A Newsletter of the Anderson Township Historical Society

SURVEYOR

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2026

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ATHS President's Letter

What an exciting summer we had! It started with our participation in the Anderson Township 4th of July parade. Our amazing flatboat, donated by Daryl Meyerrenke and decorated by an amazing group of volunteers (you know who you are…) took first place in the float division, and we received $100 from Kroger. We greatly appreciate the donation to our Society. Music on the Farm was very successful this year. Everyone really enjoyed the groups that played, and we had record attendance at some of the concerts. We look forward to next year's concert series.

Sadly, in August we lost a huge pine tree to a windstorm. Allan Greer and his grandfather, Joe Browne, planted the tree about 60 years ago, and it had grown to around 60 feet tall. When it fell, it took some branches from our beloved beech tree, but the beech will recover. There was no other damage. A huge "thank you" to David Vogel Landscaping for cleaning up the tree so quickly that we were ready for our Music on the Farm event.

We have had some issues with our Research Center, including flooding in the basement storage room. Nothing was lost, but we are looking for ways to keep this from happening again. We will inform the membership when there is a final plan for repairs.

One of our newer members, Carol Hadley, has graciously taken on the task of organizing guest speakers for our membership meetings. Carol has some amazing speakers lined up through April of next year. Please visit our website, athsociety.org, to see the list of upcoming speakers. We would love to see more members at our membership meetings. If you know of a speaker who would interest our Society, please contact Carol or me. Carol's email address is songbird09@yahoo.com, and mine is dani.speigel@gmail.com.

We are looking forward to our next big event, the ATHS Harvest Fair, on November 7th. The fair runs from noon to 6 p.m. and will feature live music, food trucks, and many vendors. This event is always so much fun, and you can get some Christmas shopping done while you're there. Parking will be available at the Knights of Columbus and Turpin High School. Please mark your calendars for this amazing event!

We still need volunteers to help with many Society projects. We need gardeners on the lower property and help with general maintenance of the buildings and grounds on both the upper and lower properties. The Research Center needs volunteers as well; it is open on Tuesdays from 10 a.m.

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President's Letter, continued from page 1

to 2 p.m. If you have a few hours a week to help in any capacity, please contact me, and I can put you in touch with the chair for that project. We greatly appreciate your help and dedication to the Society.

Board elections will take place in March of next year. If you are interested in becoming a Board member or have any questions, please let me know. We will be forming a group to recommend candidates for the March election.

On behalf of myself and the Society, I extend our condolences to Daryl Meyerrenke and his family on the passing of his wife, Kim. Her beautiful soul is now singing with the angels.

Hope to see you soon,

Dani Speigel

ATHS Urban Farm

Fall is upon us, and the leaves are changing to beautiful shades of red, orange, and yellow. While it has been a hot summer and some gardeners are already prepared for winter, others are still harvesting squash, pumpkins, and cold-weather crops like lettuce, kale, and spinach. As the days grow shorter and temperatures cool, we are all enjoying the last of the summer produce while preparing for the months ahead.

We have had a record season with gardeners participating in our First Saturday Helping Hands at the farm. I cannot thank everyone enough for helping to ensure our space remains clean and tidy.

Following the wonderful job Live Oaks students did last spring clearing honeysuckle from our lower property and hillside, we have collaborated with them once again for more projects this fall.

Students will be creating a path to connect the upper and lower properties, as well as clearing more of the hillside to create a seamless flow across the land. We are very excited about this partnership—stay tuned for an update in the next edition of The Surveyor.

Stay tuned—we are already focusing on the 2027 growing year, with many more fun adventures to come!

From the Garden

Another Beautiful Season Comes to a Close…

It's always a little bittersweet when another beautiful season at the farm and gardens comes to an end. But what a wonderful year we've had!

