

# SURVEYOR

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2022

## Log House Gardening

The ATHS Log House gardeners have been working hard for many years to keep the area looking nice. They are: Carol Taylor, Marilyn Klump-Stringfield, Sheri Eberle, Suzi Wycoff, Carol King, Diane Schneider, Karen Linden, Nancy Krueger and Ann King. They also help with the May Plant Sale as well as the Mum/Pumpkin Sale in September. Thank you to all. They are a wonderful group of ladies and they usually work on Thursdays. There is always a need for more gardeners. If anyone is interested in helping, please contact Ann. (513-315-1629 or akc7526@gmail.com)

## ATHS Property Committee

The Property Committee consists of Kathy Hoelscher, Dannelle (Dani) Speigel, Diane Hamm, Dave Quilligan, Nelson Hastings, David Vogel, Bart Motz and Ann King, Chrm. This group, after touring the property, has made a priority list of areas that need some work. Currently, we are working on catching groundhogs who have been damaging some of our property. Once Spring arrives, we will begin on our list of prioritized projects. If anyone sees something on our property that needs some repair, please let us know.



## President's Message - Nancy Krueger

Happy New Year Members,

As you read through this edition of the Surveyor there are several prominent themes: dedication, diversity and community activity. The time that we all spent at home during the Covid Pandemic presented an opportunity for each of us to reflect upon the important things in our lives including how we spend time and therefore what activities are important.

I have observed this in the renewed interest in the Historical Society and Urban Farm, both internally and within the Anderson Township and Mt Washington communities. It is also evident in the diversity of activities that are detailed in this Surveyor.

This is an important opportunity for our organization to share the myriad ideas and activities that are ours. We have a roster of nominees who have agreed to carry the organization forward at this exciting time. This roster is printed below for review in advance of our March meeting. At the meeting you will have the opportunity to approve the list or nominate from the floor.

My sincere thanks for your ideas, interest and participation these past two years. My wish to all, a Happy and Healthy New Year!

One of my favorite quotes by Margaret Mead is appropriate for our efforts: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

### To Be Voted Upon

Pres.: Nancy Krueger  
VP: Don Perry  
Rec. Sec.: Lyn Scheper  
Trustee: Allan Greer  
Trustee: Bob Malinzak  
Trustee: Daryl Meyerrenke  
Trustee: Marilyn Stringfield  
Trustee: David Vogel

### No Vote Needed

Trustee: Kathy Hoelscher  
Past Pres.: Don Perry

### Standing Committee Chairs

Finance: Don Perry  
Archive/Research: Open  
Genealogy: Kenny Burck  
Accessions: Melanie Woodworth  
Projects: Diane Schneider  
Real Properties: Ann King  
Urban Farm: Lexie Stevenson

# Harvest Fair Crosses Generations by Doug Dierking



When I volunteered to help run the antique apple press at last October's Harvest Fair, I assumed I'd signed up for an easy task. All I had to do was quickly grind and press a few apples into cider, then sit back for a few hours and periodically hand out samples. Certainly there wouldn't be that many people interested in a 120 year old piece of farm equipment so it was sure to be a slow, relaxing day.

Boy, was I wrong.

Right off the bat visitors were drawn to the weathered-looking hunk of wood and iron. Its giant, exposed gears and manually-controlled hand crank seemed

to beckon them to draw closer and once they got a taste of that fresh cider, the cups disappeared off the sample table in under a minute. For the rest of the day people streamed to the apple press: "Hey what is that thing? Can I give it a try? Wow, this cider is delicious!" Even the yellowjackets seemed to enjoy the fresh juice and handed out a few stings if you got too close. Cranking that old press for hours on end was hard, sticky work but everyone was having fun and fresh cider was being consumed as fast as we could make it.

While all of this was going on, I noticed an old man off to the side alone, leaning on his cane and watching the whole scene with a smile on his face. I assumed he was just waiting for someone but a half hour later when he was still there, I asked if he was alright. He reassured me he was just fine but was simply taking a walk down memory lane. He went on to explain.

This was exactly how things looked when he pressed apples for cider as a boy on his grandparents' farm in Indiana. His family would stand around the press, having fun and cracking jokes while they worked, just like we were doing. The press rocked around like crazy when you cranked it and people had to help hold it down, just like we were doing. When his family made cider there was always a big beautiful

barn in the background and the air smelled like crisp apples, just like it did right then at the Anderson Urban Farm. And yes, yellowjackets would find their press too and someone would usually get stung. But it was always a good time and he never thought he'd see that scene ever again. It brought him back to when he was a boy.

