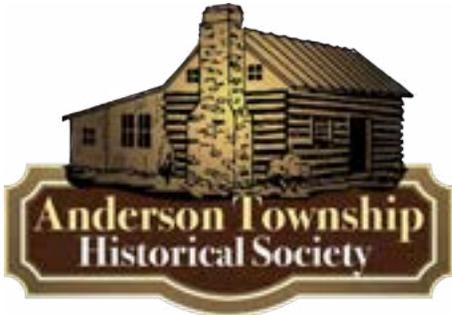


SURVEYOR

Volume 58
Issue 2
Summer
2025



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President's Message - Dani Speigel



Greetings to all,

I hope this letter finds you well and enjoying summer. There are many exciting things that have happened or will be happening at ATHS.

We had a record-breaking plant sale this spring. Ann King and her volunteers worked very hard to make this event so successful. Thank you for all your hard work. Following the plant sale, we participated in the Anderson Township History and Garden Tour. Ann King, Diane Schneider and their team of volunteers worked diligently to make this event successful. Again, thank you all for your effort.

The first project from the Great Oaks Career Campuses is complete. Students from Live Oaks laid a patio area in front of the Browne house overlooking Clough Pike. We had some patio furniture donated, and it looks amazing. If you get a chance, please have a seat and relax on the new patio. There will be more projects in the upcoming years with the school district. Suggestions include: steps from the lower property to the upper property on the hill, making a picnic shelter on the slab at the Browne house, repairing the porch ceiling at the Browne house, replacing the pathway from the Hunter Building to the lower property, repairing the rock wall and steps at the Research Center, making a ramp to get into the Research Center at the patio door and entrance into the kitchen, and construction of more raised

beds at the Farm. Several other suggestions have been offered. If you have ideas for a project you'd like to see, please let us know.

Music on the Farm starts July 19th and will have two additional dates, August 16th and September 20th. Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy some great local music.

We had a great picnic with the Archaeological staff and students on June 25th. It was a little warm, but good food and conversations were had by all.

You might have seen a new project at the Farm – a new kiosk is underway by an Eagle Scout. This will help inform everyone of all types of information going on at the Historical Society and the Farm. Another scout project has been completed; we now have portable racks for the tables and chairs that are stored in the barn. Both projects will be a great asset to us. A grateful "Thank you" to the scouts who helped make these additions possible.

The chimney project on the Log House has been completed on time. American Façade Restoration, LLC did an amazing job. They found some unexpected defects with the hearth and were able to repair and restore the hearth to look more original. Part of this project was funded by a generous grant from the Ohio History Connection. Dave Quilligan was the project manager and he did a fantastic job. Many thanks to Dave and American Façade Restoration, LLC.

continued next page

The ATHS Board has been awarding scholarships to graduating high school seniors for the past several years. This year, we awarded a scholarship to each of the four high schools in the area – Anderson High School, Turpin High School, McNicholas High School and Miami Valley Christian School. Although we don't have names of all the recipients, congratulations go to those who received the gifts.

A recent project involved updating the annex/equipment shed behind the Log House. This building now serves as the viewing area for a new video – produced by Doug Dierking – that introduces visitors to the history of the Log House and its surrounding property. Don Perry, Bart Motz, Nelson Hastings, Dave Quilligan, George Scheper, and David Vogel collaborated to determine what needed repair and updating.

Improvements included new lighting and ceiling tiles, wall repairs followed by a fresh coat of paint, new carpeting, and updated displays. The transformation is remarkable. Many thanks to everyone involved for their hard work – I just wish I had taken some “before” photos! I wish you all a fantastic summer!

Regards,
Dani Speigel

Miller-Leuser Log House, continued from Spring issue

by Janet Heywood

For over fifty years, the Miller-Leuser Log House has been the main ATHS focus and attraction. In 2012, Janet Heywood spent a great deal of time researching the families of the Log House and prepared a paper that included both the family histories and an amazing group of photographs.

