



From the ATHS Archives: The Burnes family having a bit of fun in the summer of 1916.

Pictured from Left to Right: Harry Denison, Margaret Burnes holding Bob Burnes as a baby, William James Burnes, Edna Dennison, and Tillie Burnes <https://www.facebook.com/ATHSOHio>

President's Message

04/15/2021 – Don Perry

Welcome to Spring!

With the changing season brings a lot better weather and a new awakening on several levels for the Anderson Township Historical Society.

The Urban Farmers are cranking up, preparing the 75 garden plots for this year's crops. The Urban Farm is erecting new deer fencing to help protect their garden plots and are making other improvements to the grounds and growing environment. While waiting for the start of the season, they have been busy clearing even more upper property of invasive growth aided by local Boy Scouts. They are also preparing for the addition of a small chicken coop to support our small flock of egg-producing chickens. If you have an opportunity to visit the upper property, I am sure you will be impressed with the continuing improvement of the land as well as the charm of the chickens.

In May, we will be re-starting activities on the "Historic" side of the Society. This action is, of course, dependent on continued improvement in the Covid climate. We will operate to the extent possible in a safe manner, including mask and social distancing requirements. We expect to start the new season by opening the Log House and barns on May 2nd. We anticipate that there will be challenges but will err on the side of safety for our members and guests. May 5th will mark the resumption of monthly meetings at the Anderson Center. We will be in the large conference room on the main floor to assure correct distancing. Later on May 8th, we will have a new format plant sale. This year, we will offer both home grown and transplanted flowers and commercially grown plants. We tried selling commercial plants last year with great success. All the plants will be priced to meet or beat local sources and will provide much needed revenue to ATHS. The sale will be held at the Family Pet Center on Clough Pike just east of the Miller-Leuser Log House. Finally, on May 22, the Urban Farm will have their spring event, the Seed Bash. Please check our websites and Facebook for more information.

On a final note, we are seriously considering renovation and preservation of the "Big Red Barn" on the upper property. The Urban Farmers have re-energized the upper property and are making good use of the barn for their activities. I think it is important to save the 100+ year old barn for another 100 years and allow us to expand our opportunities to educate our residents about the agricultural heritage of Anderson Township. **Our plan is to fund the extensive work thru alternate fund-raising. We expect this project to require professional help and could cost more than \$40,000.** We will be coming to the membership with our plans and requests for approval as the project develops. The project is a large one for ATHS and we will be looking for volunteers to help with various aspects of the project.

Proposed change to the ATHS Code of Regulations

On **March 17, 2021**, the ATHS Board voted to modify the Code of Regulations to create a new standing committee in the Society. This proposed new standing committee is the Urban Farm Committee. The purpose of the committee is to recognize the activities of the Urban Farm on the upper property and give that important portion of our activities a proper voice in the operation of the Society. The quotation below outlines the requirement for modifying our Code:

Article XVI Amendments, Code of Regulations

This Code of Regulations may be repealed or amended by a majority vote of the qualified members present at a meeting held for that purpose, provided a quorum is present.

Proposed amendments shall be submitted to the President in writing and shall be read at the next regular membership meeting and be tabled. Such proposal shall then be published in the next issue of the Surveyor and a vote shall be taken on the proposed amendment at the next regular meeting at least thirty (30) days after publication of the proposal”.

The following will become a part of the Code upon passage by the membership of ATHS.

Article XIII Standing Committees

(b) The Standing Committees shall be:

(7) Urban Farm: Shall be responsible for the management of the upper property, known as the “Anderson Urban Farm.” The Urban Farm Committee shall be responsible for reviewing and approving any proposed projects, programs or activities taking place on the upper property. The Executive Board shall have final approval of any recommendation brought before it by the Committee. The Committee shall also aid in the preparation of the annual budget.

The Urban Farm Committee shall consist of a Chairperson and additional members, including at least one member of the Real Properties Committee. The Urban Farm may have additional subcommittees as deemed appropriate, such as a Community Garden Subcommittee. The Chairperson shall report monthly to the Executive Board on any activities of the upper property.”

I hope you will consider the proposed modification and support it with your positive vote.

Don Perry President

General Announcements

The Anderson Township History Room

Will be open on Sunday afternoons 1:00 - 4:00pm

Beginning in May

Let's see how this works and we may add Wednesday afternoons as well.

COVID Restrictions -

Please keep all groups that are larger than 10 people (including tour guides and chaperones) such that there are 6 feet of distance between groups of up to 10 people.

- All must wear a mask
- No Food or Drinks in the History Room
- Groups can reserve a tour of the room.



I welcome people who would like to be trained as a Docent for the Anderson Township History Room, please contact **Charlie Wallace** at wallacedesign@gmail.com

General Announcements Continued...

