



From the ATHS Archives: 2098 Beechmont, picture taken c.1940. Glaser-Wilson Service Station.
<https://www.facebook.com/ATHSOHio>

President's Message

01/15/2021 – Don Perry

Happy new year!

I expect most of you are happy that 2020 is over and are looking forward to a better year in 2021. I can assure you that I share your vision. In retrospect, 2020 was not entirely a down year for ATHS. The upper property continues to provide excitement and support to the Society. The number of gardeners increased from under 40 to over 70. Of course, all these gardeners are members of ATHS and are providing us with new life and enthusiasm. Also, in 2020 a Mercer School project, funded by a grant, resulted in 6 chickens living on the farm. The care of the chickens resulted in a lot of visitors to the property.

The upper property continues to improve under the leadership of the farmers. The unsightly barrier between Turpin and ATHS was cleaned up of invasive plants and is in the process of being landscaped with native plants through donations and grants. This process will continue in 2021 with both member and outside volunteer help. Scout Troop 170 is partnering with ATHS to provide the opportunity for the scouts to perform community service and work on personal merit badges. Other permanent improvements included a new roof and electrical circuit breaker box for the Hornschemeier house.

Activity on the lower property was extremely limited in 2020 due to the pandemic. The many volunteer gardeners have continued their outstanding efforts maintaining the grounds. The structures are in good repair and can quickly be readied for open houses when the threat of COVID 19 lessens. At this point, we cannot predict when this may be possible.

A major effort will be made in 2021 to properly integrate the operation of the urban farm into the structure of ATHS. Already, four of our six trustees are leaders of the urban farmers. Their inclusion has helped with the Board's understanding of the operation and goals of the farmers. There is more work to be done. We need to incorporate the operation of the farm into our Code of Regulations to insure consistent operation across the entire Society. We also must cooperate to define the organization and operation of each area of the Society to prevent conflict and miss-understanding. The next several months of cold weather and social isolation would seem to be an excellent time to accomplish this task.

Finally, we are in the initial phases of exploring ways to preserve the upper barn structure. In 2018, a major project resulted in the stabilization of the lower barn and creation of a new set of displays showing Anderson's agricultural past. A similar project aimed at preservation and adaptation to current farm usage in 2021 would serve the entire Society.

In closing, I hope you all will be safe and healthy in 2021. It is too early to predict when full Society activities will resume but I, for one, am looking forward to that day!

In Memoriam Janet Heywood.

By Don Perry



Janet Heywood passed away on January 16, 2021 after suffering for a short period from ALS. Janet held the title of Researcher but her hand was felt in nearly every corner of ATHS. She represented the Society in many different ways.

Many knew her as the Editor of the Surveyor. Others knew her through her articles in Anderson Insights magazine or through her Facebook posts. Janet was an amazing researcher and author. She handled all inquiries to the Society and seemed to always offer more information than was thought possible. In addition to all other contributions, her clear understanding and analysis of issues has long been a source of intelligence to the Society.

I personally had known Janet a very long time. Our mothers were classmates at Anderson High School and remained close until their passing. Janet and I were friends through high school but lost track of each other as she went on to the University of Chicago and Harvard. She stayed on the east coast the remainder of her working life, much of which was at the historic Mt Auburn Cemetery in Massachusetts. We reconnected in 2007 after she returned to Cincinnati for retirement. It was the re-start of a wonderful friendship.

I will miss her wit, insights, background information, and counsel very much. She has left a significant hole in the Anderson Township Historical Society that will be very difficult to fill.