This issue of the Surveyor contains the second installment. You may access past issues of the Surveyor by visiting our website: <https://andersontownshiphistoricalociety.org/surveyor-back-issues/>

Corbly combined the 15 acres and log house with additional land and sold 36.83 acres to Nathan S. Perry for \$3,901 on Nov. 12, 1867. Nathan Sloane Perry (1831-1910) married Susan Wolf (abt. 1835-1909) in 1854. Their seven children were:

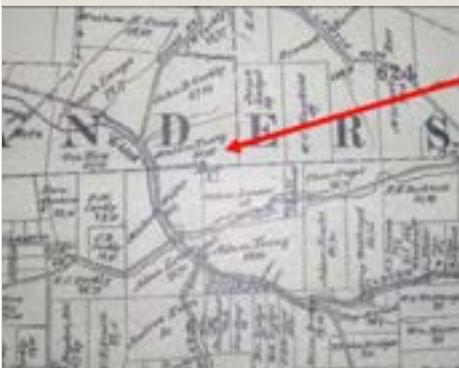
Eva May (1857-1922), George (1859-), Harry (1862-1935), Margaret (1864-1945), Jacob (1866-1938), William (1869 -) and Nathan (1874-1955).

They purchased the Log House in 1867, sold it in 1879, then moved to Pleasant Valley, Kansas. Nathan and Susan died in Kansas but their children continued to move west. On a public family tree on ancestry.com – details are posted for their children and show that they died in OK, Texas and California as well as Kansas. A grandson died in Burma in WWII, far from Clough Pike.

Nathan and Susanna Perry sold their 36.83 acres to Nicholas Wolf on November 14, 1879 for \$4,614. In December, Wolf turned around and sold the property to Martin Young (Jung) for \$3,633. Wolf reserved a strip 20 feet wide as a road up to his 2-acre orchard on the hill.



