

SURVEYOR

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Annual Plant Sale Saturday, May 7

The 24th Annual Plant Sale will be Saturday, May 7 from 10-3 at the Anderson Family Pet Center, 6666 Clough Pike.

The Plant Sale began 25 years ago when Jan Hawkins organized a group of members to sell their garden plants as a fundraiser for ATHS. This tradition continues today.

The sale will consist of hand-dug perennials as well as vegetable plants, hanging baskets and succulents from Raines Farms in Seaman, OH and the Bainbridge Produce Auction. ATHS member Bill Lipsky's famous home-grown tomato plants and a selection of gently used garden tools and decorative items will also be on sale.

If you would like to donate plants to the sale, or volunteer to help with the event, please contact Ann King at akc7526@gmail.com.

President's Message - Nancy Krueger

Greetings To All Members. I love Spring! I guess most of us do, especially our Cincinnati Spring with so many beautiful flowering trees and varieties of daffodils. Spring also brings a myriad of Historical Society and Urban Farm activities. A chance to enjoy events and the company of old friends we haven't seen for a while.

As I write, the Log House is being gussied up for its first open day on May 1st. Our docents are primed and ready to share our area history. Ann King has put together an interesting new display in the Annex of old crocks from around the property. Other May events include the 24th annual plant sale on May 7th and the Seed Bash and Battle of the Bands on the 21st.

On June 12th, we will participate in the Anderson Township Garden and History Tour. The Log House, Barn and Wagon Shed will be open. At the Urban Farm, the newly renovated Barn will be open for all to see its splendor. The community garden plots and native gardens will display their spring plantings.

In reflection of all these festivities, I believe there is something of interest for everyone and I'm looking forward to visiting with you. The Anderson Township Historical Society and Urban Farm members have sighed and let go of winter and said hello to Spring!

And lastly, I would like to acknowledge Lexie Stevenson and Janet Quilligan for carrying the flag of the Surveyor forward in the creative style of those whom we dearly miss, Janet Heywood and Nick Gressle!

Members Meetings

7:30 at the Anderson Center

5/4: "Joe Nuxhall: The Old Left-Hander and Me" by John Kiesewetter (open to the public)

6/1: Heritage Center Arboretum: come hear how this historic AT property became a registered arboretum (open to the public)

8/3: Annual Potluck Picnic: doors open at 6, dinner at 6:30. Chicken & drinks provided, please bring sides based on last name: A-D salads, E-L vegetables, M-R starches, S-Z desserts

Archaeology Group to be Based at Urban Farm

The Miami Valley Recollections and Reconnections Project, under the direction of Dr. Robert Cook, returns this year to continue the 'The Dig' at the Turpin Site on SR32 near Clough Pike. They plan to work from May 14th through June 11th.

The exciting news for the Historical Society is that the team will be using the Browne House for lodging and sorting artifacts. The House will become a mini laboratory. Dr. Cook plans to give short informational reviews of the project throughout the excavation period. People are encouraged to visit the Site or the Urban Farm to discuss historical stories and artifacts with him and his team.

Tony Russo, Grand Knight of the Archbishop Moeller Council of the Knights of Columbus on Bartels Road, has graciously offered to provide additional lodging and a kitchen area for the team across the street.

I hope many of you will take advantage of this opportunity and visit the Turpin Site as well as the Urban Farm to participate in this exciting project.

Barn Renovation Almost Complete

by Don Perry

The barn renovation project that began last fall is almost complete. A new roof was installed in November. As soon as the dust cleared from the Harvest Fair, we started constructing the large front doors. To prepare for hanging, the doors were given a final coat of paint by highly motivated members.

An electrical contractor installed new lights in several areas. We now have under-loft lights, overhead lights, staircase lights and additional lighting in the stable area.

On a cold January morning, a crew of hardy individuals removed the old doors and hanging hardware, installed new door tracks and hung the two large new doors. After buttoning up the exterior, another crew of volunteers stained and primed the new exterior siding boards. The old siding was removed and replaced at the end of February. Finally, with beautiful weather on April 22-24, the barn was painted an authentic red! There is still work to do, but I suspect you will be amazed at how wonderful our 120+ year old barn looks.

Would you like to make a donation to help us reach our goal? Go to the donation page: <https://andersonurbanfarm.com/barnrenovation/>



Log House Tours to Resume May 1

The Miller-Leuser log house will be open the first and third Sundays through October from 1-4:00. On July 17 it will feature an ice cream social, complete with an old fashioned hand-cranked ice cream freezer. Yum!

The Mercer third graders will visit on May 16th, and a Milford garden club plans to visit in July. Another busy season!

Volunteers are needed and appreciated for each of these events. If you would like to join the volunteer team, call or email Diane Schneider for training and a volunteer handbook.

farmerdi1997@icloud.com

Urgent: Docents Needed!

Have you ever wondered about the history of our Log House and adjoining buildings? Many residents of Anderson Township and surrounding areas have spent a few hours and walked away enriched with interesting information of our ancestors.

The very knowledgeable volunteers who impart this information are called docents. And our organization needs more docents to allow the Log House and History Room to be open on Sundays from May-October. In recent years our roster has dwindled from twenty to only six.

Training and acting as a docent is a rewarding experience. You will volunteer with dedicated people who love history! You will also meet many of your friends and neighbors who stop by. A common interaction is "I have driven by this log house every day for years and have never stopped. I'm glad I stopped today! Thank you."

