

SURVEYOR

Volume 56/
Issue 1
January-March
2023



President's Message - Nancy Krueger

"April hath put a spirit of youth in everything."

~William Shakespeare

Dear Members,

Our Historical Society gardens are blooming with the wonderful faces of snow drop, bloodroot, daffodil, Lenten rose, and violets, with many more varieties to come. And "more to come" is the theme of our planned activities for Spring, Summer, and Fall. I would suggest that you keep this edition handy as a referral of the specifics of the events. As with any effort we need volunteers to create a successful season.

In March we had our annual dinner and election of officers. It was a pleasant evening visiting with friends, and reminiscing about people and places shown on our revolving slide show. We were also fortunate enough to have early spring flowers on the tables!

We voted for and installed the roster of officers and trustees for 2023. These dedicated members promised to fulfill the duties of their respective positions and uphold the goals and objectives of the Society. Names and positions are listed below. As always please feel free to contact any of us with ideas, questions, or concerns.

Our Historical Society and Urban Farm is vibrant with activity and new ideas and experiences. As we embrace considering new ideas there is always the doubt that maybe we should stay with the tried and true. Change is always difficult because it takes us out of our comfort zone. But if we keep in mind that **change today is the comfort of tomorrow**, we will begin to experience an open mindedness and a desire to look forward.

As always, I look forward to another year of work and fun with everyone. Please feel free to contact me at nrunner@fuse.net or 513-478-7480 or at one of our exciting events this season!

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: Nancy Krueger
VICE PRESIDENT: Don Perry
TREASURER: Bob King
RECORDING SECRETARY: Lyn Scheper
PAST PRESIDENT: Don Perry

TRUSTEES:

Kathy Hoelscher	Daryl Meyerrenke
Marilyn Klump-Stringfield	David Vogel
Robert Malinzak	Allan Greer

Urban Farm News

It's been a long winter, but spring has finally sprung at the Urban Farm! The Community Garden Committee hosted its annual spring brunch to welcome current and new farmers. Everyone enjoyed the chance to greet old friends, make new ones, and learn about exciting new events and projects.



Community Support for the Urban Farm

By Pam Murphy

Community support continues to make a difference at the Urban Farm. R.W. Aufderheide & Son, Tree Removal Experts, continues to supply us with wood chips. We use cardboard covered with wood chips for an effective weed barrier on our paths and around the perimeter of the gardens. Last fall as the garden season ended, Roger Mason of Mason Grounds Management volunteered his services and blew out the water lines in preparation for winter. During the Covid shutdown, Danny Creelman constructed four raised beds as his Eagle Scout project. These raised beds enable those with limited mobility to garden. Two additional raised beds have been constructed by Matt Leopard and his son, Luke. Kevin and Bryan Creelman placed and filled the new boxes. They also secured our portalet so it won't blow over again! This month, H. Hafner and Sons, Inc. donated 25 yards of leaf mold compost. This compost can be worked into the soil as an amendment, or used around vegetables and perennials as mulch. The support of the Urban Farm by the community is one of the most gratifying aspects of the Urban Farm. We thank one and all.

Sign up for Chicken Crew Training!

Would you and/or your family like to volunteer and take care of the chickens at the Anderson Urban Farm? If yes, please join us on **Tuesday, May 23rd at 7:00 p.m.** on the farm for a one-hour training session. This season promises to be extra special as we welcome five new baby chicks to our flock! This is a great opportunity to get out into nature, be part of a fun community and best of all you get fresh eggs! [RSVP for training through this link](#), or if you want to learn more about the program and how it works, feel free to email us with questions. **Hope to see you there!**

Erinn Cox emcox515@gmail.com

Janet Quilligan jquilligan@fuse.net



Announcing Events Summer 2023

We are thrilled to announce that The Anderson Township Historical Society and Urban Farm will be hosting a series of events in Summer '23. Each of them will take place at the Urban Farm, 2550 Bartels Rd. Mark your calendars and don't miss out on a single chance to support one of our favorite places and our dynamic community!