A few days later on Halloween evening a band of trick-or-treaters came to my door. One of the kids in a devil costume said, "Hey! You're the apple cider guy from the festival!" I asked if he had tried the cider and if he like it and all five kids agreed it was delicious. Turns out they'd all been to the farm, had a blast cranking on the apple press, and hoped we'd do it again next year.

That's proof that this old farm, and log house, is still making magic happen in Anderson Township. When we open our doors to the public it not only stirs the memories of our older visitors, but also makes new lasting memories in the very young. As we head into the new year let's not forget what a unique place the Anderson Township Historical Society is, the importance of attracting new visitors through open houses and historical demonstrations, and how much we mean to our community.

## Hillcrest Cemetery

Earlier this month several ATHS members helped out with the Wreaths Across America effort, sponsored by the Friends of Hillcrest Cemetery. Twenty people gathered to unload 1,200 wreaths for over 100 people to place upon the graves of military veterans at the Hillcrest Cemetery on Sutton Ave.

Many hands made light work. While the historic cemetery is not an official ATHS project, we were honored to participate in such a worthwhile cause to build community in our township.



# Program Co-Chair Needed

ATHS is always looking for interesting programs about local points of interest, history, books, gardening, etc. With the passing of Lucy Moore, we lost our main source of program ideas and contacts. Lucy was a very active lady who went to many events and meetings. She typically provided two out of three speakers. Finding speakers is more than one person (who is also recording secretary) can handle. Additional help is desperately needed to lighten the load.

Sometimes members hear a great speaker to recommend, but often they only have the name and topic. Thus, a Google search is like finding a needle in a haystack. If you hear a great speaker, please talk to them directly or to the group/person who booked them and get the speaker's name and contact information – business card, email and/or phone number – and possibly what they charge.

We have eight meetings a year with speakers, and a budget of \$900. The Annual Dinner in March when we elect officers, and the August Potluck Picnic, are social gatherings with no speaker.

If you are interested in being Program Co-Chair, please contact Lyn Scheper. In the interim, please provide any topics and detailed speaker contact information to [lyn.scheper@gmail.com](mailto:lyn.scheper@gmail.com) or 513-232-1559.

## Upcoming Meetings:

### No Meeting

Wednesday, January 4, 2023

### Cincinnati Firsts

Wednesday, February 1, 2023, 7:30pm

Cincinnati Firsts is the topic which will cover over a dozen events/accomplishments that happened FIRST in Cincinnati. Some are very well-known, like the first all-professional baseball team in history. But there is more to every story and some things may not be totally true. Come join us and we'll find out.

### ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

Wednesday, March 1, 2023

The Patriot Center

Menu and pricing to be determined. The doors will open at 5:30 with dinner at 6:00. Election of officers will be on the agenda. Watch your email for details or look at our Facebook page as the date gets closer.

### Annie Oakley

Wednesday, April 5, 2023, 7:30pm

### Cincinnati Type & Print Museum

Wednesday, May 3, 2023, 7:30pm

## Country Store/Log House

Thank you to EVERYONE who helped make the "Country Store" booth at the Harvest Fair a success. The pickles, breads, cookies, crocheted pumpkins and other donated items were appreciated.

Over the past year, 565 visitors toured our log house! The docents enjoy sharing the history of the Historical Society's property.



# Archives-History at the Red Brick House

- Melanie Woodworth

Volunteers are working at the Red Brick House on Tuesdays from 10-2 (and sometimes on Thursdays). We are focusing efforts on getting all accessions up to date, and organizing accession records. Standard museum practices are being used. It is important to know what we have in our collections and how to find items

Volunteers are making progress in organizing the collections. Nancy Krueger, Ben Gressle, and Patty Wilfert have all been helping us get organized. Doug Dierking transported three pieces of printing equipment to the Cincinnati Type and Print Museum. In the process, we have made some interesting finds.

Fourteen framed historic photographs came from Mercy Hospital (ATHS provided the historic images originally). The plan is to loan them out to businesses.

Some vintage clothing will be going to the Cincinnati Museum Center (Deb Ruehlman).

A WWI trunk was found with the name "Lieut. W.C. Langdon, MC" printed on the side. (Dr. Langdon served at Camp Sherman in Chillicothe.) Items included Langdon's military and baseball uniforms. Col. (R) Todd A. Mayer had the uniforms cleaned and used them for Veteran's day events on November 6th at Memorial Hall and again at the local American Legion Post 318 on November 11.