ATHS Photo Archive Evolving Into A Digital Library

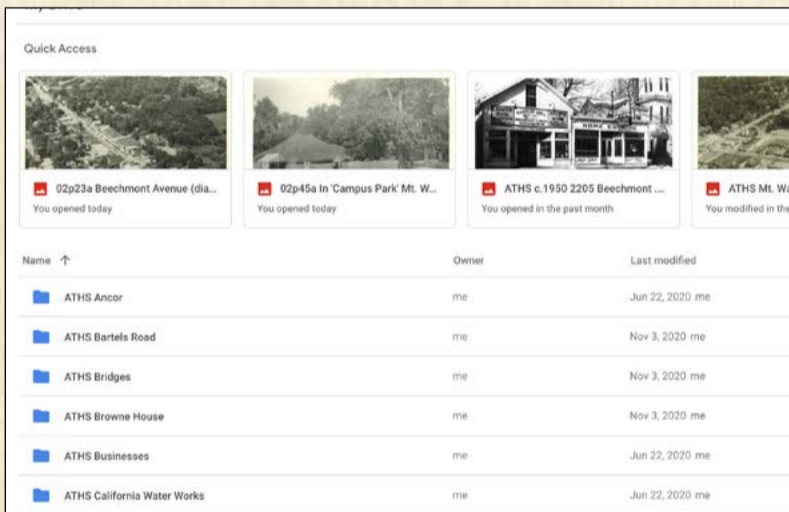
ATHS is very fortunate that we have an extensive image library that has been collected and curated by dedicated volunteers since the society was founded in 1968.

We have photographs and negatives that document life in Anderson Township and our surrounding neighborhoods that date back to the mid to late 1800's. And while having all of the original prints is a wonderful collection, we wanted to be able to share these images with future generations in a format that is searchable and easily accessible from a digital device.

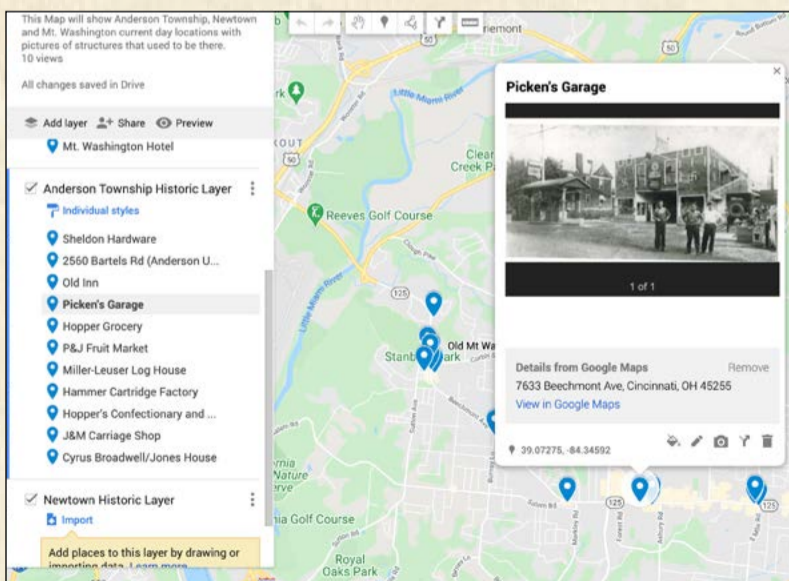
Needless to say with a collection as large as ours it will take some time to build the library. But with the help of Volunteer Archivist **Lesley Gressle** (*Anderson Township native, and Turpin HS Graduate*) we now have a solid digital foundation.

Lesley worked with **Janet Heywood** in the months prior to the Pandemic to gather up some of the image binders that Janet had curated over the last several years and scan and in some cases digitally repair damage to the images that had occurred due to time. She has now **organized over 800 high resolution images** into categories that can be easily searched by our members once the library is officially launched later this year.

Besides having this wonderful library to browse through, we are also building a **Google Map overlay** that will allow our members to view locations of long lost buildings on the current day map. Stay tuned for more information on the library and when it will launch for our membership!



Example of a Category Search in the new digital library. Users can search images of historic homes, families, businesses etc.



Example of the Map overlay. Users will now be able to see where older buildings used to be located throughout the area.

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

EGGcitement at the Urban Farm!