The Miller Leuser Log House

The Log House will open for the first time in 2021 on Sunday, May 2 from 1:00 to 4:00. This will begin our Open House season, which will be the first and third Sundays May through October. With COVID still a concern, several restrictions will be followed. Temperatures will be taken and the number of guests may be limited inside the buildings. We are excited to share our property with history lovers of all ages. Volunteers willing to share their knowledge of history make these open houses possible.

If you are interested in becoming a docent for open houses or other tours, training is available, including a docent handbook. Call **Diane Schneider** to volunteer **513-232-6552**.



23rd Annual Plant Sale! Saturday May 8

ATHS and the Urban Farm will have its 23rd Annual Plant Sale. Featuring Perennials, Annuals, Vegetable plants, Hanging baskets and More.

We need Volunteers to help with

- Setup and Tear Down
- Work the tables for customers

Contact: Ann King at akc7526@gmail.com

The Sale will be in the parking lot of **The Anderson Township Family Pet Center, 6666 Clough Pike.**

Saturday May 8, 2021
10 a.m. to 3 p.m. unless we sell out before then.



Township Garage Sale

We will be participating in this Township wide event!

Come see what we have to offer on **Saturday, May 1st, from 9 AM - 2 PM!**
At the Anderson Urban Farm 2550 Bartels Road.

For sneak previews of some of the items we'll be selling. Visit our Facebook Pages for additional details about the event. Proceeds will benefit projects for the Historical Society and the Urban Farm. Thanks for your support!

<https://www.facebook.com/ATHSOHio>

<https://www.facebook.com/AndersonTownshipHistoricalSocietyUrbanFarm>



Excavations Planned at Turpin Site This Summer



In the area north of Route 32, just east of Clough Pike, which is now Anderson Township Greenspace, the old **Turpin house was built in about 1800 near a large, Fort Ancient mound.** In the mid-1880s, Harvard University's Peabody Museum conducted the earliest excavations of the area. Led by Frederic Ward Putnam (the "father" of American Archaeology), with local physician Dr. Charles Metz serving as field director, these excavations examined parts of the late precontact village site on the Turpin farm, but not the associated burial mound. That mound was excavated in the late 1940s by the Cincinnati Museum Center (CMC). Since then, only a few small-scale excavations have been conducted at the site.

This summer on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays between July 13th and August 21st representatives of Ohio State University (OSU), Algonquin Consultants (AC), and Indiana University East (IUE) will be leading a project at the site to dig a bit deeper into its history. The main focus will be to more thoroughly examine one of the areas that Harvard excavated to gather key information they left behind. Additional work will investigate the Turpin farmstead to better understand the lifestyles of the region's first Euro-American inhabitants.

The project is directed by Dr. Robert Cook (OSU), Rebecca Hawkins (AC), Dr. Aaron Comstock (IUE), and Dr. Michael Sherfy. Bob Genheimer and other staff from the Cincinnati Museum Center will also assist with the project. The lead director, Dr. Cook, is the author of two books about the area: "Continuity and Change in the Native American Village" (2017) and "Sun Watch: Fort Ancient Development in the Mississippian World" (2008). Dr. Cook is a Professor of Anthropology at Ohio State University with nearly thirty years experience in conducting archaeological research, much of which has focused on the greater Cincinnati area, his native home.

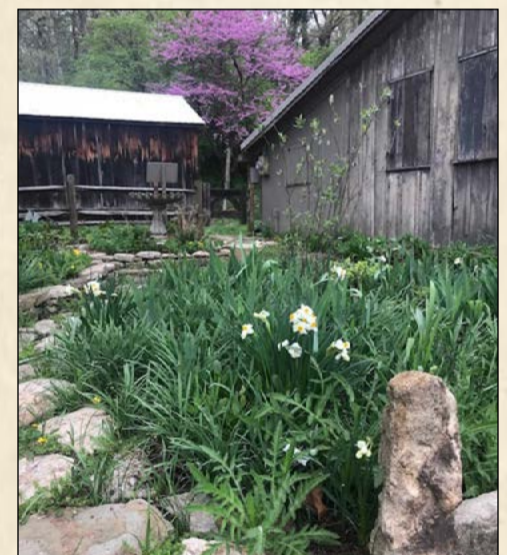
During the dates noted above, excavations will be ongoing, most of which will be very close to the bicycle trail. **The public is encouraged to come and learn more about the project and to see what is being discovered. Project staff will be there to discuss the research and answer questions.**

Suzanne Clingman
Greenspace Inspector
Anderson Township
7850 Five Mile Road
Anderson Township, Ohio 45230
513-688-8400

Log House Gardens

It seems that Mother Nature has out done herself this Spring. The trees and flowers are glowing with color and beauty. Our response to our difficult Covid year may be a greater appreciation for the freedom to garden and enjoy the sunlight. Our gardeners have been busy for the last month designing new garden areas and pruning and preening the old.