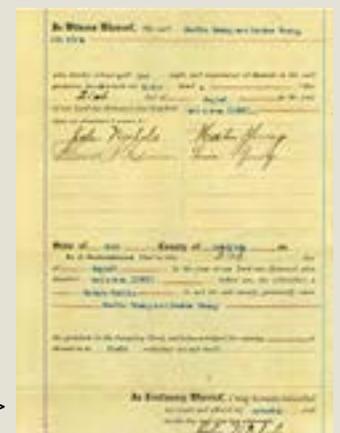
Nathan's wife Susan, Sue Perry



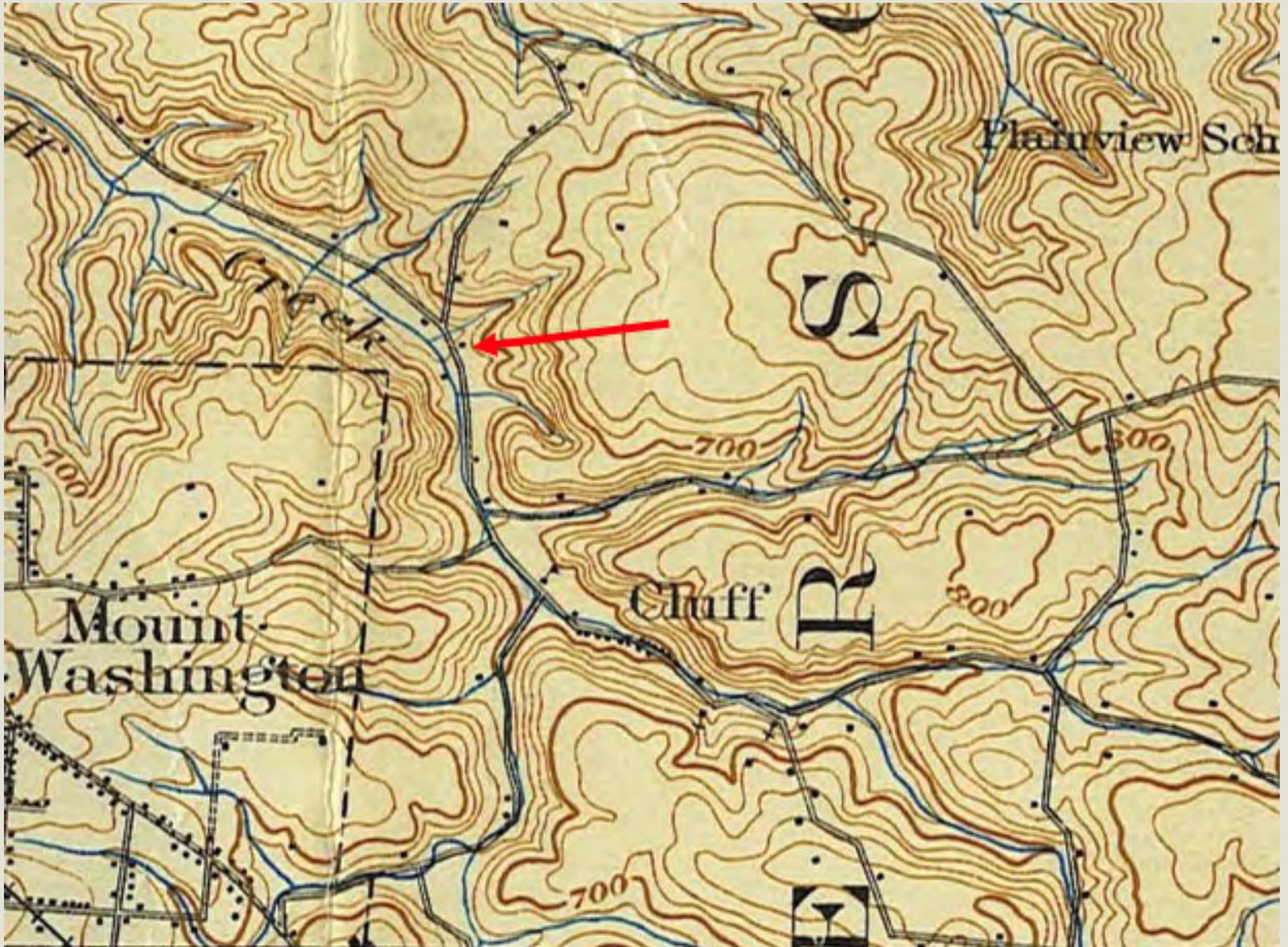
1884 Map showing the property of Martin Young

At left is an 1884 map showing the Young property. I looked for information about the Young family but found few details. In an 1887 directory Martin Young is listed as a farmer.

Martin and Louisa Young sold the property to Joseph Leuser for \$3,500 on August 21, 1907. By the way, the details of all these deeds were researched by Stephen Smalley.



Deed from Martin and Louisa Young >



On this 1914 map we can see the Log House indicated as a dot on Clough, then the Wolfer farm and then the Clark House in the stretch between Bartels and Hunley roads. The Post Office Village of Cluff was east of the district school.

Let's look at the Leusers of Anderson Township. The first couple – Adam Leuser (1819-1905) married Julia Fink (1825-1892) in 1854. They came from Germany in the early 1850s.



Adam Leuser and Julia Fink Leuser

They had seven children:

Adam (1852-1912), (Julia's son by a first marriage adopted and renamed Adam Leuser, Jr.) Philomena "Minnie" (1855-1934), Mary (1857-1924), Elizabeth (1859-1936), Anna (1861-1892), Caroline (1863-1916) and Joseph (1865-1915).

Joseph Leuser (1865-1915) married Matilda Yeager (1866-1941) in 1888.

They had four children: Lawrence (1889-1964), Philomena Antoinette (1892-1970), Genevieve (1894-1978) and Lorena Marie (1903-1935).

Lawrence Leuser (1889-1964) married Emma Kuntz (1889-1969) in 1910. They spent the 54 years of married life at the Log House. They had four children:

Clara (1912-2009) married George Smith 1936

Martha (1917-1971) married Bill Hornschemeier 1938

Mildred (1919-1972) and Joseph (1926-) married Eileen Crowley in 1947.

