



Perry News & History

Volume 3 - Issue 1

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You may also contact Kevin Cox, Tony Hayes, Tom Graham, or Melinda Querry.

Previous newsletters are online at our website.

Next Issue: May 30, 2009

Famous Quotes

The things that will destroy America are prosperity-at-any-price, peace-at-any-price, safety-first instead of duty-first, the love of soft living, and the get-rich-quick theory of life.

President Theodore Roosevelt

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From the Grahams

All of us at the society are saddened by the death of Beulah Graham. Her passing came unexpectedly and we miss her.

Beulah had been working on several projects. Some of these include a calendar, paintings, and an idea using engraved bricks as a memorial for those in the community that wish to donate in honor or in memory of a loved one. The members of the society will pursue these ideas and the possibility of a memory garden for the community using these bricks as a walkway within the garden.

Beulah and Tom had discussed some articles for upcoming newsletters. Beulah was working on a poem or article about a scythe (pronounced sigh) given by the Burgess family.

The society will miss her personality, ideas, talent and conversation that she brought to our group.

Tom, Michelle, Steven, and Laci want to thank everyone for the comfort and support given to our family in this time of loss.

Society News

Building Transfer

On Wednesday, September 24, 2008, the Lima Motorcycle Club, Inc., signed the agreement to transfer the property located on the corner of Greely Chapel and Hanthorn roads to the Perry Township Historical Society.

Trick-or-Treat

The historical society passed out treats



Trick-or-treat: Michelle & Beulah Graham (dressed as Pocahontas) handing out candy

Photo by Steven Graham Thursday, October 30, 2008

for children stopping by on October 30, 2008.

Election Day Meals

Breakfast, lunch, and dinner were served at the society on November 6, 2008. Many people from the community stopped in to support us. In addition to voters, students from Mrs. Gray's class stopped in to visit and learn some local history.

Victory Gardens

Article by Tom Graham

During World War 1 and World War 2 a massive effort took place to insure that the citizens and soldiers had affordable food to eat. It was a national call to self-reliance. Vegetable gardens sprang up across the country and empowered individuals to contribute to the war effort

During World War 2 nearly forty-percent of all vegetables consumed by individuals were grown in these gardens. The additional supply created by individual gardeners kept



Mrs Grays class at the Historical Society

Photo by Beulah E. Graham Tuesday, November, 6, 2008

the market price of commercial food low and provided the government with affordable food to feed the troops.

At harvest the crops were prepared and stored by home canning, drying, or frozen for those who had electric freezers.

Those that lived through the Great Depression and fought in World

War 2 have a wealth of knowledge about living through tough times. For those born after 1939 these memories are not first hand but passed down from the previous generation.

Any student of history knows that history does repeat itself. The high cost of energy has already affected the price of food in the supermarkets. Even national chain stores are not insulated from the rising cost of energy and in some areas Victory Gardens are making a comeback.

Depending on what is grown, for less than the cost of one week's groceries you can have enough plants and seeds to have three to four hundred pounds or more of food from a small garden.

What is the American Dream?

Article by Tom Graham

"I have a right to nothing which another has a right to take away."

--Thomas Jefferson to Uriah Forrest, 1787.

Today, the American Dream is



A. E. Swickrath's (Spencerville) Garden Late 1980's early 1990's

Photo by Beulah E. Graham

known by many as a big house, fancy car, and plenty of money. Materialism has become the dream, but material possessions are a result of the dream, not the dream itself.

Our founding fathers believed it to be about much more than wealth. They believed in principles that were worth sacrificing their lives and fortunes for in order to preserve basic freedoms. Our forefathers secured the right of private property, a cornerstone in building a free society and the foundation of our other rights as free people.

The dream of our ancestors was a dream of freedom and opportunity, where life is to be better for each generation. Whether poor, rich, or somewhere in between the circumstances of our birth do not dictate what our future will be. A belief that at birth we are equal and each individual has the choice of what to make of his or her life. A dream of social order where each person should be measured by their ability and recognized by others for what they are regardless of their circumstances.

Perhaps the best definition of the American Dream was given by our Founding Fathers in the Declaration of Independence:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

Now, people are often judged more for what they have than who they are. Martin Luther King further described this when he said, "...will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character ..." while speaking about freedom for all Americans.

The message over the last two

centuries now appears blurred and often we hear more about equal outcomes than the equal opportunity. We hear more about what seems to be fair then what is right.

