



From the ATHS Archives: This photo of Anderson Township's Samuel Hopper family is from our ATHS archives. Information with the photo lists the date as 1901. Our volunteer image librarian, Lesley Gressle has been creating a digital on line catalog for the society over the summer. She also posts these images along with hand tinted color versions on the society Facebook page. To see more images go to <https://www.facebook.com/ATHSOHio>

President's Message

10/23/2020 –Don Perry

COVID-19 continues to control our lives every day. Likewise, the epidemic also controls every aspect of the operation of the Anderson Township Historical Society. In the last issue, I outlined all the activities that were being affected. Unfortunately, the list has not significantly changed but I will try to update you on where we stand and what the near-term activities look like.

Monthly Meetings - All meetings until at least February are cancelled due to the pandemic. In addition, our meeting location, the Anderson Center, remains closed.

Open Houses - All houses until next April or May remain closed. Special arrangements can be made for meetings or special tours upon request to the ATHS Board via email at President@Andersontownshiphistoricalsociety.org.

History Room - The History Room remains closed till at least the start of 2021.

Board Meetings - The monthly business activities of the Society will be conducted by the Board via Zoom. Requests for attendance or incorporation into the agenda can be made at the email address above.

With all we haven't done, you might want to know what has been going on. The primary activity has been with the Urban Farm Group and the volunteer gardeners. The gardening volunteers have done a marvelous job of maintaining and improving the appearance of the properties. Please look at their report in another part of this Surveyor. The Urban Farm Group has continued their success throughout the summer.

In the last issue, we reported the tremendous growth in the number of plots rented. We didn't note that all of the gardeners become members of ATHS. This has increased our membership by over 65 members. The Group has continued improving the upper property and has just held a very successful Harvest Fair. Please be sure to check-out their articles elsewhere in this Surveyor.

I hope this message finds you healthy and safe. As soon as safely possible, we will once again crank up the activities of the Society. We will inform you of changes via email and, in some cases, direct mail. I hope you will feel free to keep us informed about your health and welfare or any changes you care to share.

Urban Farm Provides a Bit of Normalcy During this Otherwise Crazy Year

by Daryl Meyerrenke

What started as a year that promised growth and development for the Urban Farm in its second full year of operation has been exactly that.

What a huge surprise it has been. With all the craziness of this year, life at the Urban Farm has been pretty normal. The openness of the area and the fact that most everything we do is outdoors has enabled us to go about our business, albeit with masks and social distancing.

With more people than ever interested in growing their own food, we doubled the number of garden plots from last year. We also started a Victory Garden to grow produce to take to some of our members who haven't been able to get out.

Gardeners had a great year despite incurring several attacks from rogue deer on their gardens.

All in all most had a very fruitful harvest, and our water supply held up after we were able to seal the cistern early this spring despite the sporadic summer droughts. We plan to install a deer fence over the winter - paid for by plot rental fees - to deter our pesky friends from helping themselves to the garden plots next year.

Late spring saw the acquisition of two chicken tractors and six assorted baby chicks. The chicks have been a great source of interest in the community. They are maintained by 30 volunteer families who each take one day a month to provide for the chicks' needs and they are routinely visited by many, including the Turpin Cross Country team who swing in on their practice runs to say hello, and many others who drop by for a dose of farm life.



The pollinator garden at the Bartels house really took off this year and added a pop of color to the Farm entrance. The garden is registered with the Cincinnati Zoo's "Pollen Nation" program, and helped the Farm earn certification as an official Monarch Waystation. Signs for both these programs are proudly displayed. Pam Murphy and other volunteers adopted the landscaping around the Hornschemeier house, adding many beautiful perennials

Turpin high school senior Daniel Creelman earned his Eagle Scout rank by constructing four elevated gardens for the physically challenged, and volunteer Steven Feller added a rain barrel to the Browne house. We also had a very productive plant sale on Mother's Day and followed that up in late summer with the sale of vegetables, mums, pumpkins and gourds.

On October 17 we hosted our second annual Harvest Fair with many vendors, great music and food. Social distancing and masking were encouraged and most people adhered to that and had a great time.

In early November we started replanting the buffer area between the Farm and Turpin High School, which we cleared of invasive honeysuckle last winter. Thanks to two grants, we were able to purchase evergreens for screening, and native trees and shrubs, including dogwood, viburnum, oakleaf hydrangea, spicebush, and hazelnuts. We will continue planting over the next year as funding allows.