Adam and Julia Leuser lived in the historic Clark stone house at the corner of what is now called Hunley and was once called Leuser Road. In this wonderful but faded photo below we see son Joseph and his wife Matilda Leuser with children Antoinette, Lawrence, Genevieve, and Lorena at the Clark-Leuser-Messmer House, about 1905.



After the death of Adam in 1905 Joseph needed to find a new home for his family and was able to purchase the Log House just down the road. Joseph's sister "Minnie" had married Anthony Wolfer and they lived on the farm in between. Truly, a family neighborhood.

This is the oldest photo we have of the Log House. Local historian Stephen Smalley thought it dated to very early 1900s – the Log House looks unkempt; note the repairs on the logs.



Let's look at the neighborhood in the Clough Valley.



Here's a view of the Clough Valley, looking to the east of Corbly and east of the school building. By the way, for anyone who does not remember the school building district #7 constructed in 1874 is now the restaurant Clough Crossing. Corbly is across lower area, Clough School on left. Clough Baptist Church and cemetery on right in trees. Ca 1910.



Lawrence Leuser doing repair work on the road. Clough Turnpike became a county road in 1912 and needed work. Apparently you could work off taxes for \$1.50 a day for doing road repairs.



There were other log houses along Clough – here's a photo of one on the property of Adam Young. Not in good repair. Many log houses were replaced or remodeled in ways that covered their original structures.



Here's an early photo of the Miller-Leuser Log House looking well-tended.



And here's a beloved photo tinted in color and carefully dated June 1920.

More to come in the next issue... Stay tuned!

Gardening Report

The 29th ATHS PLANT SALE was on May 10th, at the Log House. We made \$6,335 and a big “Thank You!” for all who attended.



On June 8, the Historical Society participated in the Anderson Township Garden and History Tour, we did our best to have the gardens ready, served lemonade and homemade

cookies to around 80 guests. Both events were most successful. Once both of these occasions were over, the gardeners are taking a well-deserved break!

PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

The ATHS Property Committee worked on repairing and updating the Equipment Shed/former Annex building this spring and we were finished by May 1st. There is a new lighting system, new ceiling, painted walls, and a carpet put on the floor. The displays in the building show the type of tools that we think were used to build the Log House, as well as other old tools and a workbench. There is a display of stoneware pottery of different sizes and for different uses. In addition to these items are some benches to watch a video about the history of the Log House.

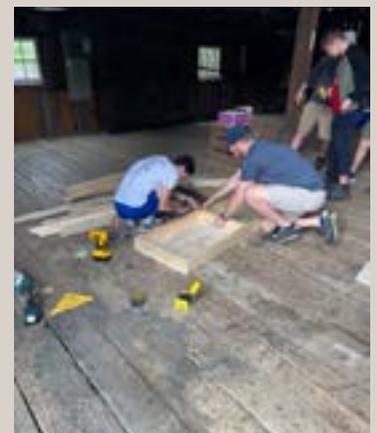
The Property Group has been working on upgrading the kitchen of the Farm House/Browne House. Once done, our plans are to provide some cooking demonstrations for gardeners and ATHS Members and possibly a meeting place.

I would like to inform our members that there are some “See Something, Say Something” forms to be used on the side porch of the Research Center/ Red Brick Building, in the Lower Barn by the garden closet, on the back porch of the Hornschemeier House, and in the box located on the door entrance to the Community Gardens. **If you see something that you might think is strange/not right please do not hesitate to complete one of our forms and even take a picture.** After you complete the form, please contact: Dani Speigel (dani.speigel@gmail.com//513-405-8089), Diane Hamm (Diane Hamm@gmail.com//513-967-0626), or Ann King (akc7526@gmail.com//513-315-1629).

Thank you.

Eagle Scout Project

Ben Nierling presented the ATHS with two concept designs for wood structures that would hold 40 folding chairs and 12 folding tables for the Urban Farm. He also recommended that large wheels be added so we could easily roll them outside if needed for activities on the farm. Both pieces are extremely useful.