We, Diane Schneider, Ann King, Marilyn Stringfield, Carol King, Suzi Wycoff, Shari Eberle, Carol Taylor and Nancy Krueger are eager to share our garden experiences. We meet every Thursday at 9:30. All are welcome to join us to learn about plants and garden techniques while we contribute to maintaining the Log House and gardens as a place the Community appreciates and looks forward to visiting!



The Cicadas Are Coming!!

And The Anderson Township Historical Society is celebrating with a commemorative T-Shirt designed by Board Member Nick Gressle.

Shirts come in 2 colors, Sandstone and Aquatic Blue and are \$18.00 a piece

T-Shirts will be on sale at the Plant Sale, Garage Sale and SeedBash. Until they sell out.

You can also purchase on line at:

<https://andersonurbanfarm.com/1438-2/>

Upper Barn Restoration Project, we need your help...



The upper barn is a fine historic structure that echoes our Township's agricultural past. It also serves as the center of the Urban Farm activities. Structurally, the building is sound with few exceptions. The foundation is remarkably straight and seems to be sound. The all-important roof is sound but is nearing the end of its expected life. The gutters are relatively new and currently provide the necessary protection of the structure to help insure the continued life of this building. The cupolas have been replaced and new electrical service to the building has been accomplished. However, as with any 100+ year old object, there are several maintenance tasks that need to be performed to insure the next 100 years of life.

ATHS is investigating several projects to continue the useful existence of this structure.

Briefly, the proposed projects are as follows:

- **A new roof**
- **Repair/replacement of the main doors and repair of damaged siding**
- **Repainting of the entire structure**
- **Upgraded electrical and lighting**
- **Minor structural repairs**
- **New or refurbished windows**
- **Improvements to the water collection system**
- **Restoration & reorganization in the lower-level stable area**



ATHS President Don Perry and Board Member David Vogel check out "The Bones" of the Barn.

This project is expected to cost in excess of \$40,000 and is currently not funded or approved. Our goal is to separately raise the necessary funds by non-traditional ATHS methods, such as grants and donations from local businesses. This most important activity requires input and help. We have started to put teams together to plan the projects.

And have a start but are looking for volunteers to help plan and gather prices. We believe that most of the work will need to be done by professionals and will be soliciting proposals. If anyone wants to be a part of this large project, You can contact me to get in on the action!

Don Perry
Sperry38@Zoomtown.com
(513) 520-5082

This project is the largest proposed over the past 15 years. I hope you will get on board to extend the life of this important structure.

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/>

NOW & THEN - Frisch's & Janet's Coffee Shop



Janet's Coffee Shop ca. 1950 located on 7702-06 Beechmont where Frisch's is today



By Charlie Wallace

The Anderson Township that we know and enjoy today or now has like most other business areas been in a constant state of change. In 1793 then when the township was formed it was a collection of log cabins and houses on small or large farms in the 37 square miles or 23,700 acres of wilderness that was Anderson Township. It was named after **Richard Clough Anderson** the Deputy Surveyor of the 4.2 million acres of the Virginia Military District. Small towns or any kind of businesses were few and far between each other. The farms provided for their occupants and the farmers bartered and sold excess crops, milk, livestock or what they didn't need.

One by one those farms were sold off and became the housing developments and subdivisions that make up Anderson Township today. With the greater concentration of houses the population grew requiring more and more businesses.

Ohio Pike now called Beechmont Avenue was one of the first main thoroughfares to be developed. Not too long ago there was a railroad that ran along Ohio Pike.

The IR&T The Interurban Railroad & Terminal Co. 1902- 1922 ran along the Cincinnati and West Union Turnpike or Ohio Pike.



Forestville Fuel & Supply on the south side of Beechmont now FedEx Kinkos



Looking west in 1942 on Ohio Pike



Wolfers Pharmacy Drugs just west of Paul's Barbershop & Krogers in the foreground

(fig 1)

Another railroad the CG&P Cincinnati, Georgetown and Portsmouth line (1876-1940) crossed the IRT where Janet's Coffee Shop was later built. Crossroads throughout history have been centers of transportation and business.

From my experience living here in the AT area the last forty plus years it seems some places change faster than others, especially on Beechmont Avenue in the area once known as Forestville.

In 1942 this was what Forestville looked like. (fig 1)

A collection of businesses between houses with trees, no doubt Beech trees lining the gravel road.

In 1946 Janet and Clarence Scamyhorn designed, built and opened Janet's Coffee Shop where Frisch's is today.

