

## Sharing The Secret

October 2014

Volume 10 Issue 4

Arcanum Wayne Trail Historical Society, Inc., 123 W. George St., Arcanum, Ohio 45304

Incorporated 2004 web-www.arcanumhistoricalsociety.org email webmaster@arcanumhistoricalsociety.org

### President's Remarks - Larry Wallace 937-620-2800

The Trash Bash, Spring Fling, Old Fashioned Days, Rummage Sale, along with the Farmers Market, Fair Gate, Open Hours Hosts, the new successful Coffee and Conversation Series, replacing porch railing, painting porch floor, sealing the building - all says there was a lot of hard work from a lot of dedicated members of our association. I know if I mention names I would leave someone out. I wish to say to each of you "Job Well Done" for another successful year. This will be my last year as President. It has been fun, rewarding and a lot of hard work.

I have seen and worked with a lot of hard working and dedicated people. Starting next year I can still be associated with, and work along side of the same hard working and dedicated people as a member of AWTHS. I feel that if we hope to continue to move ahead and prosper we all need to get a lot of new members from the area that can help build a stronger and larger association.

Without help from new members I feel the association cannot grow as it has the last ten years. If we each get just one new member from a younger generation of local families I feel it would make AWTHS future a bright one. That being said, I know how hard that will be to accomplish.

All we can do is try our best to get it done. The last ten years have been done with the same hard work and dedication that it will take to get AWTHS through the next ten years. I feel this community will come through as it always has.

The bank account for AWTHS as of Sept 2nd is \$13,244.21. With the Holiday Bazaar in November it looks like we will end the year in pretty good shape. With a lot of things needing attention this fall season we can use all we can get in the bank. Come to the Bazaar November 28th and 29th.

The January annual membership meeting is just around the corner. Please attend January 8th to help elect news officers and board of directors. After the meeting we can all sit and enjoy some fine food at our annual carry in dinner. There will be more details in the January newsletter.

Make plans to attend "A Tribute To Our Military" being planned for November 1st. at 11:00 Saturday morning. Plan to attend the ceremony honoring family or friends who have served in our military and those who are currently serving. A flag will be displayed on the grounds of the Arcanum Veterans Park grounds for each person honored. This will be a special event held in the park adjacent the historical society with a reception following in the historical society along with special displays including "Missing Man Table". A form is inserted in this newsletter for submitting names of those you wish to honor.

### AWTHS Officers and Directors

President	Larry Wallace	620-2800
Vice President	Rob Lindenborn	621-3709
Treasurer	Jerry Kramer	692-5764
Rec. Secretary	Pat Jones	689-5387
Corres. Secretary	Gayla Metzcar	692-5904
Directors	Keith Furlong	548-6556
	Dave Flora	692-8413
	Jeff Puterbaugh	692-5302
	Jenny Quigney	459-8090

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### November 13 - 7 p.m. \* Author Scott Trostle Speaking on "The Lincoln Funeral Train"

Our speaker will be Scott Trostle, noted author and enthusiast of anything on rails. Scott is from the Piqua area and is the author of "Letters from the Attic", a book about the 1913 flood, published by Cam-Tech Publishing as well as many other books including "Lincoln Funeral Train". Scott is an expert on the subject which is evident in this extraordinary historic narrative recounting the thirteen day National Funeral Journey for Abraham Lincoln.

Scott will be speaking on this subject when he joins us at the AWTHS on Nov. 13th at 7:00 p.m. You won't want to miss this evening with Scott Trostle when he tells us of Lincoln's last journey from Washington D.C. through Columbus, OH to Springfield, IL.