By Daryl Meyrrenke



The Mercer Chicken Project adds Eggcitement through Winter Doldrums at the Urban Farm.

After diligently caring for the baby chicks we added to the farm last spring, over 30 caregiver families are finally reaping the reward of their efforts for what until now have been our poultry prima donnas. Our six hens are each producing a few eggs per week and the caregivers are permitted to take whatever eggs are produced on the day they volunteer.

Things continue to look up for the chicken project as egg production will increase as the days get longer. We also hope to provide them with a more permanent coop at some point in the future.

All 70+ garden plots have been closed up for the winter and the gardeners are making their plans for spring. We have started the

process of replanting the barrier between the Farm and Turpin with native trees and shrubs, and we will soon be installing deer fencing around the gardens.

Watch for an Enhanced Spring Flower Sale Mother's Day Weekend

Last year the Historical Society was not able to hold our popular annual Mother's Day Plant Sale because of COVID, but the Urban Farm did put together an impromptu socially distant sale. This year we are looking forward to merging that success with the Annual Plant Sale. In addition, you will be able to place orders on our website for a larger more diverse selection of plants, including hanging baskets, annual flowers, and vegetables. If you enjoyed our produce sale last year, now will be your chance to grow your own as we will be selling vegetable plants we have started from seed. **If you have plants that you would like to donate to the Plant Sale contact Ann King.**

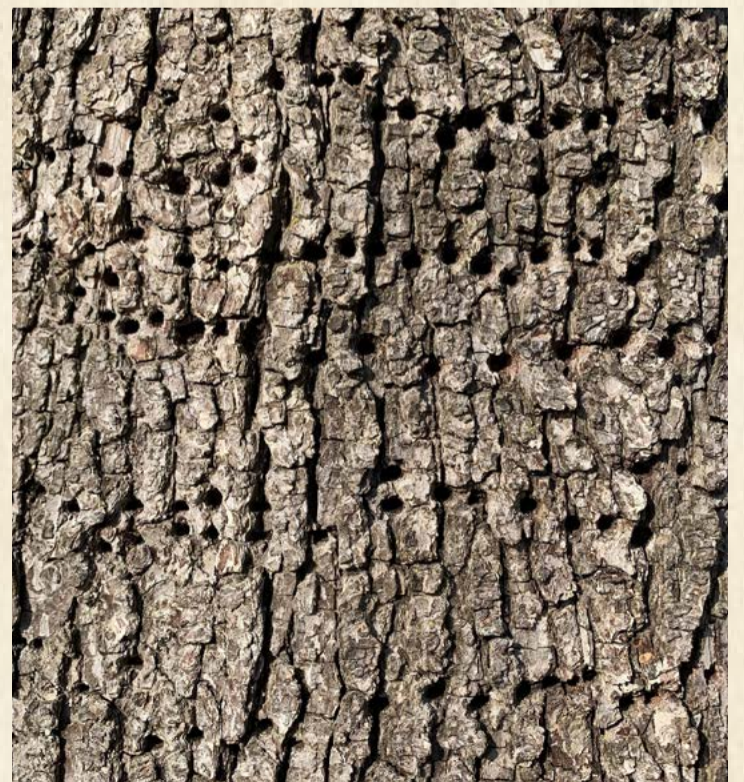
Naturalist's Corner

By Lexie Stevenson
Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist

"Signs of Life in Winter"

Although it may seem like the natural world is asleep during the winter season, if you look - and listen - carefully you can find signs of activity all around us. Whether you take a walk on a sunny winter day or just look out your window, you can find signs of life even in this cold restful season. On a recent chilly afternoon at the Urban Farm, I came across several interesting finds.

This pear tree has been quite popular with yellow-bellied sapsuckers over the years. Sapsuckers drill horizontal lines of holes, called sapwells, and then lap up the sap and any insects that get caught. These birds are only seen in the late winter as they migrate through our area. Some hummingbirds time their migration to coincide with that of the sapsuckers so they can make use of these sapwells for food before any flowers are blooming.



