April marks the event for which we have spent more than a year planning, the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War. It’s interesting to see how such an event is still mobilizing Americans a century and a half after its occurrence. The Civil War sesquicentennial has caused intense activity as local historians work to plan programs and events in commemoration.

In preparation for our homefront exhibit at the Wood County Historical Center, I spent several weeks reading letters written home by a Wood County soldier. I was truly inspired by his family’s story. He was not quite 18 when he enlisted with the 21st OVI in 1861. He often wrote home to his mother, advising her on how to handle the...
I have found the best way to combat the “winter blahs” is stay busy with interesting things - and we are not short on those treasures here at the Museum! 2010 wrapped up nicely as our Old Home Holiday Tour came to a close. Hundreds of new and familiar faces came through to enjoy the decorations, visits with Santa, live music, and special programs.

In January, we started both short-term and long-term planning for 2011. As we do every year, we will have articles and photos in the Bowling Green Visitor and Wood County Guides, but we have branched out to include the Bridal Guide (in hopes of bringing in more brides to our grounds and meeting rooms) and the box top of the new BG-opoly board game! We will be carrying the game in our Gift Shop too.

Due to the high volume of calls asking about tour hours, we decided to open the Museum to the public in February. Mother Nature did not quite approve and dumped enough snow on Wood County to close us down on February 1, but we bounced back quickly! The snow only gave folks time to search through their attics and closets for treasures to bring to the Appraisal Clinic.

March 12 was our 6th annual Trash or Cash Antique Appraisal Clinic. Leading up to the event, Kelli spoke to the Bowling Green Rotary about how to preserve your treasures, as well as a guest appearance on WTOL’s AM Saturday program. Over 30 guests had items appraised ranging from jewelry to pottery to puppets! Many thanks to our three
returning appraisers James O’Bryant from Maumee, Mike Brandly from Columbus, and Kim Snyder from Cygnet for their expertise.

The 2011 Historical Society board has begun to form new committees with fresh ideas for the Historical Society. The Events Committee, with Christmas still fresh in our minds, has been discussing ways to make this classic event even more special for our guests, so stay tuned to the Chanticleer as we continue to plan. Spring and summer is a good time to find inexpensive Christmas decorations if you want to decorate a room or tree later this year!

The Executive Committee worked with Bowling Green State University to host a “Love Your Museum” Endowment Fundraiser on February 10 at university president Dr. Cartwright’s home. The event netted over $4,200 for the endowment. The next Chanticleer will touch on some of the highlights as well as ways our members can support the endowment fund.

On April 2, we officially opened for the 2011 Tour Season with a day dedicated to the Civil War. The opening of our newest exhibit, Wood County’s Role in the Civil War, was met with enthusiastic praise from many visitors. “Touching,” was one comment Director Christie Weininger received. The exhibit, which spans the entire second floor of the West wing (sorry, we are not yet handicap accessible to the second floor), looks at the accomplishments (and a few pitfalls) of the Wood County men who volunteered in the Union Army during the Civil War.

One panel that I find particularly poignant shows a map of Wood County noting the regiments who recruited from nearly every township. With about 2,000 Wood County men serving in the war, the impact on Northwest Ohio must have been devastating.

A companion exhibit While He’s At War: The Homefront, looks at the Civil War through the eyes of a wife and mother who must continue to manage a life for her family on the homestead. Although the war did not take place in Wood County, its citizens were still greatly impacted by the absence of family members. Through real letters and diary excerpts that depict real events, we have developed the story of the Johnsons, a typical Wood County family, whose

Continued Page 11...
MUSEUM SETS THE STAGE FOR MUSIC DOCUMENTARY

In January, The Wood County Museum hosted WPTB, Dayton’s PBS station, as they interviewed BGSU professor, Dr. Lucy Long for a documentary project. According to Long, “the documentary is being produced with another Smithsonian travelling exhibit on Roots Music in the U.S.”