This year we are planning some extra special events, including an ice cream social with homemade ice cream, a display of 100-year-old quilts, and a display and sale of old farm tools. As a docent you could be the one who has another good idea to present to appreciative visitors.

So, if you would like make history come alive for visitors, or remember a task you saw your grandparents performing when you were a youngster and want to share it, please contact:

Diane Schneider: farmerdi1997@gmail.com or

Charlie Wallace: wallacedesign@gmail.com

Urban Farm Happenings

By Janet Quilligan

We've got a great thing growing at the Urban Farm! From our modest beginnings in 2018, we have grown into a vibrant farm space with offerings for many interests.

Winter is trying hard not to let go, but spring will have its way. Several farmers have already planted early crops, while others never stopped through the winter. The variety of crops and growing techniques is diverse and fun to see. A centerpiece of our large garden area is a "sharing table" where farmers put their extra seeds, plants and produce for others to enjoy.

We've had some interesting visitors to the Urban Farm over the past few months. RAPTOR, Inc. brought three of their avian ambassadors for an informative session about birds of prey.



Society Marquee Sign Gets a Facelift!

Historical Society members never like to see anything old go to waste. So when Charlie Wallace learned that the south side of the Urban Farm barn was getting replaced, he knew what to do. He salvaged some of the wood to build a frame around the marquee sign at Log House intersection!

Students and faculty from the Turpin High School drama department used the farm setting to film trailers for two plays: Our Town and Matilda.

One of our members has developed a Saturday morning gardening program for kids. Right now it's a pilot program for the school-age children and grandchildren of ATHS members, but eventually we hope to open it to the community.

Our native pollinator gardens are part of the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden's "Pollen Nation" program, and the Farm is a registered Monarch Way Station. Thanks to the green thumbs of our volunteers, several of whom are Master Gardeners, the houses on the property are now blooming with beauty.

Our members and volunteers give SO much to the Farm! The gifts come in many forms: financial donations, wielding of paint brushes and hammers, caring for gardens and grounds, chicken husbandry, and so much more. We appreciate you all, and encourage you to continue to share your bounty of time and talent at the Farm. If there are programs you'd like to see, or a project you'd like to be involved with, please contact us at andersonfarmmail@gmail.com.



A colorful poster for the Youth Battle of the Bands & Artisan Fair. The poster features illustrations of hands holding various items like a purple grape, a paintbrush, a hammer, and a candle. The text on the poster includes: "The Anderson Township Historical Society And Urban Farm", "YOUTH BATTLE OF THE BANDS & ARTISAN FAIR AT THE ANNUAL SEED BASH", "SATURDAY MAY 21 3 - 8 PM ANDERSON URBAN FARM 2560 BARTELS ROAD", "FOOD TRUCKS HISTORICAL DEMONSTRATIONS", "1 BALLOT INCLUDED WITH \$5 DOOR ADMISSION", "\$20 BAND/ARTIST ENTRY FEE \$100 FIRST PLACE PRIZE! SCAN TO SIGN UP", and a QR code. At the bottom, it says "Proceeds go to support the Anderson Township Historical Society and Urban Farm. Thank you for your support!"

Third Annual Seed Bash May 21

The Urban Farm is hosting its third annual spring celebration, the "Seed Bash," on Saturday, May 21 from 3-8. There will be food trucks, gardening information, and hands-on demonstrations. Lucy Blue Pizza, MashRoots Mofungo Bar and the Snowie mobile will be on site. You can tour the community gardens, meet our chickens, and take a turn shelling corn.

Youth Battle of the Bands and Artisan Fair

The focus of this year's Seed Bash is the youth of our community. There will be a Battle of the Bands, where local youth bands will perform. The \$5 admission includes one ballot for your favorite band! Young artists and entrepreneurs will showcase and sell their wares at vendor tables. So come out, enjoy the beautiful surroundings, and support our next generation of talented young people.

In Memorium: Nick Gressle

The Anderson Township Historical Society and Urban Farm mourns the loss of our dear friend, Nick Gressle. Nick was instrumental in starting the Urban Farm and was a passionate supporter of the Historical Society. He loved to learn and to teach. You may have known Nick as the guy who helped people learn how to



use worm compost, create inks and dyes out of plants, or make salsa out of really hot peppers. But Nick did so much more. He was Artist in Residence at the Farm, designing everything from logos to t-shirts to event posters. He developed and maintained our websites, produced our Surveyor newsletter, and served on the Board. He and his wife Lesley spent countless hours organizing rooms full of historical documents, and restoring and digitizing a treasure trove of old photos, which he shared with the world through the ATHS Facebook page. But most importantly, Nick was a good friend to all, positive and patient. His presence is greatly missed by all of us, and especially by his family.



Other Passings

Anne Ross

Dennis Nichols

Janet Yorgen

Welcome New Members!

Barb Coe	Melanie Nipper
Susan Cranley	Ann Weigand
Susan Krug	Sara Williams
Barbara Nienhaus	Jody Winkler

Membership Information >>>

Your dues help support our work to preserve the history of Anderson Township and develop the Urban Farm. Membership includes monthly meetings with speakers, and discounted admission to programs and classes.

ATHS annual dues are due **May 1**. Please send your check to ATHS at the address listed below. You can also pay via PayPal on our website. Please put "dues" in the comment section.
<https://andersonurbanfarm.com/donate-today/>

Membership Rates:
Single: \$10
Single Lifetime: \$150
Couple: \$20
Couple Lifetime: \$200
Family: \$25
Patron/Corporate: \$300

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