columbus Street in Olde Pickerington Village) on Tuesday, December 3 between the hours of 10 AM and Noon. Or, text or phone Peggy Portier at 614-595-5867 so she or another Historical Society Board member can pick up your check from your Violet Township home or business. ***We will personally deliver all checks to the Fairfield County Foundation the morning of December 4.***

Historical Society Accomplishments thru Donations and Grants

During the past five years, the following major accomplishments have been made at our Historical Society Museum through grants and donations from members and friends:

1. Replaced Museum ceiling tiles
2. Created an "Olde Village Walking Tour" brochure located in box outside Museum entrance
3. Created a children's "Animal Pelt Touch & Learn" display in Museum Main Level
4. Acquired and set up Moore's Pool Hall stove and photo display in Museum Lower Level
5. Procured a microwave oven, popcorn maker, and a new vacuum cleaner with wand!
6. Refurbished Museum's 1879 Taber Pump Organ
7. Made digital Violet Cemetery records available to the public via a computer tablet at Museum
8. Created and continually update a new Historical Society and Museum website, *PickHistory.org*
9. Installed an exterior Wheelchair Lift to make our Museum's Main Level handicapped-accessible
10. Purchased and installed an automatic electronic door at handicapped-accessible rear entrance of Museum
11. Replaced Museum Main Level light bulbs with LEDs
12. Acquired display cases to enlarge a School Exhibit in the Museum's Lower Level
13. Acquired display case and enlarged a Military Exhibit in the Museum's Main Level

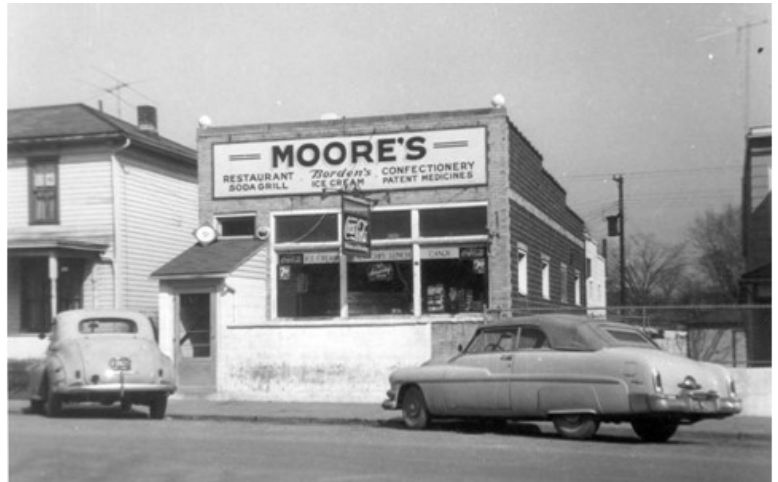
Historical Museum improvement projects for which we are now raising funds include:

- (1) Digitizing 1909-1981 Pickerington-Violet Township graduation class photos and purchasing a panel display rack for them; (2) Cleaning Museum carpet and tile floors; (3) Purchasing video equipment for an Oral History Program, in partnership with the Pickerington Public Library.**

LOCAL HISTORY

A Pickerington Unsolved Mystery: Fred Moore

→ 1979 photo of Moore's Pool Hall at 14 E Columbus Street. This building was built in 1924 by Brooks Huntwork, who operated a restaurant there for 2 years. Clarence England bought the building in 1926 and continued the business. Walter Moore (Fred and Bertha Moore's son), with Clarence England, owned the restaurant from 1926-1941. Clarence England's sister, Bertha England Moore, worked at this restaurant. Clarence found Bertha's lifeless body in her home on May 17, 1939.

