



Owensville Historical Society

PO Box 743, Owensville, Ohio 45160
www.OwensvilleHistoricalSociety.com

Email: info@OwensvilleHistoricalSociety.com

April 2010



www.Facebook.com/OwensvilleHistoricalSociety

Calendar of Events

Spring 2010

April

17 Saturday – 10:00

Work Day

·Clean the Cabin & Museum for school open houses.

18 Sunday – 1:30-3:00

County Recorder

·Debbie Clepper will speak on using the county records to trace the history of a property.

(Museum)

May

16 Sunday – 1:30-3:00

Eastfork Lake

·George Rooks will share his knowledge of the history of Eastfork Lake.

(Owensville Commons)

June

13 Sunday 1:00-4:00

Open House

July

25 Sun. through Sat. July 31

Clermont County Fair

August

8 Sunday 1:00

Picnic (Gauche Park)



From the President

Howdy folks;

The season is on us. Now is the time to get gardens planted, take care of flowers, and roll the yards where the moles have been having lunch.

This cat of ours, named Dixie, is so spoiled, when we go away at night, and come home, he will be sitting at the kitchen door watching for us.

There is so much going on this time of the year. The Reds Ball Game started today, as I write this article for the newsletter. There is work to be done at the museum and log cabin, and more.

There are some folks that need lots of prayers to help get them back feeling better, so they can come back to the society and be more involved in this fine organization so let's all of us try to help them anyway we can.

We are making a garden now. We have peas up, potatoes planted, onions and lettuce growing, cabbage, broccoli, brussel sprouts, and cauliflower plants set out. Now these are in our raised beds and tractor tires. We also have six tomato plants set out in the "walls of water".

It is now after Easter and what a beautiful day it was. We went to church, and then spent the day with family. This, along with the promise of Jesus for our salvation, is what makes life worth living, so keep checking on your neighbor to see if they need any food or help.

God Bless All. George Rooks President.



*Where is this store and what are they advertising for 10 cents?
It looks like a raffle or lottery that will pay out "\$250 in cash".*

Stonelick Township Life Squad and Rescue

The following article was submitted to the Society through www.OwensvilleHistoricalSociety.com

By Jim Hitch

I remember that if there was a fire or any other emergency most people called the Owensville School. There were few telephones in the area. The principal's office had a telephone. When an emergency call came to his office, someone would be sent to the town hall to ring the fire bell. At the town hall there were two ladders and several buckets that hung on the end of the ladders. The ladders and buckets were kept there unless someone was using them for personal reasons.

When it was necessary to transport someone to the hospital, one of the funeral homes would be called. If you were Catholic, John Craver was called. If you were Protestant, Moore's Funeral Home was called. If the Clermont County Sheriff was called for an emergency, they would notify one of the funeral homes.

Prior to the forming of the Life Squad, we had no emergency service. The doctors made house calls. The only ambulance we had belonged to the funeral homes.

When I think of how the emergency medical treatment was then and how it is now, it was obvious the ways and means would have to change. In the early 1950's, a few residents wanted the township to provide an ambulance and trained EMT personnel. The township trustees were approached and asked to

train the fire department volunteers. We were told they didn't have the funds to buy and support an ambulance. We placed an ad in the Clermont County Newspaper that read "anyone interested in becoming a volunteer life squad member, please attend the American Red Cross training at Harold Nickles residence." We had about 28 people who completed the first aid course. Our first meetings were held in an old barn that once was used to store ice. (The ice was cut from frozen ponds, packed in saw dust, and then sold to customers in the summertime.) We bought an old Packard ambulance. To pay for it, we went door to door and sold memberships. I think the fees were around \$15 a year. There were not enough memberships sold to support our operation.

The ladders and buckets were kept there unless someone was using them for personal reasons.