Naturalist's Corner continued...



This deer leg bone has been well-chewed by squirrels or mice, which derive calcium and other minerals from bones and antlers.



Spicebushes, one of our important native woodland plants, have already set up the buds that will produce their flowers in the early spring. Their bark is a food source for deer and other animals in the winter. As we work to remove invasive honeysuckle, spicebush and other native plants should return to the property.



The hazelnut trees we planted last fall have already set up their catkins for spring. These are the male parts of the plant that contain the pollen necessary to fertilize the female flowers. Hopefully we will have hazelnuts next fall!



Shaded by the barn, the worm tub still had a covering of snow. It's obvious that a number of creatures traveled across the top, perhaps attracted by its contents.



There was evidence of deer and raccoon down by the creek as they walked across the mud to get a drink.



What I can't convey through pictures are the birdcalls: Carolina Chickadees, Tufted Titmice, Nuthatches, Bluebirds, Hawks, and of course, Northern Cardinals. The White-Breasted Nuthatch in this photo is enjoying food provided by our volunteers.



Observing and recording natural events can help you feel more connected to nature and understand its cycles.

The study of seasonal phenomena - nature's calendar - is called phenology. It's easy and rewarding to keep a phenology calendar;

I like to make my own by using a Charlie Harper weekly calendar and jotting down one observation each day. Whether at the Farm, a park, or in your own backyard, you can be a citizen scientist!

WHERE DID THAT COME FROM?

In Britain during the 1700s, a person who was caught with stolen goods while the rest of the criminal's gang got away, was said to be "left holding the bag".

A century later in America, hazing was common. Pranksters would tell youngsters they were going on a snipe hunt. The victim was allowed to hold the bag, while the others would chase the snipe into it. Trying to withhold their laughter, | the pranksters would watch the victim diligently search for the imaginary critter. They would then quietly slip away, and the victim was literally "left holding the bag".

Today a person who is tricked or swindled is said to be "left holding the bag".

Happy New Year, and do not be left holding the bag in 2021.

– Lou Trent



Between the pandemic and winter, many of us are spending more time at home. What a great chance to catch up on some reading! I've compiled some books on local history and historical fiction that you might enjoy. Did you know that if you have a library card, you can check out and download ebooks and audiobooks without going to the library?

All you need is a computer, ipad, or smart phone and/or a Kindle or other e-reader.

If you need any help, you can call the library.

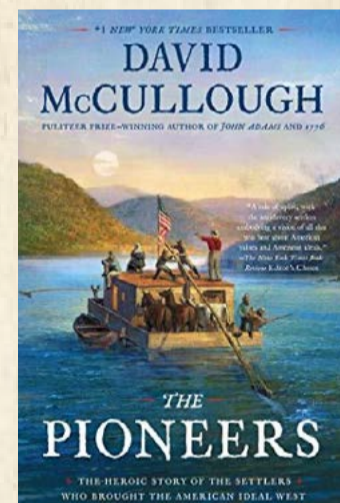
The Pioneers by David McCullough

353 pages, published 2019

(Available through the public library as an ebook or audiobook, and from Amazon)

https://www.amazon.com/Pioneers-Heroic-Settlers-Brought-American/dp/1501168703/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=The+Pioneers+by+David+McCullough&qid=1611508783&sr=8-1

I really enjoyed this book, as it is devoted primarily to the personal histories of the first settlers of the Ohio River in the vicinity of Cincinnati and Marietta. Although it glosses over the shameful treatment of the Native Americans, it successfully portrays the "courageous families who crossed the mountains into Ohio and settled the town of Marietta out of a wilderness, describing forests, the Ohio River, native people, wild animals and the brave men and women who persevered from 1787 to 1863, making the new state of Ohio into a free state, with schools and colleges, inventions and industry."