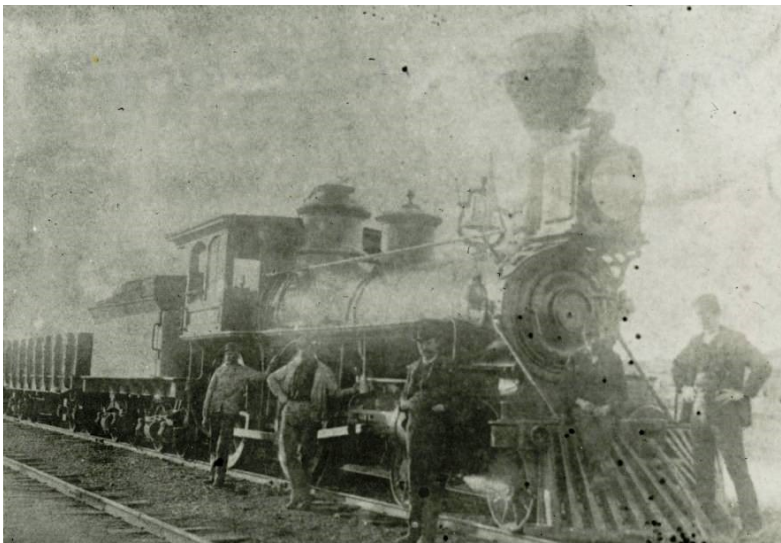


The front page story of the October 2, 1951 *Lancaster Eagle-Gazette* revealed that former Pickerington resident, Fred Moore, had walked away from the Junction City, Ohio Brick Plant where he was incarcerated. Moore had been sentenced to life in prison with no possibility of parole after his conviction on January 11, 1940 of first degree murder in the slaying of his wife, Bertha England Moore.

After serving seven years in the Ohio State Penitentiary, Moore was transferred to the Junction City, Ohio Brick Plant because he was on an honor list and because of his age. On Saturday night, September 29, 1951, Fred Moore (age 63) and a fellow honor prisoner, Harry T. Martin (age 61), simply walked away during their 2:30-10:30pm shift. Both Moore and Martin worked as firemen in the boiler house, located outside the main stockade. No trace of the two men was ever found.

Moore had escaped death in the electric chair for the May 16, 1939 death of his wife, Bertha, at their Pickerington home when a jury of 10 men and 2 women found him guilty of first degree murder after a five-day trial. Mrs. Moore's bullet-riddled body was found at the couple's Pickerington home on May 17. Moore was arrested three days later in his car at Massillon. State prosecutors claimed that the bullets that killed Moore's wife came from the gun found in Moore's car when he was arrested.

To this day, what happened to Fred Moore after his September 29, 1951 prison escape remains a mystery.



140 Years Ago!

The first train arrived in Pickerington via its newly constructed railroad tracks on June 3, 1879. The railroad was what the tiny settlement of 180 people (count at 1880 census) needed to prosper.

The farming community finally had a quick, easy, and affordable method of shipping their corn, hogs, cattle, poultry, flour, and dairy products to distant markets as the railroad brought farm-related industry to the town and spur tracks to accommodate a newly constructed tile mill, flour mill, stockyard, lumber yard, and a hoop mill.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Holiday Gathering at Museum

Our Museum will be open during Olde Pickerington Village's annual "Holiday Gathering" on Friday, December 6, 5-8pm.

A variety of family-oriented games, entertainment, a Christmas tree lighting ceremony, wagon rides, and other activities will be offered in downtown businesses and on the streets.

Admission is free at the Historical Museum where children can hear Christmas stories, explore "Touch and Learn" exhibits, and enjoy a special lighted display of Keith and Dottie Ebright's Department 56 "North Pole Village". It consists of 80 buildings, electric trains, and scenery from their vintage collection.



Also, from 6:00-8:00pm on December 9-13 (Mon-Fri), the "North Pole Village" will be open for viewing in the Museum's handicapped accessible Lower Level which must be entered through the Museum's rear door next to the fire station on Lockville Road. For this event only, parking is available for Historical Society members in the Fire Department's Lockville Road parking lot located across from the fire station. Museum admission is free.

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

2019-2020 Winter Historical Society Projects

Clean Museum Carpets (upstairs and downstairs)
 Create children's "Try It On" vintage clothing exhibit
 Begin digitalizing Pickerington H.S. graduation class photos and
 purchase panel display rack for these photos

Society Member News

New Honorary Student Member: Eve Marie Lovely - PHS Central. She is the first member of our new, no-dues "Honorary Student Membership" classification.

New "Individual" Members from Pickerington: Vanessa Niekamp; and Dr. Adah W. Randolph.

Restaurant Fundraisers: Thanks to PVTSH members and friends for helping raise funds for our Society this year:

- **Red Robin** (April): \$300
- **Mod Pizza** (June): \$47
- **Hangry's City Grill** (August): \$202
- **Kingy's** (October): TBD
- **Bob & Jeannie Mauger's Mini Donut Truck:**
 Tips received during 3 Farmers' Markets and the Oktoberfest: \$128

Pickerington Garden Club Christmas Open House, Dec. 8, 11-3pm at Deer Creek State Park Lodge, 22300 State Park Rd., Mt. Sterling: Society member, Bev Zurhorst, invites you to Central Ohio's annual Christmas Tree decorating event featuring their tree with Pickerington-Violet Township historical Christmas ornaments, postcards, and hand-made ornaments. For details or questions, email Bev at czbz@hotmail.com

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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