ATHS / Great Oaks Joint Venture Project

The Great Oaks Work-Based Learning Program has completed the first project at the Urban Farm. The students built a beautiful brick patio with a natural stone seat wall. They worked diligently in the rain and hot sun to complete the project before the end of the school year.



The area is in front of the Browne house and encourages everyone to enjoy this tranquil space. We are looking forward to the 2025/2026 school year to mentor the next generation of skilled trades through the Great Oaks program.

A special thanks to David Vogel Landscaping, Byzak Landscaping and Evans Landscaping for sponsorships of materials to help make this wonderful project happen.

Girl Scouts Painting Event

On the evening of April 28th, Emily Grube's Girl Scout Troop used their artistic talents to paint to paint clay flowerpots at the Urban Farm



for the AHS plant sale. Diane Seeman provided the paints, and Julie Neiberding provided the flowerpots. There were extra flowerpots available, so several mothers jumped into the fun endeavor and all painted beautiful designs.

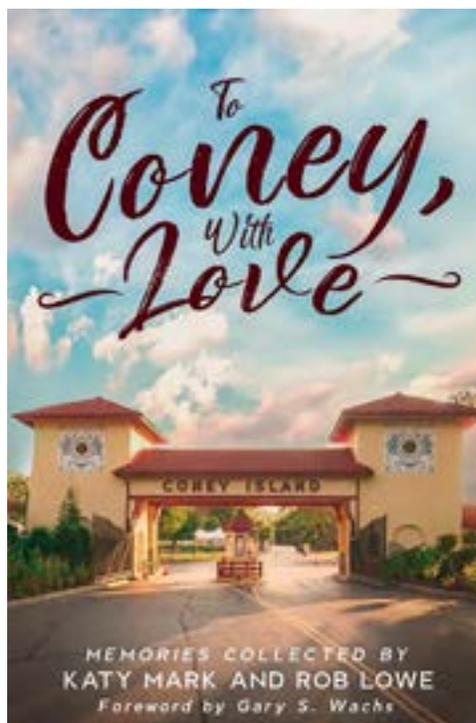


Special Event at the Research Center

The AHS Research Center will be open on Sunday, August 3 from 1-4 PM.

Rob Lowe, one of the co-authors (along with Katy Mark) of the book, "To Coney, With Love" will be available from 2-4 PM for book signing. He will have his book, as well as a Coney puzzle, for sale.

During your visit, please check out our Coney display!



When the shocking news of the park's closing was announced in 2023, Rob and Katy Mark came up with the idea to have Coney fans share their memories. The book is a compilation of stories born out of the historic amusement park, Coney Island, submitted by its patrons, with decades of memories and pictures.

ANDERSON TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY
URBAN FARM PRESENTS

Music On The Farm

THIRD SATURDAYS, JULY - SEPTEMBER

MUSIC, FOOD, N' FUN!!!

"DOORS" AT 6PM, MUSIC AT 6:30PM

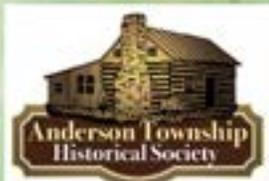
2550 BARTELS RD CINCINNATI, OH 45244

Rescheduled due to rain for October 18th

**BLUEGRASS WITH
THE FOREST HILLS BLUEGRASS
BAND**

**AUGUST 16TH
CLASSIC ROCK WITH
BLUMILLION**

**SEPTEMBER 20TH
COUNTRY WITH
DUSTY & BACKWOODS DRIVE**



Urban Farm Activities

In addition to Scout projects and the work completed by Live Oaks students, other areas of the Urban Farm have been bustling with activity!

In June, the farm was one of the featured stops on the annual Anderson Township History and Garden Tour. Although the growing season had a slow start and gardens weren't yet at their peak, visitors still enjoyed seeing all the progress sprouting around the farm. Guests were particularly impressed by the variety of gardening styles on display and often described the farm as an "oasis."

