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**REFLECTIONS OF THE TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM OPENING ON THE TEN-YEAR ANNIVERSARY**

My how the years have flown by! It has been ten years already since the opening of the Logan County Transportation Museum addition. As the building and

grounds manager and a member of the team comprised of David Wagner, Todd McCormick, Karen Beasley, and me, we worked alongside Robertson Construction and all the subcontractors. It was both an honor and a huge challenge. Aside from the monumental job we faced with the construction of the building alone, there were many “behind the scenes” preparations, such as pulling all the large artifacts out of storage, making sure they were ready to be placed in the bays of the new Transportation Museum for exhibit. Some of them, such as the A.J. Miller Hearse and the Wissler planes, needed extensive restoration. Many thanks go to Ray Stamm, Dwight Hansen, Terry Conley, Brian Baker, and Doug Kildow for their amazing restoration skills.

The largest artifact, which represents part of our railroad history, is located outside, behind the museum. That was personally my biggest challenge. The Logan County Historical Society’s caboose had been at the Logan County Fairgrounds for many years.

The fair board had expressed their desire for several years for us to remove it to our property to open more space for campers. With the opening of the Transportation Museum, it seemed like the appropriate time to make the move. I was put in charge of lining up the necessary manpower and equipment to move the caboose to the museum. It was no small task! I was able to recruit longtime friend and CSX employee Wayne Linkinhoker and his sons, who were able to use some of CSX’s equipment. Wayne had helped with the original placement of the caboose at the fairgrounds from Zanesfield in the 1990s! Don Lockwood was enlisted as our crane operator with a crane borrowed from Link Construction. Seth Slemmons agreed to use his truck and trailer to haul it to our site, and Ralph Wood’s trucking company used their semi-truck and 40-foot trailer to haul the section of track, including rails and ties, as well as the wheel trucks. Keep in mind that none of these men knew each other nor had ever worked together, however you would have thought they worked with each other every day. They truly were the “Dream Team!” What had kept me awake nights and seemed like a nearly impossible feat was pulled off without a hitch!

**JOHN MCPHERSON** *Building & Grounds Manager*



# 2024 LCHS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Dan Bratka**

President

**Doug Chamberlain**

Vice-President

**Abby Wolf**

Treasurer

**G. Bruce Norris**

Assistant Treasurer

**Karen Beasley**

Recording Secretary

**Cheryl Hawkins**

Corresponding Secretary

**Brian Baker**

Trustee (2022-2024)

**Erin Rudat**

Trustee (2022-2024)

**Bill Tipple**

Trustee (2022-2024)

**Julie Schrader**

Trustee (2023-2025)

**Marilyn Springs**

Trustee (2023-2025)

**Mark Butler**

Trustee (2023-2025)

**Brian Harmon**

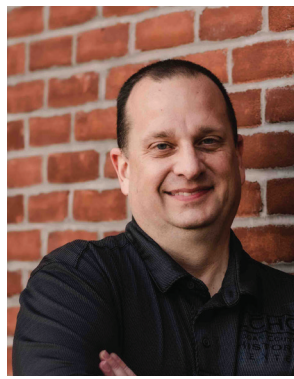
Trustee (2024-2026)

**David Willoby**

Trustee (2024-2026)

**Scott Gill**

Trustee (2024-2026)



## CURATOR'S CORNER

It is hard to believe that April 27th, 2024, marks the 10th anniversary of the opening of the Transportation Museum! The Transportation Museum has been a wonderful addition to the Logan County History Center complex. We want to thank all of you who have toured through the Transportation Museum, held meetings in the AcuSport Room, celebrated class reunions in the Atrium, or researched in the Archives and the Logan County Genealogical Society.