Janet's Coffee Shop was the first restaurant between Forestville and Amelia. The whole family Clarence, Norma, and Richard worked there. The building was on the north side of Ohio Pike just west of Wolfers Pharmacy as seen in the center of the 1942 photo above.

NOW & THEN - Continued...



Janet Scamyhorn at the Opening of Janet's Coffee Shop 1946

The menu then was a little different than what we are accustomed to today, especially the prices.

Before opening the coffee shop the couple worked a variety of jobs after moving to Cincinnati from Portsmouth, Ohio in 1933. Janet worked at a fast order counter on the concourse of the new Union Terminal. The Museum Center as we know it now was then the central point and consolidation of seven railroads! All seven Railroads that were downtown moved their offices to the one location. It was an extremely busy place where thousands of people came and went to all over the US daily.

After her job at the Union Terminal Janet and her husband Clarence opened and operated a small restaurant on McMillan St. near the Beau Brummell Tie and Gruen Watch Company. After awhile they wanted to slow down so in 1940 they bought a family grocery store next door on McMillan making home made soups and sandwiches to go. They stayed there through World War II but with the stress of keeping the ration books, operating the store and the gas rationing, the long drive everyday from Anderson and back pushed them to build a coffee shop in the open area next to the house they owned in Forestville on Beechmont.

Janets Coffee Shop was a very popular place with a strong lunch crowd including local businessmen and students from Anderson H.S. The dinner trade brought in the other business owners for a night off.

Janet operated her coffee shop until 1950 when she sold the Johnson-Scamyhorn house and Janets Coffee Shop to a good customer **Harold Yazell**.

Mr Yazell sold Harolds Grill in Mt Washington and moved into Janets. He operated the business for a few years and then started leasing it to Frischs. In 1960 when the sewage service came through Forestville, this enabled Frischs to buy Janets Coffee Shop and the house as well. When the township started widening Beechmont Ave. Frischs tore down the large house and the coffee shop, building a much larger building farther back on the property where a building still sits today.

Janet Scamyhorn was not done with business yet. A year later Janet opened Jan's Apparel Shop a very successful Ladies Dress Shop in Amelia and later children's shop next door.

Janet continued her successful business career and became the President of the Greater Amelie Business Association. This highly energetic successful business women passed on Feb. 7, 1986 at the Mt Washington Care Center where she spent her last several months as a patient.



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Nothing diminishes anxiety faster than action.

Anderson Urban Farm Beech Tree Recognized



On April 5, 2021 Our Large American Beech tree in front of the Browne House received recognition by the Anderson Township Tree Committee as a Great Tree in the Shade Tree category. Kathy Browne Holscher and Allan (Toby) Greer (Brenda Browne Greer's son) who were at the meeting with ATHS President Don Perry to receive the award.

The proclamation reads...

"Dear Anderson Township Historical Society:

Congratulations on being selected by the Anderson Township Tree Committee to receive a Great Tree Award in the 'Shade Tree' category. The Board of Township Trustees would like to invite you to their regular Board meeting on Thursday April 15th, at 5:30 p.m. in the Anderson Center to receive the award. The meeting will take place socially distand with masks required. If you are unable to attend the meeting, I am more than happy to drop off the award!"

Sincerely,

P.J. Ginty, AICP Candidate
Planner

Interested in Helping with Our Chickens? Attend an Informational Meeting 5/15!

In March the Board approved the purchase of an Amish-constructed chicken coop with funds that have been donated for that purpose. The new coop, scheduled to arrive in July, will be located close to the foundation of the property's original coop, to the right of and behind the barn. The shape and color of the coop will complement the barn. Most importantly, the new coop will provide a proper home for our chickens, and make their care easier for our volunteers. If you are interested in joining the volunteer chicken crew and taking care of our little flock, please email **Erinn Cox** at erinnmichaela@gmail.com and plan to attend an informational meeting at the Farm on **Saturday May 15th at 10:00 am**. At this meeting you will have an opportunity to interact with the hens and learn about the program. **Kids are welcome!**



WHERE DID THAT COME FROM?

Have you ever seen someone fly off the handle?

Frequently they fly off the handle so quickly and with so much energy that it is a challenge just to avoid their wrath or get out of their way.

The term "**fly off the handle**" originated in America. Originally the phrase referred to the way tools with wooden handles failed their users. After hanging or laying around for a while, the wooden handle might shrink a bit.

Consider what could happen if an ax blade would separate from the handle when being swung. Anyone in close proximity or the user could be in serious danger, very much like the danger created when someone has a violent explosion of temper.

– 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

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

Volunteer Staff:

Nick Gressle, Editor

Lexie Stevenson, Copy Editor

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

Cover Image: Lesley Gressle, Volunteer Photography, Janet Quilligan, Nick Gressle, 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 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