The interview addressed an essay that Long wrote, which will go along with the exhibit, about what makes Ohio’s traditional music distinctive from other regions. “Ohio was considered the frontier but also had major transportation routes (the Ohio River, Lake Erie, the National Road, the east-west railroad) so there were pockets of cosmopolitan culture surrounded by very rural areas. Also, Ohio borders on a number of regional cultures such as Appalachia, urban industrial, Great Lakes, and rural midwestern - so it’s music reflects a lot of different cultures,” says Long.

When asked to play the fiddle in order to demonstrate some Ohio music, Long gave in and played some old-time tunes.

IN THE ATTIC
with Chris Niklewski, Curatorial Intern

The Spring Spotlight Exhibit has numerous items on display, including an array of somewhat horrifying medical equipment featuring devices used in the early to mid-20th century. There are also some artifacts showcasing organizations such as the Freemasons, Odd Fellows, Knights of the Golden Eagle, and even the Girl Scouts. To get into the mood of spring, there is even a small spring cleaning setup displaying three items used before modern technology to clean up around the house.

These items are only but a few artifacts visitors can see on their visit to the Wood County Historical Center.

Lucy Long interview in the Victorian Parlor at the Wood County Historical Museum.
MEMBER of THE MONTH

by Edie Olds, Membership Committee

In the Winter issue of the Black Swamp Chanticleer, we had a photo of WCHS members Mr. & Mrs. Delbert Brown as an introduction for our Member of the Month Program. This was a little teaser as we start to learn a little something about our fellow members. We will continue to interview... possibly by a phone call or a face-to-face approach when you are at the Museum for an event, who knows? It will be a surprise, just like on Candid Camera! Yea right.

Here is some insight into our conversation with Mr. & Mrs. Brown:

Q: What is the most recent good book you have read?

Q: If you could live any time in History when would it be?
A: In 1990. I was still working and things were going good with the economy and I enjoyed this area then and now.

Q: If you could meet anyone in the past, who would it be?
A: Franklin D. Roosevelt. He came at a difficult time with The Depression, and he made it better for us. The War was another.

Q: What is your favorite, or what do you think is the most interesting, artifact at the Museum?
A: (He thought that was an interesting category.) I like the Alumni Room. The books and the photos of our area residents who are part of the Wood County.

Q: Why are you a member?
A. I think this a very important part of our history for Wood County. I like the history that this Museum has and what it means for this area.

Q: What is / was your occupation?
A: I was the Superintendent of Wood County Education for 45 years.

Q: How long have you lived in Wood County?
A: Since 1966

So now you know a little about Mr. & Mrs. Delbert Brown.

Check our website: woodcountyhistory.org/members.html and future Chanticleer newsletters for other member articles! And if you catch us sneaking around, don’t be bashful!

Have a great year!

Sincerely,
The Membership Sneak Patrol

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Congratulation to Dottie and Delbert Brown, our first WCHS Members of the Month!
Spring is a busy time for education programs at the Wood County Historical Center.

School groups and school presentations are requested the most from March until June. Since January, over 15 historical presentations were made in area classrooms and nearly 700 students, teachers, and families have been served.

The museum was visited by Wildwood Academy over a period of 3 days at the end of March and the tour was enjoyed by both 4th and 5th graders. 8 more school programs and tours are scheduled from now until the end of the school year with reservations coming in regularly.

The museum’s own vintage baseball team has a full schedule this year with the season opening up at home on May 7th. On March 18th a crafts and educational program was hosted by the museum. Children and families learned about the history of mushrooms in American culture and in literature. Participants made their own painted mushroom decorations out of paper bags and were treated to a flashlight tour of the museum. On April 16th and 17th area Civil War reenactors will be volunteering at the museum to demonstrate life during the 1860s.

A new addition was added to the Ohio Inventors exhibit in the Hands-on History Room. A model of a wind tunnel, similar to one used by the Wright Brothers is now on display. The wind tunnel, sitting inside a case, is functional and blows air over a model of a Wright Glider. Children can flip the switch and see the little glider buffet in the wind.
Oct. 26 & 27, 1861 -- Camp Connel, Ky.