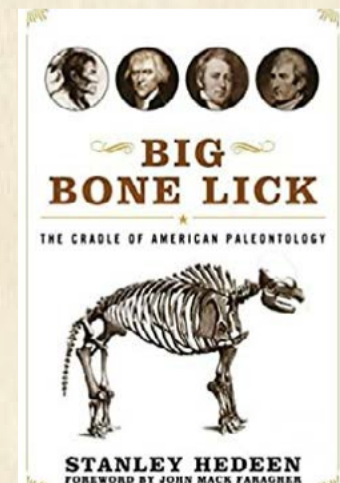
Big Bone Lick: The Cradle of American Paleontology by Stanley Hedeon

204 pages, published 2011

(Not available through the library, but from Amazon, or you can borrow mine!)

https://www.amazon.com/Big-Bone-Lick-Stanley-Hedeon-audiobook/dp/B001-8U73A4/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=Big+Bone+Lick%3A+The+Cradle+of+American+Paleontology&qid=1611508906&sr=8-1

Did you know that one of the greatest fossil records of ice-age mammals is in a Northern Kentucky salt lick? Cincinnati natural historian Stanley Hedeon presents an engaging narrative of Big Bone Lick from its geological formation forward, explaining why the site attracted animals, regional tribespeople, European explorers and scientists, and eventually American pioneers and presidents. Stanley Hedeon is Professor Emeritus of Biology and former Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Xavier University, and Adjunct Curator at the Cincinnati Museum Center. He has written several books on the natural and environmental history of the greater Cincinnati region. I had the pleasure of attending one of his lectures, where he told several of the stories from this book. One of the most amusing is the lengths to which Thomas Jefferson went to try to get some of these fossil bones, all to no avail.



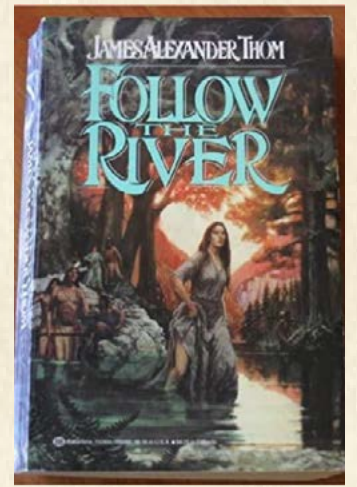
Follow the River by James Alexander Thom

400 pages, published 1981

(Available through the public library as an ebook or audiobook, and from Amazon)

https://www.amazon.com/Follow-River-James-Alexander-Thom-audiobook/dp/B004GCXID4/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=Follow+the+River+by+James+Alexander+Thom&qid=1611508981&s=audible&sr=1-1

“Based on the true story of Mary Ingles, who was twenty-three, married, and pregnant when Shawnee Indians invaded her peaceful Virginia settlement, killed the men and women, then took her captive. For months, she lived with them, unbroken, until she escaped, and followed a thousand-mile trail to freedom--an extraordinary story of a pioneer woman who risked her life to return to her people.” Very interesting, and quite a harrowing portrayal of her journey. Part of Kentucky Rt. 8 is named the Mary Ingles Highway, and is visible from the overlook at Woodland Mound.



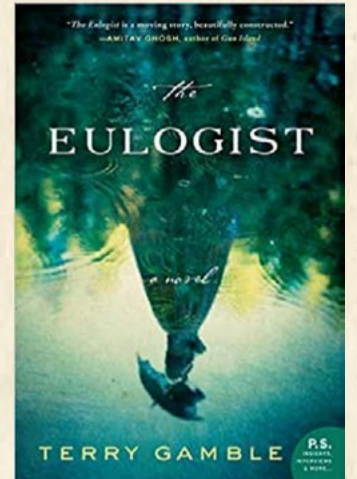
The Eulogist by Terry Gamble

336 pages, published 2020

(Available through the public library as an ebook or audiobook, and from Amazon)

https://www.amazon.com/The-Eulogist-Terry-Gamble-audiobook/dp/B07J1R1QZ2/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=The+Eulogist+by+Terry+Gamble&qid=1611509062&s=audible&sr=1-1