Seed Bash featuring the Youth Band and Artisan Showcase

April 23rd, 2023

12pm - 6pm

\$5 per person,

kids under 5 are free

A celebration of all things SPRING, this event will not only include spring gardening and historical activities for all ages (Seed Bombs, anyone? You and your kiddos can make your own!) but you'll be entertained by a roster of bands and inspired by the art of local High School students. Come on out for the season of GROWTH! Supporting young plants and young people – it's the SEED BASH!!!

The event will include youth artisan vendors and performers, adult environmental and spring gardening-themed vendors, food trucks, and educational content for all ages!



Music On The Farm

Third Saturday of every month,

May - Sept 6pm - 9:30pm

\$15 per person,

\$10 students and members,

kids under 5 are free

Each event features local musicians, the Anderson

community opening acts/events, and different genres of music — as well as a food truck/vendor!

Please note, some of the opening events are still being finalized — please check the website for more detailed information.

May 20th

Big Band stylings from the Matt Tolentino Quartet

Opener: local youth Jazz Bands

June 17th

Bluegrass with

The Clough Valley Boys

Opener: Youth and Adult Ukulele Workshop – bring your Ukulele for a one hour intro tutorial.

Kids are welcome to bring other instruments as well!!! Don't have a ukulele? No worries, we'll have ones you can get your hands on and try out.

July 15th

Rock Night featuring BluMillion

Opening Event: Open Jam — come and jam for an hour with local musicians!

August 19th

Blues with John Ford

Opening Musical Seminar: History of music in Anderson Township and Cincinnati

September 16th

Folk/Singer-Songwriter Night featuring Liz Kelly and others

Opening Event: Open Mic Night — stay tuned to sign up for a slot!



Theatrical Performance - Details TBA

Stay tuned for details on a theatrical event to take place at the end of July/beginning of August.



Harvest Fair

Oct 21st, 2023

12pm - 6pm

\$10 per person,

kids under 5 are free

The annual season ending event, The Harvest Fair, will be back again this October! Join us for a celebration of all things FALL: a pumpkin carving contest, hot apple-cider, gardening and historical educational booths, local artisan vendors and, of course, more music! Come on out to kick off the season of THANKS - thanks for our community and thanks for the bounty our earth has provided!



In a new partnership, we are working with Hamilton County's 4-H chapter to bring educational

continued on next page

Announcing Events Summer 2023 - continued

content to Anderson Township and surrounding area youth. In our inaugural summer, we will offer a series of workshops for students age 8 - 14 and a one-off event for children 5-7 and their grown-ups. Some particulars are still underway (so stay tuned for more details) but here's what we know so far:

4-H on the Farm Summer Series

Ages 8-14

Second Wednesday of the Month, June - August
9am - 11am

Coursework will focus on sowing a garden, flowers and vegetables, garden maintenance, sustainability and nutrition. Each course will have students creating a tangible, garden-themed, take-home project. Attendees can join for individual events or the full series.

Gardeners Needed

ATHS is always seeking volunteer gardeners to work in the gardens around the Log House property. If gardening interests you, please volunteer and recruit a friend! We have a lot to do to prepare for the May Plant Sale, and want the gardens to sparkle for the Anderson Township History and Garden Tour on June 11, 2023. We usually work in the gardens on Thursday mornings. Or, you can work on your own schedule. If you are a Master Gardener seeking volunteer credit, our gardens qualify.

**4-H on the Farm,
Clover Buds** (this is 4-H's term for programming aimed at younger children)

Ages 5-7

*Adult accompaniment required, 1 adult for every 2 children

July 25th

9am - 12pm

This workshop will focus on vegetable gardening -- a hands in the dirt workshop on where our food comes from and how to grow your own. Attendees will also leave this workshop with a take-home project.

So, mark your calendars and check our Facebook and Website soon for more details including cost, more specifics on coursework, and the link for signing up <https://andersonurbanfarm.com!>



Plant Sale

By Ann King

The 26th annual ATHS Plant Sale will be held on Saturday, May 13, 2023 at the Anderson Township Family Pet Center at 6666 Clough Pike. This popular fundraiser is always held the day before Mother's Day and will feature annuals, perennials, houseplants and vegetable plants. Some plants are sourced from the Log House gardens or are donated by ATHS members. Perennials will be potted by the Log House Gardeners. Annuals are purchased from Raines Farms in Seaman, Ohio and the Amish Plant Auction in Bainbridge, Ohio.