Dear Sister,

Your kind and much welcomed letter is at hand and I hast to reply. Since we last wrote to you many things have hapened that will be interesting to you.

My health has been good until last night. I was taken with a severe atact of plurasy and cramp cholic. I was very sick during the night but am much better today. All the men under my command are very kind. Several of them set up all night and done all in their power to make me comfortable. Today is the first time that my brave company has ever went out on Parade without me and they regret it as much as I do as they are all warmly atachted to me and often do I hear it said by them that they fear nothing when I am with them to take the lead.

Since we last wrote to you they have one chance to try me. On last Saturday we left Camp Dick Robinson for a small town called Crab Orchard some 20 milds. We go there, pitched our tents and expected to stay there until Monday. But that night the pickets of our forces at Wild Cat were drove in by Zolacoffers Band of assasins and our force was much smaller than his so the ever Gallant 14 struck their tents on Sunday morning and moved 9 milds. Here we herd that the batel had fairly began and we were now 17 milds aways and one of the worst roads that I ever saw.

Col. Steadman called the Regiment around him and told them that our litel band of brave men were atact by an overwhelming force and asked us how many would fly to their assistance that night and drive back the Traitors. The whole Regt. said with one voice I.

We started about 8 oclock p.m. last Sunday and got to the Rockcastle River about 2 oclock a.m. Monday, within two milds of the camp. Here we had to stop until daylight to ferry. This delayed us so that we did not get to Camp Wild Cat till 12 N.

By the way we had six peaces of artillery with us. If you could have herd the hearty cheers that went up from that force that soon expected to be surounded, it would fill you with joy. When we got their our artillery took a hand and the game began but the artillery was the Right Bower and they 14th the Left, and we took one trick to suit so they of corse got Euchered on their own deal and had to give up that the Yankeys were the best men. Their loss was not less than 200 killed and large numbers wounded.

As I feel so unwell I will finish tomorrow.

CONTINUED NEXT CHANTICLEER
Welcome back to the column about Historical Society volunteers. It’s spring-time and museum activities are starting to warm up along with Mother Earth. In preparation for our February reopening to the public, we had two “spring” cleaning days in January with volunteer help from BGSU students for the MLK Day of Service and from our own crew of regular volunteers. In March, volunteers outnumbered staff as the museum hosted another successful antique appraisal clinic.

Volunteers served in some key roles for the research, design and fabrication of our new Civil War military and home front exhibits that opened in April.

The Tea Ladies are dusting off the china in preparation of our popular tea series that begins this month, and I’ve spotted the Black Swamp Herb Society helping the Herb Garden begin to wake up for spring.

Looking to the near future, expect to hear from us soon about our June Heritage Days event. We’ll need your help with donations and prep prior to the event, and the event does not go without your help working the event itself.

I hope your spring is booming and blooming. --tim
MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Name: __________________________
Address: __________________________
City: __________________________
State: ___________  Zip: __________________________
Phone: __________________________
E-mail: __________________________

- New member
- Renewal

Membership Levels: Please select one
- Senior or Student.......................... $10.00
- Two Seniors or Two Students............... $20.00
- Individual.................................. $15.00
- GRAND.................................... $20.00
- Family ..................................... $25.00
- Business................................. $45.00
- Sustaining ................................. $60.00
- Patron .................................... $100.00
- Life - Individual........................... $300.00
- Life - Couple .............................. $500.00

☐ I would like to donate an additional contribution towards the Society’s Endowment Fund to ensure museum preservation.
I’ve enclosed an additional amount $ __________________

*The Infirmary opened to the public in 1869. As a tribute we encourage our members to put $18.69 (or more!) towards our endowment fund to ensure our history’s future!

Payment Type & Amount Enclosed:
Cash $ __________________________
Check number # ____________________ $ ____________________
(made payable to Wood County Historical Society)
Date: __________________________

☐ I would like to volunteer! Have Tim contact me.