Of course, every growing season has its challenges, and this year was no exception! When our underground cistern developed a breach and had to be replaced, we hit a little bump in the road. But every cloud has a silver lining! We now have a beautiful new water system that will make life on the farm much easier, especially when it comes to winterizing.

But the best part of this season wasn't just what we grew in our gardens — it was the friendships we grew along the way!

A heartfelt **thank you** to everyone who volunteered, pitched in, and was always there when we needed a helping hand. Your kindness and generosity made this season so special, and thanks to you, our little farm family has grown even bigger!

As we tuck our gardens in for their winter nap, we look forward to another wonderful year of growing together.

Until then, stay warm, and we'll see you in the spring!

Music On The Farm (MOTF)

Music on the Farm — What a Summer!

What a fantastic summer we had with our **Music on the Farm Summer Concert Series**! From wonderful music to great friends and beautiful evenings on the farm, it was a season to remember!

Mother Nature did throw us a few surprises! We had one rainout and had to make some last-minute changes to our summer picnic. But even with the stormy weather, you showed up, and we still managed to have a great time! A little rain couldn't dampen our spirits!

We enjoyed spectacular bands all summer long, thanks to the generous sponsorship of **Forcht Bank**. A big thank-you to them for helping make these special evenings possible!

And to everyone who joined us, thank you for the wonderful compliments, laughter, and support. You truly made these evenings something special!

We're already looking forward to next summer's concert series, beginning in **July**! If you missed out

this year, be sure to **mark your calendars** and join us for some great music, good friends, and plenty of fun on the farm!

Until next summer, keep your toes tapping and your spirits singing!

HARVEST FAIR + HOLIDAY MARKET

But Wait… There's Still More Music to Come!

Just when you thought the music was over for the season… **we have one more day of fun in store!**

Join us for our annual **Harvest Fair & Holiday Market on Saturday, November 7th, from 12–6 p.m.** for a wonderful afternoon of music, food, shopping, and fall festivities!

We'll kick things off at noon with the toe-tapping sounds of the **Forest Hills Bluegrass Band**, followed at 3 p.m. by the always-popular **BluMillion**, bringing your favorite classic rock hits to the farm!

It's the perfect opportunity to gather with family and friends, enjoy the beauty of fall, browse our talented artisan vendors, and maybe even get a head start on that Christmas shopping!

Great music, great friends, and a little holiday cheer... what better way to wrap up another wonderful season on the farm?

We hope to see you there!

Mum & Pumpkin Sale – Fall 2026

Our annual Mum & Pumpkin Sale was held on Saturday and Sunday, September 19 and 20, in the Log House parking lot, and it was a great success. We offered beautiful, budded mums, large pumpkins, stacking pumpkins, pie pumpkins, large and small gourds, and Indian corn, and we sold out of everything we purchased. Thanks to all of you who stopped by, the sale raised more than $2,000 for the Society.

None of this would have been possible without the many volunteers, ATHS gardeners, and members who gave their time to set up, sell, and help customers load their cars all weekend. Thank you for your hard work and for making the sale such a welcoming community event.

Proceeds from the sale support the gardens, grounds, and preservation work on our upper and lower properties. If you missed out this year, mark your calendar for next fall. Because we sold out, we're already planning to order more, so come early!

Recent Donation of Vintage Toys

Thanks to Penny (Hornschemeier) Wills from Prescott, AZ who contacted us and then sent a large box of classic toys. Penny is a granddaughter of William Hornschemeier. The Hornschemeier house, located on the Urban Farm, was built in 1949 and sold to the Historical Society in 2005. It is the concrete block house to the rear of the farm behind the community gardens.

Some of you will remember these toys from your childhood!

The collection includes: a Shirley Temple doll, a Midge doll (Barbie's sister), a tea set, and John Deere MT tractor model.