We would also like to thank all of the industries, businesses, organizations, and individuals who made the Transportation Museum possible through monetary donations. The names of these groups and people are on the Donor Board in the entry. The next time you are in the History Center, we hope you will take the time to look at the donor board, as well as the plaque with the names of those who contributed their time and effort to ensure that the dream of the Transportation Museum came to fruition. Lastly, a special thank you to the following people:

- The Ohio Department of Transportation awarded LCHS a grant of \$2.4 million for the Transportation Museum. Obviously, without this grant we would not have the Transportation Museum today.
- Honda of America gave us \$300,000 which was half of the amount we needed to match the 80/20 ODOT grant. Honda's support also went a long way in being awarded the ODOT grant in the first place.
- Karen Beasley of Beasley Architecture & Design, LLC was the primary reason the Transportation Museum became a reality. She designed the building, discovered and wrote much of the ODOT grant, and provided the professionalism and expertise needed in this project.
- David Wagner served as LCHS president during much of the construction of the Transportation Museum. This became his pet project. He loved all aspects of the project. He was truly a kid in a candy store throughout the whole process.
- Bonnie Hansen brought an enthusiasm that was contagious to everything she did, including serving on our Long-Range Planning committee (and later the Steering Committee) that took the lead on the Transportation Museum project.
- Ted Kneisley served on the LCHS board for many years. Ted provided encouragement and sometimes the push we needed to see this project through. Even when some of us may have doubted we could do it, Ted never did. Perhaps most importantly Ted brought his sense of humor throughout the project. That levity was much needed and appreciated!
- John McPherson's position as LCHS Building & Grounds Manager took on even more meaning and responsibility with the construction of the Transportation Museum and it continues today.

Thank you to all who played a part in the construction of the Logan County Transportation Museum and the Logan County community who have supported us over the years through our operating levy, as visitors to the History Center, as Facebook followers, as members, and as our dedicated volunteers.

*Todd McCormick*

Curator/Director

## LOGAN COUNTY HISTORY CENTER

521 East Columbus Avenue  
Bellefontaine, OH 43311

www.loganhistory.org  
(937) 593-7557

History Center Hours  
Wednesday–Sunday  
1:00–4:00PM



# Welcome NEW MEMBERS!

## December 2023

Mari Smith  
Clarence R. & Denise L. Piatt  
Jim Henry  
Diane Lewis

## January 2024

Mary Louise Moon  
Cynthia Bleininger  
Joanne & Walter Reiling  
Michael L. LeVan II

## February 2024

Mary Miller & Rodney Daum  
Jeff Cooper  
Brad & Sherry Wilkins  
Thomas Garth Mintun  
Kent & Melody Fullerton  
Theresa's Gingerbread House,  
Jeff & Kim Martin  
Aiden E. Taylor  
Rick & Jill Hatcher  
Chris Walker  
Dan & Sharon Tullis

## March 2024

Kevin L. Berg  
Grant & Cheryl Varian  
Joshua Stolly  
Kevin R. Stratton

[www.loganhistory.org/  
membership-information](http://www.loganhistory.org/membership-information)

# Thank You!

# 2024

## Calendar of Events

### MAY

3<sup>RD</sup> WEST LIBERTY SALEM  
THIRD GRADE LCHC TOUR

7<sup>TH</sup> BEN LOGAN MIDDLE  
SCHOOL INTERVENTION  
CLASS LCHC TOUR

7<sup>TH</sup> DAR MEETING  
6:30PM AcuSport Room

8<sup>TH</sup> TRIAD FOURTH GRADE  
LCHC TOUR

9<sup>TH</sup> BOARD OF TRUSTEE  
MEETING  
7:00PM AcuSport Room

10<sup>TH</sup> INDIAN LAKE THIRD  
GRADE LCHC TOUR

13<sup>TH</sup> & 15<sup>TH</sup> BELLEFONTAINE  
THIRD GRADE LOGAN  
COUNTY LANDMARK  
FIELD TRIP

13<sup>TH</sup> PIECEMAKERS MEETING  
7:00PM Presidents' Room

14<sup>TH</sup> & 21<sup>ST</sup> AYDEN  
HEALTHCARE OF BELLE  
SPRINGS LCHC TOUR

14<sup>TH</sup> ATHENIAN CLUB MEETING  
2:00PM AcuSport Room

16<sup>TH</sup> OTTERBEIN SENIOR  
LIVING LCHC TOUR

20<sup>TH</sup> BELLEFONTAINE  
THIRD GRADE LCHC TOUR &  
DOWNTOWN WALKING TOUR

### JUNE

8<sup>TH</sup> PIECEMAKERS WORKSHOP  
8:00AM Transportation Museum  
Atrium

10<sup>TH</sup> PIECEMAKERS MEETING  
7:00PM Presidents' Room

12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE SOCIETY MEETING  
7:00PM Mark Curtis Home