If you have any plants that you would like to donate, or would like to help with the plant sale, please contact Ann King at akc7526@gmail.com. We can help with potting or transport if needed. We will stage plants at the Log House, load them in our wagons and haul them to the Pet Center again this year.

Even though we're just now launching into spring, please watch this space for information about the Fall Pumpkin and Mum Sale!

Creek Erosion Issues

By Don Perry

In late February, the Properties Committee discovered that a large portion of the eastern bank of the creek running behind the lower barn had collapsed. It was reported that the damage had to have occurred in February because the bank was intact at the beginning of the month.

An engineer has estimated that about 180 feet of the east bank needs to be stabilized and an additional 60-100 feet of the west bank also needs attention. Additional slippage could endanger first the barn and then the corn crib and outhouse. The slippage line is within about 2-1/2 feet of the foundation of the lower barn. The barn was stabilized in 2018 with large piers and beams to support the structure. New slippage could undercut the piers and result in collapse of the barn.

Background - Erosion is a long-term concern dating from at least August of 1992 as noted in the Surveyor. The creek channel was deepened and straightened by Hamilton County Maintenance about October 1992. The Motz family built a long retaining wall before April 1999 and in late 2001, they installed five tons of boulders to stabilize the retaining blocks in the creek. In 2012-2013, a larger culvert

was installed under Clough Pike. Finally, in 2016, additional rubble from demolished sheds on the upper property was added to the eastern bank behind the corn crib.

Current

Actions - We are currently looking for answers from several directions. Insurance, County responsibility, and grants are being investigated. Civil Solutions is preparing a scope of work document to be used to obtain more permanent solutions. We are also requesting proposals from contractors for actions to give us shorter term protection.

The erosion area has been covered with tarps and we will be monitoring/documenting the area to attempt to measure additional slippage.



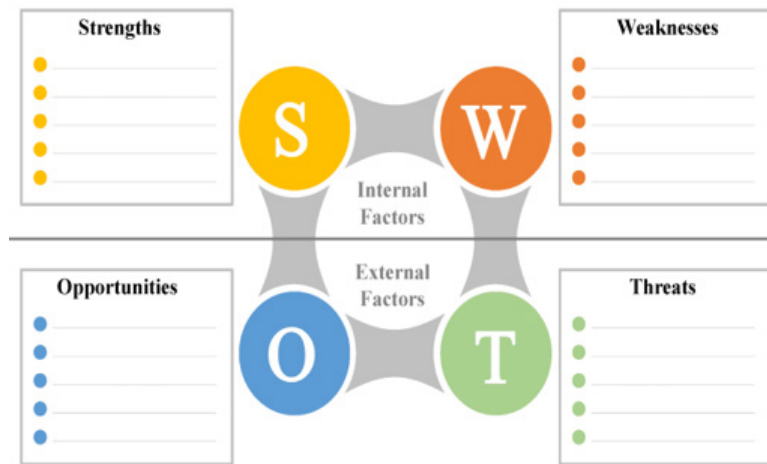
Next Steps - Our next steps will be determined by analysis of the cost of long-term or short-term solutions compared with the historic value of the buildings. We are estimating that Engineering alone will cost over \$10,000. The actual cost of long-term remediation could easily be in the range of what ATHS paid for the upper properties. This will not be an easy decision.



Anderson Township Historical Society and Urban Farm “Looking to the Future – Strategic Planning Process”

By Susan Abel

As the Historical Society and Urban Farm looks to the future, a group of members began meeting last November to build out a strategic plan. The purpose of this process is to assist with long term planning around activities that will continue to strengthen the organization’s ties to the community and assist in fundraising efforts. Using the mission statement of the society as a guide, the group has participated in a series of activities and discussions. Beginning with a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) exercise, the group was able to surface nearly fifty key topics for further review and synthesis.