Dr. Langdon's son, Harlan, also served in WWI and his military jacket was in the bottom of the trunk. The jacket had a patch, which showed that he served in the 2nd infantry, field battalion, in Battery B of 17th field artillery; also has discharge stripe, and two stripes for two periods in service.

Charlie Wallace built some shelves in the closets for supplies, which provides more efficient use of space. Charlie is working with Don Perry to restore a vintage phone.

Doug Woodworth set up a magazine rack to hold our brochures and booklets.

Kathy Hoelscher has been a dedicated volunteer, organizing the vast newspaper collections and putting the newspapers in flat archival boxes. More archival boxes needed. Also, we are in need of additional metal shelving for the newspaper room.

Bob Hayes has been coming to the Red Brick House every Tuesday to research the Mt. Washington papers. He is pleased to be able to work on his project. We appreciate his generous donation for archival supplies.



## Around the Urban Farm

By the time this issue hits the press, the winter solstice will be in the rear-view mirror, and we'll all be welcoming any additional rays of light Ma Nature can muster. The seed catalogs will be filling mailboxes, and visions of flowers and veggies will be dancing in our heads.

2022 marked the fourth gardening season for the Anderson Urban Farm. We continue to enjoy enthusiasm from our gardeners, and are so grateful for the support of the community at large. Most gardeners plan to continue for the upcoming year. We maintain a waiting list for newcomers, as spaces do periodically open up.

Generosity from donors, large and small, allowed us to add two more raised beds at the farm, so we now support a total of six. The raised beds allow folks who are mobility-limited to continue gardening on a smaller scale. Lucy Blue Pizza held a fundraiser, honoring the memory of Nick Gressle, with proceeds going to the beds. Gardener Pam Murphy donated her beautiful barn quilt at the Harvest Fair, with raffle earnings given to the cause. Matt Leopard (son-in-law of Nancy Hodges) built the new beds, and gardeners Kevin Creelman and the Hassons assisted in the final installation. If you are interested in renting a raised garden bed, please contact [anderson-farmmail@gmail.com](mailto:anderson-farmmail@gmail.com).

Our Big Red Barn renovation was successfully completed in 2022. In the past year we have used it for a welcome brunch for gardeners, an open house and dedication, and our solstice celebration. It will serve both as a working barn and a space for our events for many years to come.



## Around the Urban Farm (cont.)

Our native plant area on the steep hillside behind the chicken coop really took off this year. The yellow, orange and purple blooms provide food for pollinators. Birds eat the seeds and insects, and we enjoy watching all the action! There's a saying about native perennials - the first year they sleep, the second year they creep, and the third year, they leap! Keep watching the area for new blooms as the seasons progress.

Our big fall shindig was a fabulous success. The Harvest Fair brought trick-or-treaters of all sizes to the farm, along with dozens of vendors, tasty food, and toe-tapping tunes. We could not have asked for a more beautiful autumn

day. We appreciate that our friends at the Knights of Columbus across the street are kind enough to allow us to use their parking lot for many of our events.

Most folks who see the farm for the first-time remark that it is a beautiful oasis in Anderson. We are so proud of all who have worked to help the farm sprout and thrive the past few years. Donations of time, resources, and talent are always welcome. In the coming year we hope to offer more programs and activities for our members and the larger community. If YOU have a talent to share, or an idea for a workshop you'd like to see offered at the farm, please let us know. We welcome you!



## 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/donatetoday/>

## New Members

Welcome to our new members:

Elizabeth Bevacqua  
Cindy and Jon Brandyberry  
Josh Carter  
William Copperthwaite  
Annamarie Cronin  
Jeff DeMaria  
Nancy Downs  
Michael Duncan-Wilson

Mary Gaertner  
Benita Gilreath  
Ben, Molly & Leslie Gressle  
Andrea Houghtaling  
Paul Ickes  
David and Laura Knight  
Katherine and Christopher Kowalak  
Col. Todd Mayer

James O'Brien  
Virginia O'Leary  
Meghan Geiger and Andrew Rohrkemper  
Dani and Wayne Speigel  
Alma Wilmhoff  
Marty Young

## Membership Rates

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

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Contact us at 513-231-2114  
[www.andersontownshiphistoricalsociety.org](http://www.andersontownshiphistoricalsociety.org)

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