9417 County Road 101  
Belle Center, OH 43310

*Our June Society meeting will be held in the Belle Center home of Mark Curtis. Mr. Curtis was a Columbus school teacher for many years. About twenty years ago, he gave up the city lifestyle to join the Amish Community in Belle Center. He will be sharing information about his Amish way of life. Mr. Curtis is also a Docent at the History Center.*

### JULY

7<sup>TH</sup>-13<sup>TH</sup> LOGAN COUNTY  
FAIR BOOTH - MERCHANT'S  
BUILDING

8<sup>TH</sup> PIECEMAKERS MEETING  
7:00PM Presidents' Room

11<sup>TH</sup> BOARD OF  
TRUSTEE MEETING  
7:00PM AcuSport Room

## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION MONTHLY \$20 GIFT CERTIFICATE DRAWING

January Diana Wackerman

February Erin Rudat

March Bruce Norris

Yearly \$100 WINNER  
Judy Snyder



# MEMORIES OF BUILDING THE TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM

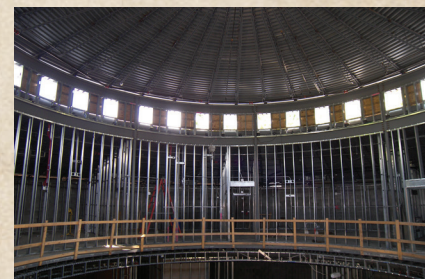
We were so excited to learn that the Archives was going to have space on the second floor of the new museum addition! (At that time, the Archives were housed in what is now the Agriculture Room and the Photo Archives was where John McPherson's office currently is).

Most of my memories are of meeting with Karen Beasley to figure out how much space would be needed for the newspaper racks and the filing cabinets, etc. We wondered how they would fit against the curved outside walls. She had to figure how the weight would be supported and added extra girders when we learned we would be getting the large rotating-shelf file cabinet from the Dept. of Human Services. We considered where the built-in filing cabinets, desk areas, and windows would be in the office.

We also planned from the beginning that we would have a large Christmas tree in the center of the atrium and lighted roping around the railing for the annual Open House. This led to electrical outlets being added in the center of the atrium floor and the upstairs walkway. When the block walls went up, the building seemed huge. It looked like we would have so much space! David Wagner organized much of the Archives move. There was a lot of measuring, and he got colored stickers for items that would be moved to the different rooms. After ten years, we're still thankful for the space, but looking for ways to rearrange the shelving units to make more room for all the great donations we've received.

**BETH MARSHALL**

*Archivist/Assistant Curator*





# MEMORIES OF THE TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM

As the 10th anniversary of the Transportation Museum's grand opening approaches, many memories have come rushing back. It was the most exciting experience of my 25 plus years as curator/director of the Logan County Historical Society/History Center. It was also the most nerve-wrecking experience, but I am so grateful that our dream of the Transportation Museum came to fruition. Here are a few of my thoughts and memories of the Transportation Museum project:

First, thank goodness for Karen Beasley. Karen found ODOT's 80/20 grant for transportation museums and then used her expertise and creativeness as an architect to come up with the design of the museum, using the Bellefontaine Big Four/New York Central Roundhouse as inspiration. Plus, she did most of the work on the ODOT grant application. We could not have asked for a better design or better architect.

Many of the memories that bring smiles to my face revolve around David Wagner. While we were all excited about the Transportation Museum, I do not think anyone could hold a candle to David's excitement. He was here nearly every day the construction crews were working. David was having some physical issues and was on crutches for a while. One day I went down to the Transportation Museum to check on things, I knew David was there, but I couldn't find him. At this point of the construction the second floor had been built but they had not put in the staircases or even a temporary staircase. The only way to the second floor was by ladder. I climbed the ladder and lo and behold there was David. He had foregone his crutches and climbed the ladder even though he could barely walk because he had to see how things were progressing on the second floor.