These initial conversations led to a series of discussions around analyzing and prioritizing the topics identified in the SWOT analysis. The result is a series of “Pillars” that will be used to guide the development of annual goals for the organization.

The chart below depicts the key pillars and the initiative within each pillar.



In the coming months the group will build out goals and action plans for achieving the initiatives set forth. In doing so, we will look to broaden the involvement of the membership to draw on expertise, interest and knowledge of others.

Archaeological Dig Returns This Summer



The Miami Valley Recollections and Reconnections Project, led by Dr Robert Cook and Dr Aaron Comstock, will return to Anderson Township this summer to continue their archaeology study at the Turpin site on SR 32 near Clough Pike. The study will run from May 14th to June 12th. Their team will be based at the Urban Farm, where they will clean and sort artifacts. They will be housed in the Browne House and the Knights of Columbus Hall.

During this time their team will continue excavating the Turpin site. Visitors are welcome to witness the processes used to dig within a defined area. Two sites will be involved: the Ancients area originally excavated by Harvard University

in 1885, and an historic foundation that has been traced to the original Turpin Family.

There are initial plans for sorting demonstrations at the Anderson Center and an educational discussion and demonstration as part of our Summer Events Series. The Historical Society believes this is a wonderful opportunity to combine the discoveries of the Ancients dig with our own Anderson Township history beginning in 1796!



National Collegiate Competition - Ben Gressle

During the week of March 13-18, 2023, one of our members, Ben Gressle traveled to Starkville, Mississippi to participate in the 47th Annual National Collegiate Landscape Competition (NCLC). This annual event, hosted by the National Association of Landscape Professionals (NALP) is an event where up to 60 colleges and universities at a time will come together and engage in academic competitive events intended to demonstrate students' skills in various

activities in the landscape industry.

Ben's competitive events were "Business Management" and "Safety First". These events consisted of taking a written exam in the financial and personnel matters of a landscape business operation and exercising proper safety protocols on a job site and around vehicles, equipment, and chemicals respectively. There were also many other events present that other students competed in as well.

Ben competed for his school, Cincinnati State Community and Technical College, which came in 4th place overall at the competition. This ranking matched the school's ranking from 2019 in which they competed in Denver at Colorado State University. Many of the school's individual students placed in their specific events as well.

In addition, the competition featured many professional networking opportunities and

continued on next page

National Collegiate Competition - Ben Gressle - *continued*

workshops such as a national career fair featuring industry employers from all across the US.

Overall, Ben had a positive experience at the competition and on the trip and made meaningful long-distance friendships with individuals from other schools elsewhere in the country which was one of his favorite parts of the competition.

Ben competed in the same competition last year in which he traveled to Raleigh, North Carolina. In this previous competition, Ben competed in the same events and placed very highly. Cincinnati State placed

5th overall in the competition in 2022 making the 2023 #4 ranking better than the last one.

In addition, many of the long-distance friends were people that Ben had initially met at the competition in 2022 and he remained in touch with them since then.

Ben is a student in Cincinnati State's Landscape Horticulture associate's degree program. He is anticipating graduation from the program on May 6th, 2023 with his Associates of Applied Business in Landscape Horticulture. A commencement ceremony will be held the

following day on May 7th.

He will be transferring to the University of Cincinnati's College of Design, Art, Architecture, and Planning this fall to continue his horticulture education and work towards a bachelor's degree. As a result, this was Ben's final time competing in the NCLC.

Ben is also currently working on his final project with Cincinnati State which involves identifying and cataloguing the woody tree and shrub specimens on the ATHS Log House and Bartels Rd. properties and is receiving guidance from David Vogel as he moves along with this project.

We Welcome Two New Board Members

I am happy to introduce our two new Board Members, Lesley Gressle and Melanie Woodworth.

Lesley is the chairperson of our Archives and Research standing committee, with a focus on photo archiving. Melanie is the chairperson of our Accessions standing committee. She is assisting with archiving, accessioning, and organizing our historical materials located in the brick house.

The Surveyor will feature information and activities of these three areas in future editions. We are looking for a creative name

for this new column. Please send ideas to nrunner@fuse.net or call 513-478-7480.