**Acquisitions** Carolyn Furlong 548-6556

13056 Nails from depot	Alan & Judy Fourman
13057 Wood Stamp container, copy of Arcanum articles, DP&L Booklet (purchase of Gas Co.)	JoAnne Hill
13058 Arcanum tornado pictures & news articles, 1992	Don Kepler
13059 Postcards 1921 Steel Point photo, 1948 AHS alumni book, 2 tobacco photos	Eileen Baker Longfellow
13060 DBD Arcanum vs Kalida state semi finals 1967, plus many others	Marilyn Graeff
13061 Arcanum Fire and Rescue, original patch on back of red jump suit	Paul Shuttleworth
13062 Glass, red rim dish, coat rack, cane bottom chair	Marilyn Graeff
13063 Tobacco photos and story	Sandy Brehm
13064 District No. 5, Butler Twp info	Jeannie Miller
13065 Gordon photos, names	Abe Lincoln
13066 New Madison town and school info, Betty Sutton story	Annette Stewart
13067 Photo of JoAnne Hill home	JoAnne Hill
13068 Photos of 1913 School, Pittsburg School, Identification, 1929 Monroe Annual, Farmers National Bank plaque	Don & Ruth Kepler
13069 Butler Twp. School 8th grade 1931, Arcanum Senior Class 1935 and Commencement program.	Ginny Krickenbarger Darland
13070 Arcanum Building and Loan Association Bank	Jean Kelly
13071 Photo 1935 Senior Class Franklin High School	Phyllis Crick
13072 American Farm Center yardstick	Sharon Karns
13073 Photo of 1944-45 Arcanum FFA instructor, Lester Bailey	Joe White Bailey
13074 John Bailey Genealogy articles, Old Testament, Abe Lincoln, etc.	Joe White Bailey
13075 Jaysville and Fort Jefferson history	Bruce McCrea
13076 Several Arcanum postcards & items from Bob Falkner Estate pertaining to Arcanum history.	Everett & Janet Johns
13077 Franklin Twp. maps & other info	Marilyn Graeff
13078 1986 fair queen photos, Jodi Lutz & 1987 Amy Addis	Amy Addis
13080 Several photos of Criterion Club, Darke Co. women visiting Ruth Lyons Show, programs from school events, History of Arcanum Businesses book, sport memorabilia, etc.	Phyllis Troutwine
13081 Annie Oakley and fair queens info and photos, also 4H info	Annette Stewart
13084 Korean War Posters (6)	Bob Weisenbarger
14001 Old Arcanum Street Sign (corner of S. West St. & W. First St.)	Arcanum City Council
14002 Franklin Monroe Alumni Programs (8) ranging from 1993-2008 Commencement 1990-1995 (13)	Judy Ulrich
14003 Dreamland photo (Wild West/Sitting Bull movies adv.)	Cary Wogoman
14004 Vietnam stories and photos	Stuart M. Schram
14005 1969 AHS Basketball articles for Trojan scrapbook	Sandy Goff
14006 Ohio Archeological Society book	Unkown
14007 Hemp Family Photos, school and church	Richard Hemp
14008 Civil War history, Jesse Heyer	Randy Brown
14009 Vietnam Photo	Bill Metzcar
14010 WWII Sigerfoos, 1996 Fair King and Queen, Info Sam Culberson	Annette Stewart

**Please notify Carolyn with any corrections - 548-6556 If you would like a receipt for tax purposes when donating items to AWTHS please indicate that at the time of donation on the donation form.**

**Books for Sale \* History of Arcanum** Contact: Barbara Deis 678-7832 or Bill Gunder 692-8000

<i>The Secret Town - The Story of the Founding of Arcanum, Ohio</i>	<b>\$20</b>
<i>Arcanum, Ohio Business History (1852-1968)</i>	<b>\$25</b>
<i>Arcanum Chronicles</i> -Opera House, Sports, Parades& Celebrations, Brig. Gen. Ed Sigerfoos, Grassville Quartette, Christmas, Chautauqua, Fast Horses, District 7 Ithaca School	<b>\$20</b>
<i>Arcanum Chronicles Volume 2</i> - Fire Department and Arcanum Public Library	<b>\$18</b>

Committee ReportsMembership All memberships are payable January 1, 2015

Memberships are the lifeline of an association not only for the funds generated but also for helping hands to keep the association functioning. In each issue of the newsletter we list what we need help with. Please plan to give a few hours to help keep our historical society viable. And, when you pay your 2015 dues ask a friend to join with you.

**Email** - Please let us know if you wish to receive the newsletter by email by filling in your email address on the renewal form. We may use the email list to notify members of upcoming events.