The Eulogist is set in Cincinnati, where the author's ancestors landed when they emigrated from Northern Ireland in 1819. “Cheated out of their family estate in Northern Ireland after the Napoleonic Wars, the Givens family arrives in America in 1819. But in coming to this new land, they have lost nearly everything. Making their way west they settle in Cincinnati, a burgeoning town on the banks of the mighty Ohio River whose rise, like the Givenses' own, will be fashioned by the colliding forces of Jacksonian populism, religious evangelism, industrial capitalism, and the struggle for emancipation.” I always enjoy well-written books that also teach me something of a time and place.



The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek by Kim Michele Richardson

322 pages, published 2019

(Available through the public library as an ebook or audiobook, and from Amazon)

https://www.amazon.com/Book-Woman-Troublesome-Creek-Novel/dp/B07QYCGYKN/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=The+Book+Woman+of+Troublesome+Creek+by+Kim+Michele+Richardson&qid=1611509096&s=audible&sr=1-1

“This book was inspired by the true “blue-skinned” people of Kentucky, and the brave and dedicated women of the Kentucky Pack Horse Library Service (1934-43). This project, implemented by the Works Progress Administration (WPA), distributed reading material to the people who lived in the craggy, 10,000-square-mile portion of eastern Kentucky. In 1936, packhorse librarians served 50,000 families.” As for the blue-skinned people, “for 150 years, locals in the area of Hazard, Kentucky were stumped by a group of people whose skin was the color blue. The condition, which was later discovered to be a symptom of the genetic disorder methemoglobinemia, was contained mostly to descendants of the Fugate family of Troublesome Creek.

Fans of historical fiction will fall in love with this bestselling novel's strong research and vivid depictions of Appalachia.”



Wanted History Lovers Willing to Share Their Love of History

Open Houses at the log house are often a family affair or just interested folks stopping by. We often hear, “We have driven by many times and always wanted to see inside.” Docents are needed to welcome and guide these visitors around the property the first and third Sunday afternoons May –October.

Docents share information as well as learn from visitors. Training sessions for new docents will be held in April with a docent handbook packed with facts and stories about our property available.

If you would be willing to learn then share information about our property with guests please call Diane Schneider 232 6552

Saturday Volunteer Work Days

The First Saturday of Every Month we need volunteers to help on the Urban Farm, general cleanup and supervised projects.

Check the calendar for more information

<https://andersonurbanfarm.com/events/>

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

Wessling Tree Service

513-474-6067

Invasive Tree Removal/grinding

Landers Landcare, Inc.

513-561-3997

Grass Cutting Log House Area

Hessel Stone Fabricating

513-248-0191

Limestone Steps for Log House

SECO Electric Co., Inc.

859-491-2984

Electrical Work in Log House

Brandsetter's KangaRoof

513-713-0418

Roof Installation, Repair & Replacement

David Motz/Motz Turf Farm

513-231-4844

Grass seeding;
tilling community garden

ScherZinger

Termite and Pest Control

513-831-8081

Chemical/Trap Treatment for Termites

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

*An optimist invented the aeroplane, and a
pessimist invented the parachute.
Both are important.*

Volunteer Staff:

Janet Heywood, Editor In Chief

Nick Gressle, Editor

Lexie Stevenson, Copy Editor

Columns: Don Perry, Louis Trent, Nancy Kreuger, Lexie Stevenson, Daryl Meyerrenke,

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 2021 through April 2022 are due on May 1 2021.

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

Welcome New Members!

We are better together!

Our members and volunteers Make ATHS better every year!

Barford, Melanie & Daniel

Bollmer, Kathy & Jeff

Vogel, David & Lisa (Lifetime)

Flynn, Marcie & Ruth

Groendyke, Richard