



Pickerington-Violet Township HISTORICAL SOCIETY

News for Members and Friends

HOLIDAY 2020

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

Free Membership Renewals for 2021

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, our Pickerington-Violet Township Historical Society has been unable to offer members any social and educational events or open our Museum during 2020. Therefore, our Society Board of Directors voted to waive current members' dues for the year 2021.

Our largest 2020 expenditure was \$1330 for delivery, repairs, and tuning of Howard Milnor's player piano. The good news is that this was paid through a monetary donation the Violet Grange made a few years ago. Our sincere appreciation to past and present Violet Grange members for their generosity.

We will continue to keep you — our members and friends — informed about Historical Society news and when our Museum will open in 2021 through this quarterly newsletter, emails, Facebook, and our website, PickHistory.org.

Happy Holidays to all!

— **Peggy Portier, President**
Pickerington-Violet Twp Historical Society

New at the Museum

In 1994 when Clyde Muse purchased the former Kraner General Store located at 6 Lockville Road, it came with some Kraner treasures. Muse recently donated them to our Historical Museum. In addition to this framed circa 1950 Nesbitt's California Orange cardboard advertisement, other donated items include:



- A dozen of E.D. Kraner's account ledgers, the oldest dated 1871.
- Receipt from the Fairfield County Treasurer for 1889 taxes on E.D. Kraner's lots 66-67 comprising 2.5 acres valued at \$3330. Kraner's tax was a whopping \$25.40.
- E.D. Kraner's certificate of appointment as Pickerington Postmaster from the U.S. Postmaster General dated August 14, 1897.
- Several pages of items purchased by E.D. Kraner for resale in his store which included 1/4 dozen men's derby hats: \$3; Chinchilla coat: \$5; 2 ladies felt skirts: 75¢; 1 dozen boxes rat poison: \$1.15; 1 dozen Japanese silk handkerchiefs: 75¢.

A new exhibit of these Kraner artifacts will be available for viewing when we are able to open the Museum — hopefully during April 2021.

Historical Society's Projected 5-Year Plans

Each Fall, our Historical Society Directors review and update our 5-year plan to determine how to best preserve and promote the history for which we are responsible. Our organization's current plans for the next five years are:

2021-2022 Projects: (1) For preservation purposes, digitize our framed high school class photos and purchase a display rack for the new unframed photos. (2) Purchase video equipment to record residents' historic stories. (3) Encourage donations to our Operational and Endowment Funds to help secure the future of our Historical Society.

2023-2024 Projects: (1) Purchase museum-friendly software to convert our handwritten artifact donation record book into digital format for computer processing. (2) Begin repairing, reglazing, and replacing Museum windows.

2025 and beyond Projects: (1) Acquire a local vintage object for display in front of Museum. (2) Preserve original blueprints of the Carnegie Library. (3) Purchase new lighting in our Museum and update wiring if necessary.

Members' comments and suggestions regarding these plans or other ideas are welcome! Contact us by email at: pickhistsociety@hotmail.com or via our leave-a-message phone: 614-382-5989.

AROUND OUR MUSEUM

Christmas Past at our Historical Society Museum

→ **1998 Christmas Party:**

Guys from left: Ken Patrick, Gary Taylor, John Ricketts, Warren Boyer, and Emerson Taylor.



↓ Gals from left: Lillian Ebright, Opal Braun, Louise Ball, and Ruth Kreachbaum.



→ **2005 Christmas Party:** From left: Roberta Schaffner, Harry Myers, Keltah Myers, Sheree Sue Schaffner, and Carolyn Boetcher.



↑ **2005 Party:** Joan Heft and John Grunewald.

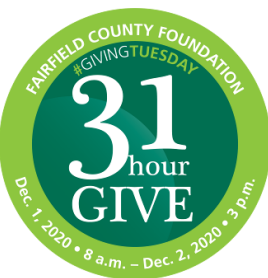


2020 Fairfield County Foundation's 31-Hour Give

Are you looking for a way to help the Pickerington-Violet Township Historical Society this holiday season? If so, you can maximize your giving by participating in this 31-Hour Give.

In December, the Fairfield County Foundation will award \$31,000 in matching gifts to every fund that receives online or in-person donations made during the 31 hours between 8:00 AM on Tuesday, December 1 through 3:00 PM on Wednesday, December 2.

When to give: Tuesday, December 1, 8:00 AM until Wednesday, December 2, 3:00 PM



How to give — there are 3 choices:

(1) Donate online, from the comfort of your own home, at www.fairfieldcountyfoundation.org. On their website, click on the "Donate Now" link; enter the amount you wish to give along with your credit/debit card information or PayPal account; then scroll down the long alphabetical list of non-profit organizations to find and click on:

Pickerington-Violet Twp Historical Society Fund.