**Farewell** It is with sadness that we note the passing of Gene Rench and Bud Cooper.

Ways and Means Report

**Rummage Sale** We had another very successful sale with a profit of \$1260. Thank you for helping, donating, and buying. We do not plan on having any additional Rummage Sales as storage in the house is so limited - Sharon and Dick Troutwine

**Farmers Market** The farmers market was very busy this summer with several new vendors. The profit for AWTHS was around \$650. A new coordinator is needed for next year. - Annabelle Wallace

**Fair Gate** We would like to thank each of you for your assistances in tending the fair gate. Because we had sixty individuals involved, it sure made our coordinating job a lot easier. We were paid \$1,000 by the Fair Board. Two red folding chairs in bags were left at our gate, if you know who they belong to contact Carolyn. Thanks. Keith Furlong

Upcoming Christmas Bazaar November 28 and 29

It's time to make plans for our Christmas Bazaar. New this year will be a Friday night Preview Sale, a chance for early shopping. Saturday will be a regular 9 to 6 shopping day. We plan to have the 50-50 Raffle, In-House Raffle, and Door Prizes for Friday and Saturday. Glittery and unique items will fill the Beck's Boutique, as well as holiday clothing and jewelry. A "cookie walk" is planned in the Bake Shoppe, please donate your favorite cookies and bars. Candies and snacks will be sold in the Country Store along with hot mustard, Carolyn's Seasoning and more. We need your help, donations and support.

**Important dates and times:**

**Friday** Nov. 28 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., all baked items to be brought to AWTHS.

**Friday** Preview Sales - 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

**Saturday** Sales Nov. 29 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Sharon and Richard Troutwine 692-5128

Building Maintenance

**Fall House Cleaning** - Two dates have been set for members to work together to clean the "house": October 11th and October 18th from 9:00 to 1:00. Carolyn Furlong

**Sealing Building** - The last sealing of the building's bricks occurred in 2007. We just completed sealing it again at a cost of \$1,850. Next time it will be needed will be around 2021. By then I'll be looking at age 80. Someone else will have to schedule this event. Ha Ha - Keith Furlong

**Porch Railing** - The railing on the front porch was replaced at a cost of \$302.87 this summer because the wood had rotted and was unsafe. - Larry Wallace

**Front Porch Floor** - The floor of the front porch will be repainted. Keith Furlong

Special EventsCoffee and Conversation Summer Series

The Coffee and Conversation Series were very enjoyable and well attended. Thanks to JoAnne Hill, Richard & Marilyn Rinehart, Tom & Liz Stephens and Marilyn Graeff for leading these sessions. Reliving the days that were through stories exchanged between hosts and guests brought back so many memories. The stories just kept coming. Barbara Deis

On Going Projects

Euchre Parties - First and Third Friday of each month - Dave & Beth Flora 692-8413

Hall Rental - Carolyn Furlong, 548-6556

Aluminum Can Recycling - Keith Furlong, 548-6556

For Sale - Historic Arcanum books, Bill Gunder, 692-8000

Arcanum Note Cards

Donation of Appreciated Stocks - Richard Troutwine, 692-5128 or Todd Durham, 2nd National Bank, 548-2206

**Arcanum Alumni** The Arcanum Alumni Association has formed an advisory committee to assist the 25 year class in preparation of the April alumni event. Barb Garrison is the chairperson of the data entry committee and is in the process of up dating the mailing list. If you, your children and/or grandchildren are graduates of AHS, please send their graduation year, full name, address and email address to Barb at dab24@woh.rr.com. She will make sure all their information is correct on this list. Thank you.

*A tribute to Douglas Paul LeFever, the only Arcanum serviceman killed in the Vietnam War.*

**Remembering Doug** By Ted Murphy Written October 30, 2009

Whenever I'm in Washington, D.C., I visit Doug. He's always at the same place and you can find him there too. Just go to panel 16 W, line 034 at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (the Wall) and you'll find him: DOUGLAS PAUL LEFEVER the only Arcanum serviceman killed in the Vietnam War.

Every time I look up at his name on that boundless, black granite wall, two thoughts go through my mind. I bet Doug doesn't get many visitors; and I wonder if people still remember him? And that's why I set out to learn more about Doug and tell his story.

40 years ago this month, in the early morning hours of November 5, 1969, Captain Douglas LeFever was at the controls of an F4D "Phantom" fighter-bomber knifing through the pitch-black darkness at 10,000 feet above the Mu Gia Pass in Laos. Along with his back seat co-pilot/navigator Captain Joseph Y. Enchanis, Doug was on a Fast FAC (forward air controller) mission to locate enemy targets, mark them with white phosphorous 2.75 rockets, and then direct other aircraft to the targets.