The farm also welcomed members of the Terrace Park Garden Club, who toured both the Urban Farm and the historic Log House property during their field trip.



Now, the growing season is in full swing! The first tomatoes have been harvested - always a reason to celebrate. Zucchini season is

just around the corner (you may want to start locking your car doors!). Swallowtail caterpillars have been spotted on the fennel and dill, and goldfinches are busy



harvesting seeds from the coneflowers in the pollinator gardens.



We were delighted to host a community lecture on salamanders, presented by naturalist and amphibian enthusiast

Bill Stanley. He opened our eyes to the fascinating world of amphibians thriving just beneath our feet!

The chicken program continues to grow with the addition of several new chicks and a dedicated team of both new and experienced volunteers. If you'd like to meet our feathered friends up close, please contact volunteer Janet Quilligan at jquilligan@fuse.net.



Summer also brought the return of the Hamilton County 4-H Program to the farm. Participants have explored leadership, planting, and many other valuable skills. We look forward to continuing our partnership and watching their growth blossom alongside the crops.

Education is a vital part of our mission as a community garden. If you have a skill you'd love to share or a topic you'd like us to explore, we'd love to hear from you! Reach out to us at <https://andersontownshiphistoricalsociety.org/urban-farm/>

ANDERSON URBAN FARM

A Learning Tool

By Timothy E. Cassady Sr. - Urban Farmer



A garden is an incredible learning tool for all of us – especially children – as lifelong lessons are acquired. Fuel a child’s curiosity with knowledge and their future will take care of itself.

Some years ago, my four year-old son followed me into my garden and asked to help. I gave him the task of picking four tomatoes, but he brought me six of them. “Let’s check the count,” I said to him. On his own he discovered his mistake and was proud of himself for correcting it. We not only harvested that day, but planted as well. He learned to follow directions, use a tape measure for seed plantings, and a string for planting straight lines.

This first lesson at the young age of four has grown to be a lifelong interest. He now has a garden of his own many times the size of mine and teaches from it as well.

Gardening offers many learning opportunities beginning with reading, addition, and subtraction. Using a calendar to track seed maturity is another lesson. Science comes into play with concepts such as weather, recycling, soil composition and environmental factors. Problem solving is learned when garden growth doesn’t go as planned! Patience and self confidence is learned with successes and failures. Children will learn to observe events such as

the amount of rainfall, temperature ranges, hours of daylight, and even animal behavior. Our furry friends can be a problem for us farmers! In short, gardening is a way to encourage children to think.

Last, but not least, it generates pride and enjoyment of a job well done! Meaningful interaction between child and adult is part of the process. My recommendation is simple: farm with a kid and enjoy their company. Roll up your sleeves, get your hands dirty, and plant something!

The **ATHS and Urban Farm picnic** will be on September 3rd at 6:00pm at the Urban Farm. Fried chicken and lemonade will be served. Please let us know if you plan on attending so we can be sure we have enough chicken for everyone. If your last name begins A-K please bring a side dish to share. If your last name begins L-Z please bring a dessert to share. If you plan on attending please email Dani Speigel at dani.speigel@gmail.com by August 30th.

From Treasurer Bob King

Please welcome the following new members:

Sharon Castor
Rebecca Pace
Bob and Sharon Sanker
Mary Sheehan
Lee Stegman
Glenn and Shelly Vanpelt
Rick Voss
Ashley Webber
Guy Wolf and Jane Misiewicz

A friendly reminder – **Dues are now past due.** We value your continued support! Please visit our website: AndersonTownshipHistoricalSociety.org and look for the tab “Donations and Membership.”