It didn't take long to know we needed more training. The state offered an emergency medical technician course after the Red Cross training, which most of us completed. The Clermont County Sheriff's office would get the call and he would call the proper department. My wife, Alice, and I were the dispatchers. Unlike the fire department and all the other life squads in the townships, we were on our own. My wife made fitted sheets for the ambulance cot and she did all the laundry herself. The Eastern Star Ladies made roll bandages two inches by several feet, that we used for just about everything. They will never know how much it helped us to keep the costs down. We answered calls based on if it was an emergency. An emergency was bleeding, poisoned, or not breathing. We couldn't afford to be called just for transportation if it was not an emergency. I seldom turned down members or people we knew, though. I had a 1957 Chevrolet station wagon. My brother and I did use it to transport non-emergencies. It didn't take but a few months to reduce the number of volunteers from 28 to 15. After the first year, I think we had about 8 volunteers left. This was a 7 day a week, 24 hours a day job. My wife and I were within hearing distance of the phone. No one else would accept the full responsibility of dispatching the crew members that were on duty. To raise money, we built an addition onto the Owensville Town Hall/Fire Department. Labor and supplies were provided by our volunteers. It doesn't take a certified accountant to see we needed money to run such an undertaking. I told our treasurer a story that my father had told me. It was about a fellow that bought raffle tickets from a friend on a car. Quite some time had passed and my dad asked who had won the car. The man told my dad that he, himself, had won. Dad wanted to know how that could be. How could he win if he was the one selling the tickets? The man told my dad that since he didn't sell all the tickets, he bought the rest of them up and won it himself.

After the organizing members resigned, the township trustees accepted the financial responsibility for the ambulance.

Oral History

We have several members who were on the early Stonelick Township Life Squad and Rescue, and more who probably benefitted from the services. We would like to collect some of those early memories. If you have more information or comments to add to the account above, or if you can talk with someone who might want to add to these memories, please write us a note, post it on our Facebook page, or leave a message on our website. If you are willing to get together with others and have a recorded conversation about those shared memories please call Jim at 735-2440.

Moving us Forward

Our Society is completely run by volunteers like you who feel that it is important to preserve the memory and items of our past. There is a lot of fascinating work to be done! It can be a lot of work for a few people, or a little work for a lot of people. If you feel that the Society is providing a worthwhile service to the community, please consider lending a helping hand. Most opportunities to help do not require any specific skills or knowledge.

Opportunities to help and to learn:

1. For our museum to function efficiently we need someone to scan and index the pictures and documents entrusted to the Society.
2. Our community's history is the story of its people. We need someone to collect and organize genealogical histories significant to the history of the area.
3. There is a wealth of history stored in the minds of our current and former residents. We need people to record that history through video and/or audio interviews before we lose those resources..
4. We need teachers who are willing to develop and share course plans which will share our local history with the children of our community.
5. Someone to research the older buildings in the community using the resources available at the County Recorder's office.
6. Everything in our collection was once owned by an individual in our community. We need people who are willing to donate or allow us to scan their personal photos and documents relating to our community's history.
7. Since we rely solely on private donations and memberships to support our work, we would appreciate it if people would keep their memberships current.
8. We need people who have an interest in a specific area of our history (school, church, business, organization, etc.) to do some research and write a short article. We will publish these to our website and may be included in an updated history book.
9. We need people to meet at the museum and cabin on Friday, September 10 to clean and prepare for open houses and tours.

What is your passion and how can it be applied to preserving our history?

To get involved, please contact us at info@OwensvilleHistoricalSociety.com.

Share Your Story

Please fill in your remembrances on this page and return it to the Owensville Historical Society. Or, you can fill out this form online at www.OwensvilleHistoricalSociety.com/Tell_Us_About_It.htm or on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/OwensvilleHistoricalSociety). Doing so will help preserve this part of our history. Feel free to use additional sheets. Thank you for doing your part.



We have gotten used to jumping in our cars and driving to the chain stores to get our groceries, home improvement supplies, gasoline, and other items. How has this switch from local businesses to larger, national businesses impacted our community? How has it impacted you? What memories do these images evoke?

Membership Application

Individual (\$10/year)

Family (\$25/year)

Name: _____

Family Names: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail _____

Areas of interest and/or knowledge: _____



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