There are also seven plastic horse/characters of western TV stars including:

Roy Rogers, Trigger, and dog, Bullet – musical variety show, 1962

Dale Evans on Buttermilk

Cheyenne (Clint Walker as Cheyenne Bodie), 1955-1962

Cochise, Apache chief in Broken Arrow, 1950's

Bret Maverick, 1980's featuring James Garner as Maverick

Gunsmoke, 1955-1975, James Arness as Matt Dillon

Paladin, Have Gun, Will Travel, Richard Boone as Paladin, 1951-1963

Come check out the display at the Research Center!

PRESIDENTIAL QUILT (1870's – 1880's)

Are you aware that ATHS has a Presidential Quilt?!

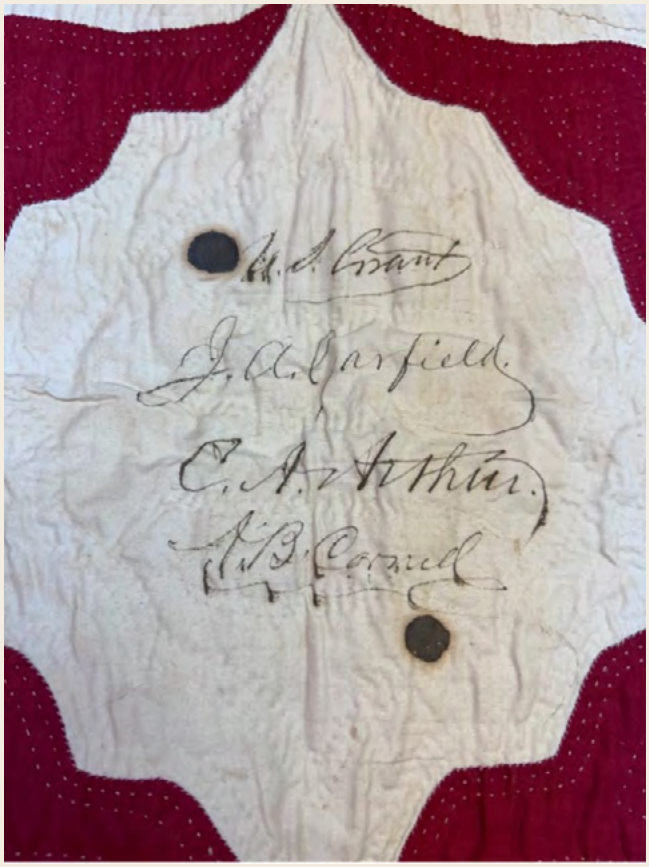
The quilt features the signatures of Presidents Ulysses S. Grant (18th president), James A. Garfield (20th president), Chester A. Arthur (21st president) and the signature of A.B. Cornell, a member of the Cornell University family and friend of President Arthur.

The quilt was pieced and sewn together by Emily Ferdon Jacobus (1847-1892) wife of John Wesley Jacobus, a New York City Marshall. Mr. Jacobus would occasionally bring important politicians to their home. According to family lore, Emily, a crafty quilt sewer, always designing a future quilt, took advantage of these opportunities. She had the dignitaries sign her quilt patches which she later used as the focal point for just one more quilt!

For all of you quilt enthusiasts, the pictured, very attractive quilt, is the 'Drunkard's Path' pattern in red.

The quilt was donated by Charles B. Brush and Mrs. Robert (Carolyn Jacobus Brush) Banks, great grandchildren of Emily.

The quilt arrived in Ohio when Carol and her husband moved to Cincinnati. It was first offered to the Cincinnati Art Museum and then to the Cincinnati Historical Society. It was declined because the signatures had not been authenticated. However, since then, the curator of the R.B. Hays Presidential Center confirmed the signatures to be authentic.



The quilt was featured in the Lady's Circle Patchwork Quilts Magazine in May, 1986, and in the Ohio Magazine in 1988. The quilt was also on display at the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center in Fremont, Ohio in 1987.

The Presidential Quilt was displayed in the Log House on Flag Day, June 14, 2026 along with our vintage wagons and flags.

