

# HALLMARKS

Newsletter of  
The Marion County Historical Society

169 East Church Street, Marion OH 43302  
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Volume 40, Issue 1, Special Edition

Happy  
40th Anniversary  
Marion County  
Historical Society!



January, February 2009

## Upcoming Events At A Glance!

**February 19, Thursday:** Museum  
101, 11AM-4PM, Heritage Hall

**February 20, Friday:** 40th  
Anniversary program meeting, 7 PM,  
Heritage Hall Auditorium

**February 23, Monday:** Museum cleanup  
day, 9AM – 5 PM, lunch furnished, wear  
old clothes Everyone welcome!  
Also Volunteer meeting 1:00 PM in the  
Auditorium

**February 28, Saturday:** Black Heritage  
Dinner at All Occasions. Call for 387-  
4255 for info.

**March 01, Sunday:** Museum open  
weekends 1-4 pm

**March 10, Tuesday:** Executive  
Committee: 5:00 PM

**March 17, Tuesday:** Board Meeting  
7:00 PM, Auditorium

**March 24, Tuesday:** *Night at Heritage  
Hall* practice, 5:30 pm-6:30 PM.

**March 25, Wednesday:** *Night at  
Heritage Hall* practice, 6:30 pm-7:30 PM.

**March 27 & 28, Fri. & Sat.:** *A Night at  
Heritage Hall*, Flashlight tours of the  
Museum, 7:00-9:30 PM.

**April 14, Tuesday:** Executive  
Committee: 5:00 PM

**April 17- 18, Fri-Sat:** Museum &  
Membership Rummage Sale, 9 AM – 5  
PM, Auditorium



This year, MCHS is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary beginning with a Program meeting and continuing thru 2009 with special events

On Friday, February 20, in the Auditorium at Heritage Hall, members and friends of the Marion County Historical Society will celebrate forty years of collecting, preserving and presenting Marion County history. The Founding and Charter members will be honored and the new DVD version of the 8 mm movie shot in 1976 will be shown. Come and see what Marion was like 30 years ago. Songs of the 40's will be sung accompanied by the David Haldeman trio. There will be a display table for mementos of our history and a time for your reminiscences

The organizational meeting for the Marion County Historical Society was held on February 16, 1969 at the Women's Club Home and Judge Charlton Myers was elected the first president. It wasn't until 1982 that the Society had its first home in the cottage at 255 South Main Street. Here the collections of the Society were brought under one roof from the 10 sites where they had been stored, and a "gift" list started—the beginning of our large collections.

When the United States Post Office was offered for sale members contributed \$78,000 for its purchase. The community contributed to the transformation of the building into Heritage Hall, the new name for the old post office. The move from the cottage was started on May 1, 1989 with Dr. John D. Telfer as our first director.

Come help us celebrate forty years of "doing history" for the Marion community on February 20 at 7:00 P.M., and the continuing activities during 2009. Copies of the 1976 Marion DVD will be available for purchase. For more information on this event, phone 740-387-4255 or email us at [mchs@marionhistory.com](mailto:mchs@marionhistory.com)

## Exhibits Come to Life During "A Night at Heritage Hall."

On March 27 and 28 from 7 PM to 9:30 PM, the Marion County Historical Society will present "A Night at Heritage Hall" a fun-filled evening of self guided flashlight tours throughout Heritage Hall museum, a historic 1910 Federal Post Office.

Don't miss this opportunity to experience history as never before! MCHS member tickets are \$3.50 in advance or \$4 at the door. Non-member advance tickets are available at \$7 per person or at the door at \$8 per person for all ages.

Send check or money order to *Night at Heritage Hall*, 169 East Church Street, Marion OH 43302. Deadline for pre registration is March 25th. For more info call the Marion County Historical Society at 740-387-4255 or email [mchs@marionhistory.com](mailto:mchs@marionhistory.com).



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## SAVE THESE DATES! WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HERITAGE HALL & BEYOND

**Museum closed January and February except for events.**

**Museum Offices open Tuesday through Friday 9-4**

**February 17, Tuesday:** Board Meeting 7:00 PM

**February 19, Thursday:** Museum 101, 11AM-4PM, Heritage Hall

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**The Marion County Historical Society would like to thank Primrose Retirement Community of Marion for sponsoring our winter events! They sponsored the Elvis Birthday Party held on January 10 where they supplied the cake, ice cream and tribute artist Mel Wallace and the Armchair Athlete Day on Jan 17 where they supplied pizza, punch and cookies.**

**We would also like to thank the Marion Star for their great coverage of the events and for Jamie Stevens presence and help in collecting Sports History at the Armchair Athlete event.**

### ARE YOU DOING SOME SPRING CLEANING?

Those gently-used unwanted items can greatly benefit the Marion County Historical Society! This year we will have a special *members only* sale from 6-8 on Friday April 17. Our annual rummage/parking lot sale is set for Saturday April 18 from 9 AM – 5 PM in the Heritage Hall Auditorium.

Bring your items to Heritage Hall between the hours of 9 AM to 4 PM from April 15 to 18.

Volunteers are needed for pricing items ahead of time and for helping watch over the sale. Call 740-387-4255 for more details.