That morning, he controlled two Navy A-6 "Intruder" attack aircraft, call signs "Streetcar 302 and 304. They were "holding high" at 12,000 feet with their navigation lights off waiting for clearance from Captain LeFever to launch an air strike against the heavily defended Ho Chi Minh trail, a primary route the enemy used to move men and supplies from the North into South Vietnam.

According to battle reports, the weather was marginal and cloud cover was heavy. At 4:36 am, Captain LeFever, call sign "Owl 15", fired three rockets to mark the target area, dove down and rolled-in through the clouds to continue his attack.

Suddenly the Navy bomber pilots heard a "Mayday" distress call and saw a bright flash. The clouds below them lit up with a large explosion, and their radio calls to "Owls 13" went dead. Like a shot, the Navy pilots dove down to 6,000 feet beneath the clouds to find the crash site, but saw no fires in the heavily forested mountainous area and heard no emergency electronic signals. SAR (search and rescue) operations were carried out for 13 1/2 hours, but the heavy jungle canopy and rugged terrain where "Owl 15" went down were so impenetrable that a visual search was impossible. No wreckage was ever found.

No one knows what happened. "Owl 15" could have been struck by a SAM (surface to air missile), hit by enemy anti-aircraft guns, or flown into one of the fog-shrouded mountains surrounding the Mu Gio Pass.

What we do know is that for 26 years old Captain Douglas Paul LeFever of Rural Route 3, Arcanum, Ohio, time stopped on this--his 155th--and final combat mission. While listed as MIA (missing in action), Doug was promoted to rank of Major, and then officially declared as "killed in action" by the Department of Defense in 1978.

**Growing Up**

Doug was the only child of Paul and Thelma LeFever. He spent his early years on a farm on Winnerline Road east of Route 127, north of Eaton, OH and attended Monroe School. In 1957 the family moved to a 169-acre farm on the Otterbein-Ithaca Road, which is today the Lee Jackson farm. Doug went to Arcanum High School his sophomore and junior years, and then returned to Monroe Central in Preble County for his senior year, graduating in the class of 1961.

"Doug and I were best of friends through Monroe and at Ohio State," said Al Snyder of Davenport, FL. "He was someone I always looked up to; level-headed, considerate of others, and serious about his life and faith. In high school, he was very active in the F.F.A. (Future Farmers of America) and kept excellent records on his corn and soybean crops, one year winning the F.F.A. State Farmer Degree, which was very tough to get."

"I remember that on high school weekends after we took our dates home, we'd meet up late at night at the Sunset Lanes bowling alley on Route 40 and get hot cinnamon rolls fresh out of the oven. We solved a lot of the world's problems over tall glasses of milk and cinnamon rolls in those days," he added.

"When I heard...that Doug had been shot down and was missing in action, I was heartbroken," said Snyder, "But he was a very resourceful guy and I always held out hope he would...escape and make it home, but that was not to be."

At Ohio State Doug played on the lacrosse team, was vice-president of Delta Theta Sigma, a professional fraternity, and graduated in 1965 with a degree in agricultural economics. He was also commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Air Force Reserve through the Ohio State ROTC (Reserve Officer Training corps) training program.

\*\*\*\*\*Ted Murphy wrote more telling about Doug, his military service, his family and friends which will appear in a later newsletter. Ted lived on Arcanum Ithaca Rd near the McFever farm. He now lives in Minneapolis.

Southern Darke County History Annette Stewart 692-6462

REFERENCE LIBRARY CHANGES

The reference library has made two changes this summer (1) Bill Gunder has designed a spreadsheet in which all our materials have been recorded and their location as far as cabinet, shelf, and if up or downstairs. This will help researchers and volunteers to find and locate the materials. (2) The computer was brought downstairs in the reference library room so researchers can view the digital materials available and be able to print out copies. We have a number of digital materials, which are shown on the newly designed web site, and also on our new spreadsheet. There are many photos and articles which are only digital. A reminder that appointments are needed to view these materials on the computer and anything on micro-film.

NEW CASTINE MATERIALS

Mark Baker has donated early 1900's photos of Castine as well as some history and notes about the town of Castine. Anyone else who has such materials about early families of this area or the town we would appreciate the information or copies.