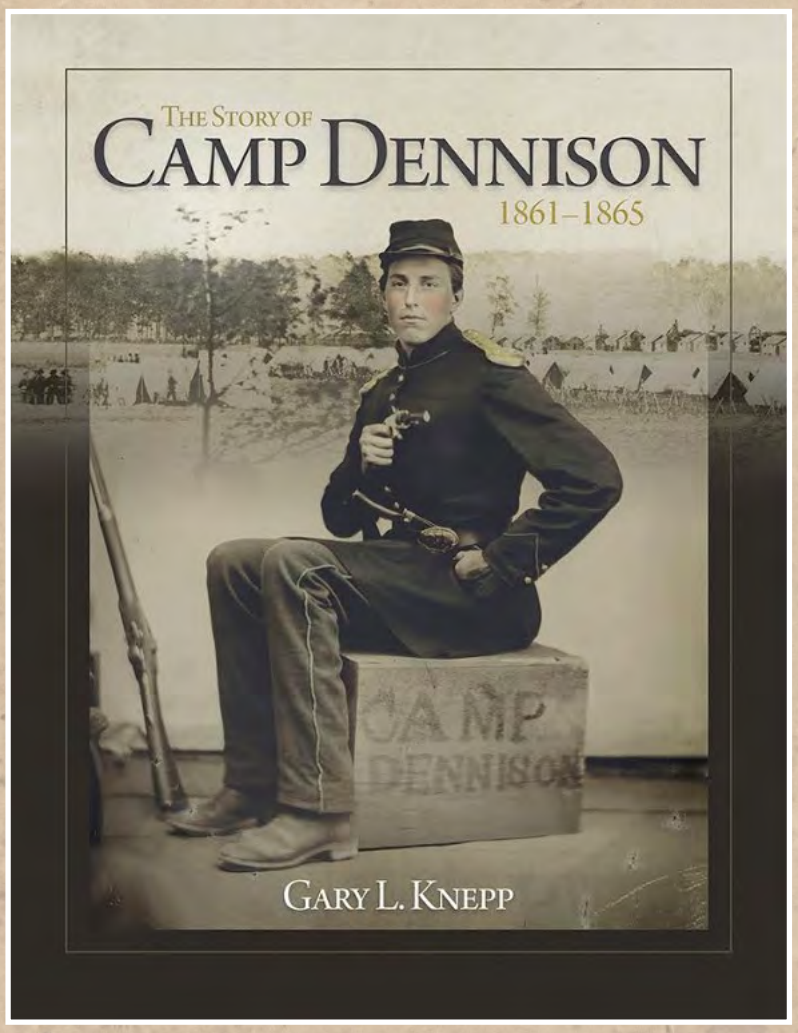
We are very proud to have this historically important quilt in our possession. We encourage you to view it on October 4th and 20th, our last two 2026 Log House open houses.

OR throughout the year at the Research Center every Tuesday from 10AM – 2PM, along with a house full of interesting historical artifacts and family archives.

The Story of Camp Dennison 1861-1865

Author Gary L. Knepp will be the featured ATHS speaker

More than 300,000 Ohioans served in the military during the Civil War. They gathered at numerous instruction camps in Ohio to organize, train and later discharge from the army. One of those camps was **Camp Dennison**.



See you at the Anderson Center

Wednesday, November 4, 2026

7850 Five Mile Rd. at 7:30 PM

Demonstration by the soldiers of the American Revolution at the Miller-Leuser Log Cabin Open House

The Sons of the American Revolution returned on October 4th with an educational demonstration of the history of the Revolutionary War with details of area Army participation. Everyone also loved their new very awesome and loud cannon!