(2) Deliver your donation to the Pickerington-Violet Township Historical Society Museum on Tuesday, December 1, between the hours of 10 AM and Noon. Date your check December 1, make it payable to Fairfield County Foundation, and write Pickerington-Violet Twp Historical Society Fund on your check's memo line. For questions about donating, text or phone Peggy Portier at 614-595-5867.

(3) Deliver your donation to the Fairfield County Foundation offices, 162 E. Main St. in Lancaster during their office hours on Dec 1 or before 3:00 PM on Wednesday, Dec 2.

LOCAL HISTORY



Anna Milnor Young with her 1st and 2nd grade class during the 1919-1920 Violet Township School year.

From our Museum's Archives: A handwritten short story by Anna Milnor Young

"I was born in Pickerington a mile north of the center of town on Sunday Noon June 18, 1893. My doctor was W.B. Taylor.

"My first grade teacher was James G. Kraner. That was a very cold year. Our large school room was heated only by a pot bellied stove. The children gathered around the stove to get warm.

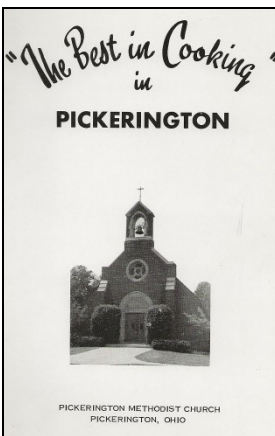
"We had no water on the school ground; two students carried drinking water from Tussings or the Knepper property. Everyone drank out of the same tin drinking cup. The bucket sat in the window and the cup beside it. I have a school picture taken by my brother, P.C. Milnor.

"In 1907 our school was replaced by a consolidated school, the first such school in the county. In October, the children who attended the one-room country schools were brought to the new consolidated school by horse drawn wagons. I entered as a freshman student in 1907 and graduated in 1911.

"I took the teacher's examination and was permitted to teach. This seemed not very successful, so I went to Ohio Wesleyan University for two years then transferred to Ohio University for two years. I graduated in June 1918.

"When I entered the school room as a first grade teacher, I learned that first day a lot of things I didn't learn in college. I had large classes. One September morning 53 shining faces greeted me. The school board and superintendent agreed that was too large a class for one teacher. Violet Huntwork was asked to do the seat work in the home room, while I conducted classes in another room. During the year 75 pupils were enrolled. About this time it was decided to have two first grade teachers.

"Having known all of the families in Violet Township, it made my teaching very pleasant. After 42 years of teaching in Violet Township/Pickerington Schools, I decided to retire." (*Newsletter Editor's Note: Anna Milnor Young retired in 1960 and passed away February 23, 1984*)



Pickerington Methodist Church women created a cookbook (circa 1970) and, luckily, our Historical Museum has a copy! A few of their recipes are shared here with you:

1920's FLAPPER PUDDING: Marilyn Elliott Cream butter with most of sugar; add remaining sugar to egg white and beat well. Add beaten egg yolk to creamed mixture, then add pineapple and nuts. Add beaten egg white. Spread half the cracker crumbs in bottom of pan, pour in pineapple mixture, then top with remainder of crumbs. Chill overnight. Serves 6.

TURKEY DINNER FOR 250:

7 turkeys, 75 lb. potatoes, 75 lb. butternut squash, 10 bunches of celery, 20 large cranberry rings, and 145 pies.

MEMBER NEWS

Peggy Kose, long-time Historical Society member and volunteer, died at the age of 97 on August 24. She is seen here in a 2014 photo holding one of her family's early 1900's dresses loaned to our Museum for a special vintage clothing exhibit. Peggy was a 1945 graduate of the Ohio State University. She and husband, Paul Kose, had been married for 71 years when he passed away in 2017. Peggy is survived by 4 sons, 6 grandchildren, and 6 great-grandchildren.



"21 Days of Lights" in Olde Pickerington Village will brighten your evenings from December 11 through 31. Plan a walking or drive-by tour of Pickerington's historical downtown to see the holiday lights and decorations sponsored by the City of Pickerington and the Pickerington Village Association.

Our Historical Museum's front yard will be decorated with a 6-foot Polar Bear inflatable and lots of holiday lights thanks to volunteers Peggy Portier, Mary Herron, Fiona Spears, and our firemen friends next door at Violet Township Fire Station #591.

2020-2021 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

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.

1912 High School Poetry in Algebra Class

While going through old school books donated to our Historical Society Museum that were used in Pickerington during the early 1900s, I found this poem written on the back page of Wells and Hart's *New High School Algebra*:

*Francis went over to Helen's house
A kiss that he was seeking
He missed her mouth and kissed her nose
And found that it was leaking.*

The first page of this book included the signatures of Pickerington high school students, Helen Fenstermaker and Francis Burnard.

—Maggie Arendt

Have you visited our website lately?
Find the latest news!
www.PickHistory.org

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



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



[Twitter.com/PickHistSociety](https://twitter.com/PickHistSociety)