Lesley Gressle

Lesley's involvement in ATHS and the Brick House started with encouragement from her husband Nick, and a connection to past ATHS member and Research Chair, Janet Heywood.

Nick, a designer and computer geek, was helping to update ATHS's digital presence and marketing identity. While working with Janet in 2019 to get some projects started, Nick learned that Lesley's father had been Janet's

schoolmate at Anderson High School, Class of 1961. Lesley, who then met with Janet, mainly hoping to hear stories about her



continued on next page

We Welcome Two New Board Members - continued

Dad's high school days, ended up volunteering for the job of scanning and organizing the hundreds of vintage images stored at the Brick House. As it turns out, Lesley, a Turpin High School 1981 graduate, has a BFA from Miami University, and has worked as a digital photo restoration artist. She loves not only digitally restoring vintage images, but tinting them as well.

With the green light from Janet, Nick began creating an updated website and Facebook Page for not only the AHS, but also the Urban Farm. Lesley then began work on the digital library. After months of scanning, organizing and retouching, the AHS Digital Library is now available for members to enjoy. Lesley, along with her son Ben, also spent time organizing and creating an area for people interested in genealogy or local newspaper research in the upstairs of the Brick House.

Lesley hopes to continue adding to the digital archive and posting vintage images to our Facebook Page. We are still uncovering treasures at the Brick House and enjoy sharing them with the community.

Melanie Woodworth

Melanie graduated from Beloit College, where she majored in anthropology, and worked at the Logan Museum as a student. She did archaeological work at the Cahokia site in Illinois, and in the Kentucky/Indiana area. She



returned to Wisconsin to attend graduate school at the UW-Madison and then worked for the UW-Center for Climatic Research more than thirty years until retirement.

Upon retirement, Melanie became very involved with the Oregon Area Historical Society in Wisconsin. In 2006, she began volunteering, became a board member, and eventually became the Museum Coordinator. She coordinated the Arcadia book on Oregon, Wisconsin published in 2017.

Interest in genealogy led to Melanie compiling family history booklets on all her Finnish lines,

and her husband Doug's German and New England ancestors.

She and Doug moved to Cincinnati in September 2021 to be closer to their daughter and family, who live in Anderson Township. Granddaughter, Ellie, assured grandma Melanie -- "they have an historical society here and they even have a log house!" So, at the plant sale in spring of 2022, Melanie asked about volunteering. Bob King pointed to Charlie Wallace and said, "go talk to him." It did not take long to get involved.

Focusing on the activities at the Brick House, there is now a "Tuesday Crew" volunteering from 10-2 weekly. Melanie is working to get all accessions up to date. Also, major efforts are underway to get all the collections organized and labeled, properly preserved and easier to find.

She wants to work on some small displays. Not just to have interesting stuff, but to tell the interesting background story.

Our new volunteer has discovered that the AHS has wonderful collections of genealogical material, newspapers, and local history. She credits the many people who have worked very hard in the past and says we are building on their efforts. Our goal is to make the community of Anderson Township more aware of these resources.

The History of “History to Schools”

By Diane Schneider



In 2013 Don Perry wanted to share the History Room with children in the township. Three teachers and a township official met with Don. From that discussion came a day-long field trip to the Town Center for second graders in Forest Hills School District and third graders from IHM school. Presentations and schedules have been tweaked to make this a day enjoyed by all for seven years. Covid cancelled 2020, 2021, and 2022, but we're back!

The students experience four sessions during their visit. The urban planner describes how Anderson Township has changed over time emphasizing each elementary school and the surrounding neighborhood. Students locate their home on an aerial view map. The naturalist guides the kids on a nature walk around the Town Center past the grove of native Ohio trees and the pond looking for tadpoles or ducklings. Students participate in a bike rodeo, learning safety rules from township police, firefighters, and paramedics. The volunteers from ATHS depict a day in a one-room schoolhouse with a lesson

from a McGuffey Reader. The scholars are guided around the displays in the history room. They encourage discussion of the items depicting “then” and “now”. The antique waffle iron from the log house is similar to a waffle iron used today except for the electric cord.