Honey Bee Presentation

At the September 2nd membership meeting we enjoyed a great presentation by Backyard Honey with Tom Cavavah and Jim Goebel. Backyard Honey started 5 years ago with a couple of neighbors keeping a single hive in a backyard with a focus on bee keeping conservation. Word got out and people started inquiring about putting hives in their backyards. They now maintain hives in three counties as well as in Symmes Township parks and UC Clermont Community Garden. Backyard Honey not only takes care of bee hives, they also give educational talks with local youth groups and at community events about the importance of pollinators and of beekeeping. Proceeds from honey sales help fund further growth and development of backyard bees and our educational efforts. Please follow their progress and story of Backyard Honey on Facebook. Backyard Honey can be purchased at the Cocoa Muse in Loveland - https://thecocoamuse.com/.

The Founding of the Mt. Washington Cemetery

Located at 2030 Sutton Avenue in the heart of Mt. Washington, Hamilton County, Ohio.

by Julie Rimer

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Dove Lodge No. 234, established the Mt. Washington Cemetery in 1855. The IOOF was a fraternal organization, founded in 18th Century England. They called themselves "odd fellows" because they deemed it odd to find people organized for the purpose of giving aid to those in need without recognition and because they chose to pursue projects for the benefit of all mankind.

The first purchaser of property in Mt. Washington was Stephen Justice Sutton who built the first store, which was a 2-story

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brick building at the corner of Beechmont and Corbly. In March of 1854, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows leased the top floor of Stephen J. Sutton's Store for $50 a year as a meeting place. In early 1855 they began to look for a site on which to build a lodge hall and to establish a cemetery.

When the villagers learned of the plan to establish a cemetery, they were distraught, saying it would be a health hazard. Their greatest fear was that the cemetery could cause a deadly outbreak of cholera. Beginning in 1832, cholera epidemics killed thousands of people in the United States. By the autumn of 1832, the illness had reached Cincinnati, and a second outbreak occurred in 1849. The 1849 epidemic killed eight thousand people in Cincinnati.

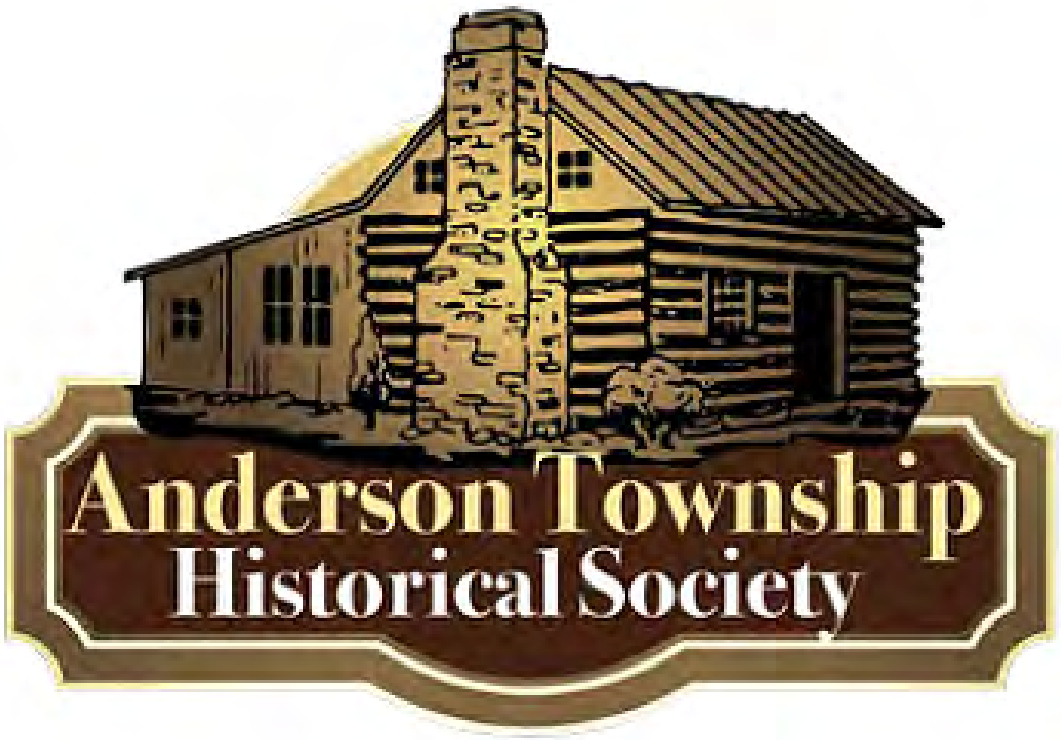
Dr. Leonard W. Bishop helped quell the fears among Mt. Washington citizens of locating a cemetery in their midst. Dr. Bishop was one of the most notable citizens of Mt. Washington.