**Please do not bring any clothing!**

***Vickie (Turner) Weatherall is looking for information on Turner Hardware which was located 147 S Main in Marion from 1924 through the 1980s. If you have memories or reminisces of the business or the owners, please send your information to her at [donvicweth@juno.com](mailto:donvicweth@juno.com) or send snail mail to 33 Summit Rd. Storrs CT, 06268***

### CALLING ALL ASPIRING ACTORS & REENACTORS

We are still looking for a few more folks to portray individuals from Marion or Ohio's past during the *Night at Heritage Hall* tours.

Suggested characters might be Norman Thomas, Milton Lashley, Mary Brockelsby, Jacob Howser, Marilyn Meseke, or Eddie Hoffman. If you have a character who would be of interest to the event call and talk your idea over with director Gale Martin.

Volunteers are also needed to assist with crowd control at the event.

This years event takes place on March 27 & 28, Fri. & Sat. from 7:00-9:30 PM. Advance sale tickets are available. Members advance tickets are \$3.50 per person and \$4 at the door. Non Members advance sale tickets are \$7 and \$8 at the door.

If you would like to be a part of this enjoyable and educational event or just want to purchase your advance tickets, please call at 740-387-4255 or email director Gale Martin at [mchs@marionhistory.com](mailto:mchs@marionhistory.com).

## From The President's Corner by Jan Augenstein

2009! What an interesting year this will be! Even though there is a downturn in the economy and there will be challenges to meet financially, we are positive that by being frugal with our finances and creative in our fundraising, we will not only meet those challenges but continue to move forward in our mission to preserve Marion County history. We also plan to continue our outreach into the community, not by curtailing, but by extending our programming in many areas to benefit the people of Marion County.

I also want you to know how much we appreciate your membership in the Marion County Historical Society and your loyalty in supporting us by attending our events, contributing to our annual bake sale, or volunteering to help with our many projects. By your support in so many ways, you are demonstrating how important Marion County history is to you. And for that, we are truly indebted to you.

By the way, have you picked up a Kroger gift card from the Historical Society yet? Did you know if you shop at Kroger and use our special gift card, Kroger will donate a percentage of your expenditure to the Society at no cost to you? Call our office for more details and to make arrangements to pick up a card.

Just another way to further history in Marion County and to help Kroger give back to the community!



### A Big Thank You to these Pride Members from the Marion County Historical Society for their contributions between Nov 1, 2008 and Jan 31 2009

#### Major Benefactor \$3000 up

Trella H. Romine

#### Sponsor \$500-\$2999

Louis & Berniece Conkle

Ted Graham

Willis & Gwen Thomas

Ralph & Jane Brown

#### Patron \$250-\$499

Allen L. & Susan F. Potts

Fred & Betty White

#### Advocate \$100-\$249.00

J. Richard & Janet Bryson

Randy & Sandy Winland

Jack D. Shaffer

Jerry & Beatrice Agner

Stephen & Mary Ann Jenkins

#### Advocate \$100-\$249.00

Daniel & Valerie Wigton

Paul & Janet Augenstein

Diane & Richard Mault

Amy Deuble

Phyllis and Mike Glasco

William Smith

William & Debbie Bowers

Thomas & Constance Jenkins

Madge Guthery

Judy Fox

David K. & Karen A. Ream

William & Nancy Gracely

Mary Donaldson & Dick Cooper

Erma Hutchman

Lowell Thurston

Dorman L. & Jane Brundige Stein

Josephine MacPherson

Barbara J. West

Catherine Loudenslager

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**MCHS Issues New Publication --*The Schools of Marion County, Ohio--*  
*A Mapping, Location Study and Tabulation, 1909 to 2004***

The Marion County Historical Society has announced the publication of the book *The Schools of Marion County, Ohio, A Mapping, Location Study and Tabulation--1909 to 2004--* by Willis C. Thomas.

The title of the book softbound book of over 160 pages reveals the scope of the material that Thomas found during six years of research and mapping the schools in Marion County from the log cabin schools to the latest consolidations. Twenty pullout maps of the 15 townships and Marion City show locations of the schools. The coordinates for finding them is also documented along with text giving the histories of the schools. It includes the timeline history of Marion City Schools that was compiled by Randy Winland. The book was edited by Trella Romine.

The book may be purchased for \$30.00 at the Marion County Historical Society, 169 East Church Street; Marion Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, 1713 Marion Mount Gilead Road, and at Hemmerly's Flowers and Gifts, 615 East Center Street. It is also available at the Marion Public Library.

Thomas is a Marion native, charter member and former trustee of the Marion County Historical Society. He is a graduate of Harding High School and attended Fenn College, Marion Technical College and Ohio State University. He is retired after a lifetime career with Floyd Browne Associations as a certified Senior Engineer Technician.

His interest in Indian lore and archaeology has led him to write booklets on these subjects that are available in the museum shop of the Marion County Historical Society.

Willis Thomas will be available to autograph his newest book at the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary meeting of the Society on February 20 at 7:00 P.M in the auditorium of Heritage Hall, 169 East Church Street.

Submitted by Trella Romine      [trellaromine@gmail.com](mailto:trellaromine@gmail.com)