Perhaps my most vivid memory was hanging the monoplane in the Transportation Museum entry. There were about eight of us and none of us had any experience hanging a plane, but we did it! I'll skip over

the ceiling partially falling and Toni and I almost taking flight as we held on to the plane while the weight of the plane was taken off the lift and transferred to the cables holding it, and the fact that we were there to well past midnight. I do not think I slept a wink that night and the next morning I raced into the museum hoping and praying the plane was still hanging... it was!

Some of my other lasting memories include how beautiful and even mesmerizing the roof trusses looked before the roof was enclosed. I remember, still with some anxiety, the workers touching up the paint and me hanging text panels an hour or two before we had the donor appreciation/soft opening of the Transportation Museum on April 24th. I also missed the Grand Opening Parade downtown on April 26th so I could put the finishing touches on some of the exhibits before we opened to the public. Yet it all worked out and we can proudly say we have one of the best county museums in the state of Ohio and beyond!

**TODD MCCORMICK**

*Curator/Director*







## Hall of Fame

Bruce and Louise Norris were inducted into the Logan County Historical Society's Hall of Fame at our Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on April 17, 2024.

They were honored for their dedication and leadership as monthly docents, Board Members, adult and student tour leaders, their service on numerous committees and much, much more!

Bruce and Louise have been members of the Historical Society for over 35 years.

We are truly honored to have Bruce and Louise on our team!

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(937) 593-7557

**History Center Hours**  
Wednesday–Sunday  
1:00–4:00PM

**Office Hours**  
Monday–Friday  
8:00AM–5:00PM

[historycenter@loganhistory.org](mailto:historycenter@loganhistory.org)  
[tmccormick@loganhistory.org](mailto:tmccormick@loganhistory.org)



## INDIAN LAKE AMUSEMENT PARK KIDDIE CAR

We have had this car from one of the “Kiddie” rides at Indian Lake Playland amusement park in the 1960s in our collection for several years. However, it was in rough shape. Brian Baker of Baker’s Vintage Automotive in Bellefontaine generously and beautifully restored the car for our Salute to Indian Lake open house exhibits. Brian is a current LCHS trustee and a past-president of the organization. Mike Short of Streamline Design & Print in Urbana made the license plates in honor of the Indian Lake community in the aftermath of the tornado on March 14, 2024. We thank Brian and Mike for their work on the Kiddie Car!



## A SPECIAL THANK YOU!

We would like to thank the Indian Lake Area Historical Society for loaning many of their photos and artifacts for our Salute to Indian Lake open house on April 7, 2024. Some of the items they shared are the Ferris wheel seat from the Sandy Beach Amusement Park, a model of the Orchard Island Post Office, and a sign from the Photo Inn.



## 2024 LCHC STAFF

**Todd McCormick**

Curator/Director

[tmccormick@loganhistory.org](mailto:tmccormick@loganhistory.org)

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Social Media/Website

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**Beth Marshall**

Assistant Curator/Archivist

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Building/Grounds Manager

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**Toni McPherson**

Bookkeeper/Payroll

[tmcperson@loganhistory.org](mailto:tmcperson@loganhistory.org)

**Tim McPherson**

Caretaker

[dtimmcperson@gmail.com](mailto:dtimmcperson@gmail.com)

Thank You!



DECEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 – APRIL 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2024

# ARTIFACT DONATIONS

*Thank You!*

## Logan County Libraries

Quilted wall hangings from the Knowlton Library

### Tammy Gump

New York Central (RR) Mutual Assoc.  
100th anniversary glasses set

### Betsy Ann Shoffstall

Washington/Lewistown High School Class of 1939  
reunion photos, programs

### Shawndel Wilson

Local business, organizational, church ephemera

### Ann E. Beck

Judicial certificates, photos, papers, gavel, etc. of  
Judge John R. Beck and Judge Ann E. Beck

### Warren Baughman

American Flyer model train

### Verna Barta

Tintype photos, women's early to mid-1900s boots

### Marley Amstutz

Booklet "History of Zanesfield" by O.K. Reames

### Mike & Mary Jo Altstaetter

Ohio Railroad map

### Don & Susan Corwin

New York Central System padlock, Boy Scout Troop  
#182 flag and Eagle Scout members' plaque