Our participation in the **Kroger Rewards Program** is an easy way for us to earn money, with no strings attached! Please check the bottom of your Kroger receipt to see if you are enrolled. Visit their Frequently Asked Questions page for all the details you might need to get enrolled: <https://www.kroger.com/hc/help/faqs/community-rewards/general>

Dates for the remaining scheduled Open Houses at the Log House are:

Sunday, August 3, 1:00 to 4:00

Sunday, August 17, 1:00 to 4:00

Sunday, September 7, 1:00 to 4:00

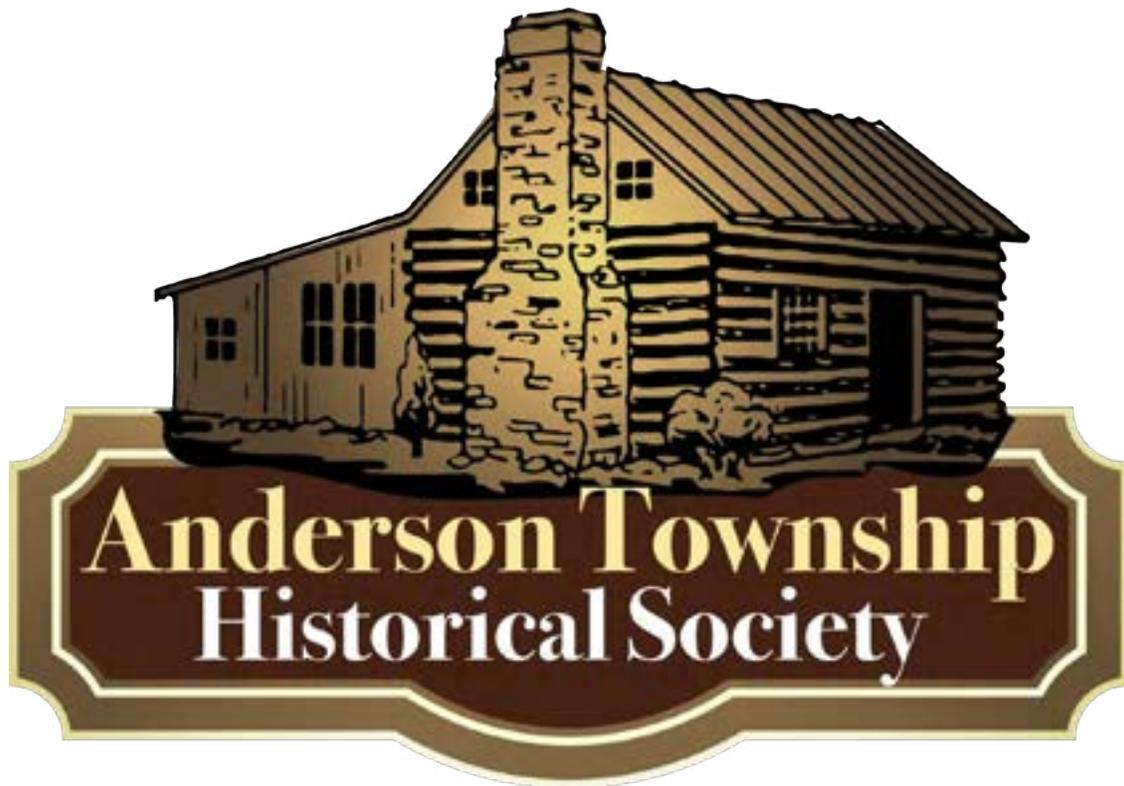
Sunday, September 21, 1:00 to 4:00

Sunday, October 5, 1:00 to 4:00

Sunday, October 19, 1:00 to 4:00

Please stop by for a visit to see the newly restored chimney and fireplace box, recently donated ironware which complements the fireplace, and the newly donated rope bed.

The Research Center will be open as well as the barn and equipment shed for more updated and interesting displays.



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/>

Membership Announcements

Bob King, Treasurer

Thank you to everyone who renewed your memberships. We appreciate your continued support.

Membership Rates

Single: \$25
Couple: \$40
Lifetime Single: \$150
Lifetime Couple: \$250

P.O. Box 30174
Cincinnati, OH 45230

Contact us at 513-231-2114
www.andersontownshiphistoricalsociety.org
<https://andersonurbanfarm.com>

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