TOWN OF GORDON

Met with Earlene Netzely Morris and Jane Morris Brown who operated the small grocery and gas station in Gordon called Morris' Market. I'm working on organizing these notes and photos and this will be available down the road for viewing in digital form and in a binder. If you have stories or connections you wish to contribute please let me know.

If anyone has the volume about Gordon written by Abe Lincoln "A Place To Live" we would appreciate a donation to our reference library. We have already acquired "Kids of Gordon" and "Families of Gordon".

THANKING OUR HOST AND HOSTESSES

A big thank you goes to those for helping with hosting on Saturdays during open hours in the house this summer. With their help we were able to remain open for guests to enjoy touring and research. We certainly appreciate your help! Anyone wishing to host during open hours please contact Annette Stewart.

REMINDER ABOUT DONATIONS

We seek donations of newspaper clippings and books, including yearbooks. You can view the Reference Materials lists on our website or call Annette Stewart to determine if your gift is currently in our reference library. We have many duplicates but will accept additional copies for future use or to share with other research centers as determined by our staff. Our focus is on donations pertinent to Southern Darke County but material from other areas will be gladly preserved for research or reference.

NEEDS

We still have clippings to trim and items to be sleeved and put away. This can be done on First Saturday of the month. When donating newspaper articles it would help to have these already trimmed and sorted by year. We do not need newspaper clippings from Advocate or Early Bird after 2009 from our area as these have already been clipped and put in binders.

Bill needs help organizing Anita Short's work. See Bill if interested if you have some knowledge of using MS Word computer program.

Still looking for a photo of Center School, located on Grubbs Rex Road near Arcanum Ithaca Rd. We have some class photos but are needing a photo of the actual school and bell tower for restoration efforts.

\*\*\*\*\*

Use the form below to renew or join for the first time

Please fill in your email address if you wish to receive the newsletter by email.

Please consider volunteering your time or services. "Many hands make light work"

-----clip and include with your payment-----

2015 Membership Form

Mail to AWTHS, P.O. Box 4, Arcanum, OH 45304

Name \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Receive newsletter by Email? add address \_\_\_\_\_
Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip code \_\_\_\_\_
\_\_\_\$15 Single \_\_\_\$25 Family \_\_\_\$50 Sponsorship \_\_\_\$150 Corporate \_\_\_\$1000 Lifetime

Your additional tax deductible contributions are also greatly appreciated \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Your participation is needed for AWTHS to exist and for continuous growth. Please check the area where you can serve.

- \_\_\_Acquisitions \_\_\_Newsletter \_\_\_Membership \_\_\_Programs \_\_\_Ways & Means
\_\_\_Historic Sites \_\_\_Education \_\_\_Nominating \_\_\_Flower Garden Care \_\_\_Yard Care
\_\_\_Genealogy \_\_\_Publicity \_\_\_Design/Displays \_\_\_Publications
\_\_\_Adopt A Highway \_\_\_Typing Research Papers \_\_\_ Clipping newspaper articles

**Calendar of Events**

**Visitors Hours 9 a.m. - Noon Reference Room 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**  
**September thru May AWTHS open the 1st Saturday of each month**

October 1, 2014	Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.
October 3 & 17, 2014	Euchre Card Party	1:00 - 3:30 p.m.
October 11 & 18, 2014	House Cleaning	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
November 1, 2014	A Tribute To Our Military Ceremony & Reception	11:00 a.m.
November 5, 2014	Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.
November 7 & 21, 2014	Euchre Card Party	1:00 - 3:30 p.m.
November 13, 2014	Membership Meeting Program: "Lincoln Funeral Train"	7:00 p.m.
November 28, 2014	Christmas Bazaar Preview Sale	6:00-8:00 p.m.
November 29, 2014	Christmas Bazaar Sale	9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Dec. 5 & 19, 2014	Euchre Card Party	1:00-3:30 p.m.

**All membership dues are payable January 1, 2015**

**January 8, 2015**

**Annual Membership Meeting with Election of Officers and Directors  
Carry-In Dinner**

**Just a Reminder**

Plan to help clean the historical society Saturday Oct. 11th and 18th

Submit names of veterans and those currently serving for "A Tribute To Our Military" \* attend the ceremony & reception

Bring a friend, attend program "Lincoln Funeral Train" Nov. 13th.

Help our historian and reference/research librarian

See how you can help at the Christmas Bazaar

Ask someone to join our historical society.