This year 525 second graders, 22 teachers and many parent chaperones will attend History to Schools. Each student will receive a membership brochure to ATHS. Hopefully families will return to the history room again, or pay a visit to the log house or urban farm. Perhaps some will join ATHS, or at least support our efforts.

The following ATHS volunteers helped share history!

Cindy Brandyberry, Carol Hawkins, Linda Jacobs, Ann King, Bob King, Nancy Krueger, Janet Quilligan, Linda Magee, Nancy Meyer, Don

Perry, Sharon Perry, Lyn Scheper, Diane Schneider, Lexie Stevenson, Marilyn Stringfield, Mary Lou Van Eman, Charlie Wallace, Melanie Woodworth

Visit from Terrace Park Historical Society

On March 29th the Anderson Township Historical Society and Urban Farm hosted members from the Terrace Park Historical Society. We shared news of each societies' activities, and discussed common goals and needs as we work to provide our area histories to our communities.

A most informative tour of the Log House, barn and annex given by Sharon and Don Perry enhanced the visit.

We have plans to continue to collaborate as well as expanding our group to other area historical societies. A formal initial meeting is being planned for October 2023.



*Pictured in photo:
Left - Right: Suzi Ricketts, Melanie Woodworth, Nancy Krueger,
Susan Rodgers, Marcia Moyer, Sylvia Stirsmann*

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Cincinnati Type & Print Museum – Queen City’s Printing Legacy

Wednesday, May 3rd, 2023, 7:30 p.m.

Jacob Simpson, Curator of the Cincinnati Type & Print Museum, was thrilled to receive printing equipment from ATHS. He recently finished restoring one piece that has already been used by job training interns at the Museum’s print shop.



To return our kindness, Jacob will present a slide show about the early printing industry in the U.S. and the Queen City’s role as one of our 10 top industries in the 1800s. We may get an opportunity to see a demonstration of a small print job using a press from the Type & Print Museum’s collection.



Ohio Native Plants – Anderson Green Space Update & Nature Tour

**Wednesday, June 5th, 2023,
7:30 p.m.**

Suzanne Clingman, Anderson
Townships Greenspace Inspector,



has agreed to come back to ATHS to discuss Ohio Native Plants, a topic of interest for all “gardening” enthusiasts. Plus, she will provide an update on the status of Ohio’s First Green Space Township. Two new parcels

have increased our preserved woodlands in Anderson significantly.

After the program, Suzanne will give a “nature tour” of the recently reconfigured Nature Trail and Retention Pond behind the Anderson Center for anyone who is interested, weather permitting.

We’re hoping that June offers favorable weather for a tour of the “wetlands” to allow us to view flora and fauna that contribute to a serene walking site. It’s also a functional space, assisting in controlling heavy rain runoff in Clough Creek and beyond.

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!!!

July 5th, 2023 – No Meeting

ANNUAL POTLUCK PICNIC

**Wednesday, August 2nd,
2023**

Anderson Center on Five Mile Road
– Banquet Room A&B

Doors Open at 5:30 – Chicken
arrives about 6 p.m.

Chicken (Fried & Baked) Drinks,
Dinnerware & Utensils provided by
ATHS.

Your potluck dish should serve
8-12 people.

SUGGESTED CATEGORIES
(by Last initial):

A-D–Desserts

E-L–Salads

M-R–Veggies

S-Z–Starches

The Anderson Township Historical Society And Urban Farm



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 1st. 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/donatetoday/>

New Members

Welcome to our new members:

Abel, Susan	Kleinfelter, Natalie
Argus, Patricia	Payling, Tracey
Cochran, Bill & Marianne	Sutton, Gerald & Janet
Dershak, Aaron	Winkler, Jody
Hausman, Connie	
King, Mary	

Membership Rates

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

P.O. Box 30174
Cincinnati, OH 45230

Contact us at 513-231-2114
www.andersontownshiphistoricalsociety.org

Follow us on Facebook:
Anderson Township Historical Society

Anderson Township Historical Society Urban Farm <https://andersonurbanfarm.com>