04/11
The Greater Toledo Civil War Roundtable

Article by Katie Dallos, Ohio Civil War 150 AmeriCorps member, NWOH

The Greater Toledo Civil War Round Table (GTCWRT) was formed by a group of individuals who had a great interest in studying, discussing and learning more about the various facets of the Civil War. Recently I attended a GTCWRT Monthly “Lunch Brunch” and found that not only was the food terrific, but so was the company. It was there that I met Kathleen (Kathy) Jones, current Secretary of the GTCWRT, who joined the Round Table nearly at its inception in 1994.

Katie Dallos: How did you learn about the GTCWRT? What made you want to join?

Kathy Jones: I believe I was only about three years old when I visited my first Civil War battlefield – Chickamauga. It was many years later, however, before I fully understood its significance.

KD: What does your organization hope to accomplish?

KJ: GTCWRT is a not-for-profit organization registered with the State of Ohio, and our purpose is to teach and learn. We provide a forum where anyone with an interest in the American Civil War, regardless of his or her level of expertise, can gather to study, discuss and learn about the various facets of this period of American history. Our membership is large enough for a diversity of opinions, yet small enough that camaraderie and friendship can flourish. GTCWRT also promotes the preservation of historic sites and objects that are primarily, but not exclusively, Civil War related such as battlefields, monuments, flags, statues, historic homes and buildings.

KD: What sort of programs do you host?


September 8 – Monthly Meeting: Naomi Twining, Underground Railroad.

October 9 – Special Commemoration Event: Cemetery Walk, Wakeman Cemetery, Waterville. In conjunction with the Waterville Historical Society.

October 13 – Monthly Meeting: Mike Rinehart, The Lost Cause: How former Confederates controlled how the war was remembered and why individuals like Lee are held in such high regard.

November 10 – Monthly Meeting: Kathy Jones, Program will be either Israel Richardson: Forgotten Hero or What Really Happened on Little Round Top.

December 8 – Monthly meeting: Chili/Soup Cook-off; Chris Klosterman and his Clay High School Students: Annual event. Juniors and Seniors taking Civil War class at Clay HS work on projects and make presentations at our December meeting.

Katie’s complete interview is available online at www.ohiocivilwar150.org/news, then search for “Greater Toledo Civil War Round Table.” For more about this organization: www.angelfire.com/oh4/civwar/gtcwrt/
farm work for which she now had primary responsibility. At one point, he sent her a portion of his salary and asked her to purchase some farmland, so that when he returned, after the war was over, he could start his own farm. He joked that she must think he was “counting chickens before they hatched.” He was killed at the Battle of Chickamauga in 1863.

The museum’s Civil War exhibit tells of the experiences of Wood County’s soldiers as well as those who remained at home. “While He Was Away” is the title of the homefront exhibit, which tells the story of the Johnson Family, who we created based on original documents. In the exhibit, you can read diary entries and letters written by Eliza Johnson, wife and mother, and Mary Johnson, her 13 year old daughter. Eliza and Mary will continue to write throughout the war, so stop back periodically to read their updates.

**Continued from Page 1**

**Continued from Page 3**

voices you will hear in the exhibit. Letters weave the tales between soldier and family, and will continue to change as the anniversary of the Civil War progresses through 2015.

Opening Day also welcomed the Northwest Ohio Blacksmithing group with forge demonstrations in the Blacksmith Shop. In the afternoon, students from the BGSU Tourism Department organized three 1860s-era food demonstrations - Nick Reinhold churned butter, Melissa Hill shared her family’s recipe for homemade sauerkraut, and Gail Richardson from Sauder Village shared tasty, and resourceful, apple grunt (it’s a moist coffee cake, by the way, and according to Christie, the name came from the sound it made while cooking in a copper kettle).

Also in April, the Museum hosted the Ohio Division of Travel & Tourism’s Northwest Ohio Town Hall Meeting. Representatives from attractions across the region came to learn about marketing and networking opportunities.
TEA SERIES

SPOTLIGHT ON CHINA
Thursday, April 14, 2 PM.
Michael Ohlemacher shares special teas from China and stories about his travels.