### Dee & Ron Ricketts

Sheet music from Viola Wagner

### Dan Gilbert

Portraits of Jesse Roberts and Jesse Ansley

### Tom & Wendy Borchelt

1912 Indian Lake postcard

### Martha Fout

Her mother's (Florence Johnson) "Baby"  
cast iron toy stove

### Janet Blank

Newspaper photo of the Market Lamb Club  
at the 1928 Logan County Fair

## G. Bruce & Louise Norris

Documents, programs, photos, etc. of the  
Professional Secretaries

International Chapter of Logan County,  
Rushsylvania High School Alumni roster

### Tam Van Ness

New York Central System Railroad Police Billy Club  
carried by Fred Van Ness, G.C.

Murphy Co. employee photos, Loretta Lynn's  
"The Coal Miners" backup singers photo  
including members from Logan County

### William Schlosser in Memory of Bob Strayer

2001 Sony digital camera

### Kimberly Collum

1940s & 1960s jigsaw & board puzzles

### Ethel Buchenroth Estate/Family

Mills Brothers 1999 calendar,  
Huntsville Explores Post 5 flag,  
Friends of Freedom UGRR Sites banner,  
Logan County historical articles & research

### Jean Jesser

1850 Logan County Coverlet

### Bethelia Ann Eggleston Kauffman

Sack quilt, Girl Scout sash with badges,  
hand-made child's chair

### Dale Mabry

Stone Virginia Military District marker  
from Zanesfield area

### Matthew A. Shoffner

Coca-Cola bottles from Bellefontaine  
Coca-Cola Bottling Plant

### Fred & Ruth Meredith

BHS Class of 1944 Reunion items

### Lincoln Roell

Local business and organizational ephemera

## Dwight Hansen

Bonnie's roller skates used at the  
Indian Lake Rollarena

## Lutheran Community Services

Harrison Twp/Harrison Grange school books

### Rheta Eversman

Logan County postcard collection

### Alvin Schaut

Postcards of the Logan County Courthouse and  
Bellefontaine Jr./Sr. High School that were printed  
for the Photo Inn shop in Russells Point. Postcard of  
Central School, Bellefontaine.

### Beth Stevens

Gary Stevens' Belle Center High School varsity  
letter & football pin, ca. 1966-1968, Rushsylvania  
school & church photos ca., early 1920s,  
Raggedy Ann & Holly Hobbie dolls

### Joseph Reames

Army uniform of Todd Runion

### Robert Kroeger

Painting of barn by donor

### Bob Mattfeld

Army Field Telephone

### April Yelton

Medicine bottle

### Joyce Core

Early 20th century doll

### Terry & Susan Conley

Allinger Milling Co. 1933 letter (On Loan)

### Bob & Sharon Holderman

Woodcarvings of animals of Ohio collection made  
by Mr. Holderman (On Loan)

### Indian Lake Area Historical Society

Various artifacts on loan for Salute to  
Indian Lake exhibits

## PLEASE CONSIDER ONE OF OUR GIVING LEVELS:

- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100-\$499       | Isaac Zane         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$500-\$999       | Myeerah            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000-\$4,999   | William Orr        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000-\$9,999   | Phebe Haines Sharp |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000-\$24,999 | Dr. Earl Sloan     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25,000 & UP     | Simon Kenton       |

## MEMBERSHIP:

- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior (55 yrs.+)        | \$15.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Couple (55 yrs.+) | \$25.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual               | \$20.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family                   | \$30.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business                 | \$50.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Lifetime      | \$300.00 |

Donations can be made using  
PayPal or credit card online by  
visiting our website at:

[www.loganhistory.org](http://www.loganhistory.org)

Your donation is tax deductible.

All donations of \$100.00 or more  
includes a yearly membership.

I am enclosing: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cash  Check  Card

(Make checks payable to Logan County History Center)

Donations of \$500 and above will go towards the  
Pillars of History Campaign unless otherwise noted.

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State / ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_

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on the back of your card next to your signature.

**THANK YOU TO OUR NEWSLETTER  
 SPONSORS FOR THIS YEAR**



Let me put my *Experience* to work for you today.

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 Julie@ZimmermanRealty.com

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 Bellefontaine, OH 43311