Despite its relatively small size, the Mt. Washington Cemetery has over 6,000 graves. Many of those interred in the cemetery in the 1800s were moved from other locations in Cincinnati. Initially, family members were often buried on a family's property, but as property was sold off, many families had their loved ones moved to the cemetery. That is why you can find headstones with death dates earlier than the founding of the cemetery. For example, James Sutton, a five-year-old, died in December of 1831. To my knowledge, the oldest burial is that of Julian Cole who died in 1801. Burials continue in the cemetery to this day.

There are many fascinating people buried in the Mt. Washington Cemetery. You will find many of the founding members of Mt. Washington, after whom local streets were named: Sutton, Corbly, Mears, Paddison, Benneville, Colter, and Elstun. Perhaps the most famous "resident" of the cemetery is William "Buck" Ewing, a 19th Century baseball player who was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1939. Buck was considered one of the greatest catchers to ever play the sport, best known for his time with the New York Gothams/Giants. He was also exceptional as a hitter and fielder. Later in his career, he managed the Cincinnati Reds. John Hayes Gerard was the first mayor of Mt. Washington, a sheriff, and a state senator. He owned a highly successful ham curing and packing business. He was an esteemed horticulturalist too. Karl Maslowski was a noted nature cinematographer who wrote a nature column in the Cincinnati Enquirer for 40 years. Donald and Kenneth Keniston, brothers who died on the USS Arizona at Pearl Harbor are also buried here.

In the late 1970s, the Mt. Washington Cemetery was abandoned due to a lack of funds. Its care fell to the City of Cincinnati, but the City did not maintain the cemetery and the cemetery became a blighted area in the community. In 1985, a small group of Mt. Washington residents formed the non-profit Mt. Washington Cemetery Association to raise funds for the care of the cemetery. For forty years, donations, volunteer work, grave sales, tour proceeds, and other fundraisers have taken the cemetery from ill-tended to beautiful. The Mt. Washington Cemetery is a rare success story thanks to volunteers who have maintained a well-groomed, safe and tranquil space for remembrance, contemplation and healing in these hallowed grounds.

So how did the Mt. Washington Cemetery come to be when the citizens were so opposed to it? The answer lies in Dr. Leonard Bishop. Dr. Leonard W. Bishop, a respected physician in Mt. Washington and a member of the IOOF Dove Lodge, assured the citizens that there was no hazard in creating a cemetery in Mt. Washington. While some villagers still objected, in April 1855, the Lodge purchased from Stephen Davis Corbly twelve and one-third acres of land for $2480.00. The IOOF used approximately seven acres of that land to establish the Mt. Washington Cemetery. The rest of the acreage is now occupied by the post office, a medical building, the water tower, the Mt. Washington Library, Campus Lane (which was named Washington Avenue in 1871), the Masonic Hall, two large apartment buildings on the north side of Campus Lane, and several residences north of Campus Lane.



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. athsociety.org/donate

Membership Announcements

ATHS Welcomes New Members

Aldon Kinney
Thomas Amrine
Robert Mathews
Russell Vogel
Frances Wilson
Alexandra Vuyk
Oscar Meza
Brian and Tamara Clayton

Membership Rates

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

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Contact us at 513-231-2114
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