TEAS, TONICS, & OLD WIVES’ TALES
Thursday, May 12, 2 PM.
Barbara Rothrock from Calico, Sage, and Thyme in Bowling Green pits truth against tradition with historic teas and tonics.

FLAGS AND MUSIC
Thursday, June 9, 2 PM.
In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day. Join us as we honor the flag with a special tea.

CHILDREN’S TEA
LITTLE HOUSE ON THE PRAIRIE
Thursday, July 14, 2 PM.
Tie on your bonnet for this wonderful portrayal of Laura Ingalls by WCHS member and retired teacher Ellin Stoots.

HERB GARDEN BRUNCH & TOUR
Thursday, August 11, 10 AM.
Ann Boyd of “My Own Backyard” in Findlay, takes you from bland... to GRAND with herbs. Tour the Herb Garden and learn success secrets from the Black Swamp Herb Society.

THE SECRET WORLD OF CHICKENS
Thursday, September 8, 2 PM.
Becky White-Schooner of Schooner Farms in Weston, will ruffle some feathers with an educational, and surely comical, look into the secret world of chickens.

FOLKLORE TEA
Thursday, October 13, 7:00 PM
Be chilled to the bone by some eerie folklore stories from around Northwest Ohio.

CHRISTMAS TEA & TOUR
Thursday, December 8, 2 PM.
Thursday, December 15, 2 PM.

VINTAGE BASE BALL

Watch the INFIRMARY INMATES VINTAGE BASE BALL team in action - 1860s style!

Saturday, May 7 (DOUBLE HEADER)
HOME @ Wintergarden Park, BG
vs. CAPITALS (Columbus)
vs. WHISKEY ISLAND SHAMROCKS (Cleveland)

Saturday, May 22, AWAY @ Columbus
DOUBLE HEADER : vs. OHIO VILLAGE MUFFINS (Columbus OH)
vs. BUCKEYES (Columbus OH)

Sunday, June 5
HOME @ Wintergarden Park, BG
vs. REAPERS (Springfield OH)

Saturday, July 9, AWAY @ Fort Wayne in Detroit, MI
vs. EARLY RISERS (Detroit MI)

Saturday, July 23, AWAY @ Walker Tavern, MI
vs. WHEELS BASE BALL CLUB (Walker Tavern MI)

Sunday, July 24, AWAY @ Hayes Presidential Center, Fremont, OH
vs. SPIEGEL GROVE SQUIRES (Fremont)

Sunday, August 7
HOME @ Wintergarden Park, BG
vs. TIPPECANOAN CANAL JUMPERS (Tipp City OH)

Sunday, August 21
HOME @Wintergarden Park, BG
vs. BUCKEYES (Columbus OH)

September
Under the Lights at Ned Skeldon Stadium, Maumee OH
Date and Time TBA
OTHER EVENTS

RUG HOOKING CLASSES
Free public classes through October, second Saturday of the month, 1-4 PM.

WOOD COUNTY HERITAGE DAYS
June 11 & 12, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM (see ad page 14)

MEMBER SUMMER SOCIAL:
PICNIC ON THE PORTAGE!
July 28, 6-8 PM - SAVE THE DATE!

WOOD COUNTY FAIR
August 2 - 8

WOOD CO. LIVING HISTORY DAY
August 28, 2-4 PM, Oak Grove Cemetery

Tuesday, April 12, 6:30 - 8:00 pm
THE REAL CIVIL WAR and WHY IT MATTERS TO OHIOANS
presented by Jim Bissland
Wood County Public Library, BG

CIVIL WAR ENCAMPMENT
April 16-17, Wood Co Museum.
Visit with Civil War reenactors and witness what life was like during the Civil War. PUBLIC WELCOME.