The remainder of our year will be spent getting ready for the next garden season where we have already rented out all of the available plots, and constructing a chicken/livestock building for display to be used when we are able to open up to visits from the public.

As we wind down our second year, we are facing several challenges. It is our hope to raise funds to be able to repair and paint the big red barn, which is the focal point of the farm. We plan to use the barn for everything from hosting bands and performances to holding educational events and classes in the future.

Should you wish to support the work at the Urban Farm or any of the other wonderful projects of the Historical Society please consider sending your tax deductible donation before the end of the year.



Log House Garden News

by Nancy Kreuger

The 2020 gardening season has come to an end with weeding, trimming and mulching the gardens.

The first year plantings in the Memory Garden were beautiful and enhanced the rock paths.

One of our Master Gardeners, Marilyn Stringfield, designed and cultivated a successful pollinator garden at the side of the Bartels House on the Upper Property. Many butterflies, bees and birds frequented the area all summer!

Our new 'Ask a Master Gardener' program received its first request for assistance from an area resident who needed ideas of type and arrangement of plants for a new area in her yard. Marilyn Stringfield and Nancy Kreuger spent a lovely afternoon discussing plants and garden 'things'. **She was so pleased with the outcome that she made a donation to the Historical Society!**

The American Beech Tree in front of the Browne House is being nominated as a beautiful tree in Anderson Township.

The tree was planted by Joseph Browne and his daughters, JoEllen, Brenda & Kathy, circa 1946. The 2021 annual completion for "trees that inspire" is sponsored by the Township's Tree Committee.

The Upper Property buildings and two trees will have signs telling information about each building and tree. **Temporary signs are by each now and will be replaced with permanent ones soon.** This project was accomplished by Janet Heywood, Kathy Browne Hoelscher, Don Perry and Ann King with the help of Nick Gressle.

This year, the gardeners who have been working on the Log House area gardens are **Nancy Kreuger, Marilyn Stringfield, Ann King, Diane Schneider, Carol Taylor, Sheri Eberle, Carol King, Valerie Nash and Suzi Wycoff.**

Although Covid-19 prevented our Log House bimonthly tours, the gardens continued to thrive and look beautiful, reminding us of the constancy of Nature, giving all of us a vision of what we will once again enjoy.



Ask A Master Gardener!

Did you know that **The Anderson Township Historical Society** has several Master Gardeners in residence that take care of the plantings all throughout our property? Well we do and we are extremely fortunate to have these individuals who have years of gardening knowledge that they are willing to share with our members and community.

For more information or if you have a question that can be answered in the next Surveyor

please email **Nancy Kreuger** at nrunner@fuse.net

In Memoriam

by Ann King

The Historical Society was saddened to learn about the deaths of Brenda (Browne) and Bob Greer who have been very active members for many years and lived their lives in Anderson Township. Brenda was a kindergarten teacher in Forest Hills Schools. **Brenda passed away on April 24 and Bob passed away on August 20.** A beautiful celebration service of their two lives was held on October 3 in front of the Barn on our upper property by their son & daughter, Allen "Toby" Greer & Jill (Vogel), Dannelle (Greer) & Wayne Speigel.

It was so appropriate to have the celebration at Brenda's childhood home, where she and Bob fell in love and where the roots of their exceptional life together began.

We were also saddened on September 11, when Jim Hoelscher passed away, he was the husband of Kathy (Browne). Kathy and Brenda were sisters that grew up in the Farm House on our upper property. Jim lived much of his life on the baseball diamond and played for the All Air Force Team during his 4 years of service. Jim was an active volunteer with the American Legion Post 72 and ATHS.

Naturalist's Corner

By Lexie Stevenson
Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist

We all know about the importance of milkweed for monarchs, and thanks to our gardeners, we enjoyed a banner year of these beautiful creatures. But Ohio – and the Urban Farm - is home to many other butterfly species as well. Between the trees, the vegetables and flowers planted by our farmers, and the host plants and nectar plants put in by our gardeners, the Urban Farm is a lepidoptera haven. As the year winds to a close, enjoy a look back at these jewels of summer. And since many butterflies and caterpillars overwinter in leaf litter, please “leave the leaves” in your gardens!