Tuesday, April 19, 7:00 PM
GETTYSBURG
by Neil Buttermore
Way Public Library, Perrysburg
* repeat performance June 12, 2 PM at the Grand Rapids Town Hall

Sunday, May 1, 2:00 PM
ANDREWS’ RAIDERS
by Fred Folger
at the Grand Rapids Town Hall

Thursday, May 5, 7:00 PM
WOOD COUNTY’S ROLE IN THE CIVIL WAR by Tom Boltz
North Baltimore Public Library
* repeat performance May 15, 2 PM, Grand Rapids Town Hall
* repeat performance October 5, 6:30 PM, Rossford Library

* SPECIAL EVENT FOR *
* WCHS MEMBERS ONLY *
Join the staff and our County Commissioners and officials for Tom Boltz’s brown bag lunch performance May 23, 11:30 AM, Wood Co Museum (presentation starts at 12)

Follow our Civil War 150th and War of 1812 commemoration efforts across the state!

www.ohiocivilwar150.org
www.woodcountyhistory.org
www.facebook.com

Call Katie or Nick at the Historical Museum at (419) 352-0967 x 106 with questions or requests.

www.ohiocivilwar150.org
www.woodcountyhistory.org
www.facebook.com

rett for “Northwest Ohio Military History Events”
**Textile Internship**

**Application Deadline:** April 25, 2011

**Term:** One 12 week internship, 40 hours per week, start date in May.

**Stipend:** $9.00/hour.

**Location:** Wood County Historical Center, Bowling Green, Ohio.

**Duties:** The purpose of this internship is to catalog the Wood County Historical Center’s (WCHC) extensive textile / costume collection. Working under the supervision of WCHC curator, the intern will: Document textile artifacts using Past Perfect museum software; Identify & date textile artifacts, conducting basic research as necessary; Ensure that textiles are stored correctly.

**Qualifications:** A successful applicant will have some experience working with museum collections in the form of prior employment, volunteer work, or university classes. Specific knowledge of textiles & costumes is preferred. Knowledge of Past Perfect or similar collections management software is preferred. Applicant should have a basic knowledge of museum practices, procedures, and artifact handling techniques. Interns are expected to be self-motivated, self-reliant, and work independently.

**How to Apply:** Send resume and cover letter to: Wood County Historical Center Attn: Summer Internship, 13660 County Home Rd., Bowling Green, OH 43402 or send via email to curator@woodcountyhistory.org

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**Wood County Historical Society Board**

- Millie Broka, president
- Bob Willman, vice-president
- Edie Olds, secretary
- Becky Bhaer*, treasurer
- Jeff Baney**
- Dick Conrad
- John Eschedor
- Ethel Green
- Becky Mancuso
- Dana Nemeth*
- Edie Olds
- Jim Philo
- Gene Roe
- Lou Snyder*
- Leslee Thompson**
- Becky White-Schooner

*Commissioner Appointee
**Park District Appointee

**Museum Staff**

- Christie Weininger, director
- Kelli Kling, marketing & events
- Randy Brown, curator
- Michael McMaster, education
- Tim Gaddie, volunteers
- Dan Sanchez, maintenance

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**Heritage Days & Power of Yesteryear Farm Show**

**June 11 - 12, 2011 • 10 am - 5 pm**

All the fun you’ve had before - but maybe just a little more!

**Power of Yesteryear Club, Inc.**

Wood County Historical Society

Farm-focused demonstration • Tractor Show • Live music

Society Harlan's BBQ Fundraiser, Sunday 11:00
Society Harlan's BBQ Fundraiser, Sunday 2:00

*woodcountyhistory.org*
Digitizing Historic Collections

A Presentation by
The Ohio History Technology Corps
at
The Wood County Historical Center
13660 County Home Road
Bowling Green, OH 43402

Tuesday, April 19th, 2011 at 6:00pm

Nicholas Napoli will discuss:
> What is the Ohio History Tech Corps?
> Why should we digitize historic artifacts?
> How do we digitize?
> What are we doing at the Wood County Historical Center?
> How can you Help!

For Additional Information Please
Contact Nick Napoli at
419-352-0967
nnapoli@woodcountyhistory.org

[Logos and badges]
BGSU Tourism students and volunteers prepare delicious Northwest Ohio 1860s foods during the spring opening event.