The Red-Spotted Purple rests on a yellow tomato. This butterfly lives in woods and wooded suburbs. The caterpillars eat leaves of cherry, oak, and hackberry trees, which are plentiful on the Farm.



The Gray Hairstreak enjoys nectar from a wingstem flower (along with some of Jim Dulle's honeybees). This common butterfly prefers open areas.



Painted Ladies are the most widely distributed butterfly in the world. They migrate in the millions, and can travel 100 miles per day!



Hackberry Emperors need hackberry trees – plentiful at the Urban Farm – as they are the only thing their caterpillars eat. This gregarious little butterfly often lands on clothing and skin, where it absorbs salts from our sweat.



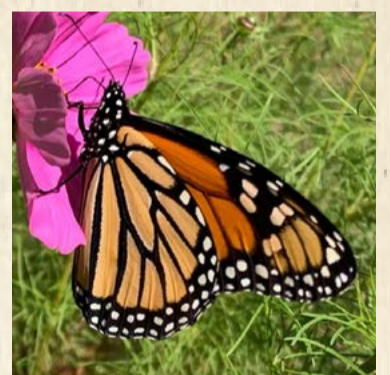
The Common Buckeye has eyespots that resemble buckeyes, making it very much at home in Ohio.



Tiger Swallowtails love all the zinnias at the Farm! Their caterpillars feed on tulip trees, like the huge one behind the Hornschemeier house.



Silver Spotted Skippers almost never visit yellow flowers but favor blue, red, pink, purple ones, like these monarda. Although skippers are considered butterflies because they fly during the day, they have fat furry bodies like moths.



Last but not least, the lovely monarchs, which fueled up on cosmos before their long migration south to Mexico.

WHERE DID THAT COME FROM?

“Graveyard Shift” is a term that originated in the late 1800s. It had nothing to do with a graveyard other than the fact that a graveyard is lonely and somewhat spooky at night, much like a workplace might be in the middle of the night. One of the first documented uses was in the May 15, 1895 edition of the New Albany Tribune. A story about coal mining began,

“It was dismal enough to be on the graveyard shift...”

If you have to travel through a haunted graveyard on Halloween or other fall nights, be sure to wear a mask and practice safe distancing. – Lou Trent

**Please support these companies that have
donated their services to maintain and improve ATHS property (2000 - present)**

The David Vogel Landscape Company

513-753-1007

Tree Care; Walkways;
Retaining Wall;
Building Structure Support
Invasive tree removal;
driveway/parking lot installation

Hessel Stone Fabricating

513-248-0191

Limestone Steps for Log House

Brandsetter's KangaRoof

513-713-0418

Roof Installation, Repair & Replacement

ScherZinger

Termite and Pest Control

513-831-8081

Chemical/Trap Treatment for Termites

Wessling Tree Service

513-474-6067

Invasive Tree Removal/grinding

Landers Landcare, Inc.

513-561-3997

Grass Cutting Log House Area

SECO Electric Co., Inc.

859-491-2984

Electrical Work in Log House

David Motz/Motz Turf Farm

513-231-4844

Grass seeding;
tilling community garden

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

*We can't help everyone, but everyone
can help someone.*

Volunteer Staff:

Janet Heywood, Editor In Chief

Nick Gressle, Editor

Lexie Stevenson, Copy Editor

**Columns: Don Perry, Lynn Scheper, Louis Trent, Nancy Kreuger, Lexie Stevenson,
Daryl Meyerrenke, Ann King**

The Surveyor is the quarterly newsletter of the Anderson Township Historical Society, online for all members, and mailed by request. If you have a change in address, phone number or e-mail address, please contact ATHS at P.O. Box 30174, Cincinnati, OH 45230 or send an e-mail to ATHS at President@Andersontownshiphistoricalsociety.org. Articles, comments, photos, ideas and suggestions for the Surveyor are always welcome.

E-mail them to nick@gressle.com or give me a call at 513-680-4771. – Nick Gressle, Editor

ATHS annual dues for the year May 2020 through April 2021 were due on May 1 2020.

Please send in your dues payment renewals. **THANK YOU.**

Please send your check to ATHS, c/o Linda Scheper, P.O. Box 30174, Cincinnati, OH 45230

The Rates are: Single \$10.00
Lifetime – Single \$150.00
Couple \$20.00
Lifetime – Couple \$200.00
Family \$ 25.00
Patron/Corporate. \$300.00