Freedom and opportunity are part of this dream, but guaranteed success is not. The mere fact that we have the freedom to succeed or fail differentiates us from other parts of the world.

The dream may be described differently by each of us, but a deeper look reveals that basic freedoms and rights of each individual is the common denominator.

Community Interest

Perry Twp Fire Department

A letter from Assistant Chief Wes Cook and Shandra Martin

Greetings to all Perry residents and others!

We at the Perry Fire Department are happy to have this medium to

connect with all of you interested in the history of Perry Township. We hope to be able to contribute to this new and exciting newsletter to let all the residents of our township in on the news of the fire department both past and present. We will try in future issues to give you a taste of the past regarding our residents who gave so much and worked so very hard to get the department started. We will also take a look into our recent history to see the goings on here in the department.

Here at the fire department we have always been interested in being the best stewards of our resident's tax dollars as we try to keep pace with the growth of our township. One of our most recent changes has been the move to the wonderful new facility that you have so graciously provided for us. Our open house was a grand success and many residents and interested parties toured the new fire station. During the building of the new station, we were notified by Lima Fire Dept. Chief Officers that they may have a piece of equipment



Perry Township's Refurbished Ladder Truck (Before lower left)

Photo Donated by Perry Township Fire Department

we might be interested in. Several of our senior officers went up to Lima's Department to have a look. They showed us their 1984 Grumman 95 aerial ladder platform. The department was going to remove it from service and replace it with newer equipment. The Lima chiefs asked if we might be interested in purchasing the truck. After examining the truck and looking over its maintenance records, we determined we could present this to our trustees and that this would be a viable asset to our township. With the support of the trustees we told the city department we would like to have it. The city council and mayor together sold it to the township for \$1,000. It was a bargain in every sense of the word as a comparable new piece of apparatus of that design easily sells new today for \$750,000 to \$1,000,000, depending on options. An agreement was reached and we brought the truck to its new home. It was a project for the firefighters as it had been sidelined for a time and needed some attention. Our trustees had determined a budget and gave us the support we needed to get to work. It was pretty much an all hands work detail. The truck was sent out for inspection and repair of any mechanical equipment that needed updated to assure the ladder portion of the truck was certified and in good order. It was brought back to the department where we took over. The trucks body was dismantled and all parts were inspected, cleaned, replaced as needed and set aside. This was no easy undertaking as a truck like this is large and required many man hours to get stripped down. The firefighters then sanded and sanded and sanded. The effort was tremendous by all! The truck was primed and painted by Lynn and Lyle Dray. Lynn is the Chief of the Harrod Fire Department. They did a

magnificent job! The truck was reassembled and put in service. It made its first appearance in public at the Allen County Fair Parade. You may have seen it around the township while drivers were training and learning to drive and maneuver the truck. This fire truck will be an asset to our township for years to come. With our responsibilities in the fire protection area an aerial such as this has always been needed due to our growth in the business community. We recently used this truck to remove a worker from the roof of the new Marriott being built at Eastgate, when he experienced a medical emergency. With our multi story buildings this truck will be an asset to our township and help our department provide improved and safer fire protection services for our residents, our firefighters and our visitors as they travel through our township.

I hope to bring you more articles and stories of the department in future issues. We also will give you updates on our run counts and total. Our total runs for calendar year 2008 was 950, this includes 589 EMS and 361 fire calls. Our fire inspectors performed over 150 fire inspections and assisted in new construction in the township adhering to fire code. Our dispatch center also dispatches for Harrod Fire Department. They average a run volume of around 150 EMS runs and 31 fire runs per year. Along with that our fire prevention officer spent countless hours at our school educating youngsters on fire prevention, and acting appropriately in the event of emergencies. In future issues I hope to introduce you to many of our members both past and present that dedicated themselves to Perry Township. Our number is listed below and we have phone stickers available. Don't forget, we always have someone at

the station 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to answer your calls should you need help or just have a question.

Business (non-emergency)

(419) 221-2345

Fire/EMS (EMERGENCY)

(419) 221-FIRE

(419) 221-3473

Upcoming Events

Founder's Day 2009

Founder's Day 2009 will be held on Saturday, June 6, 2009. This year there will be a parade, car and tractor show, crafts, demonstrations, and food. In addition, there will be a raffle with prizes similar to last year. Registration forms for crafts and the tractor and car show are located in the last two pages of this issue.

Calendar

The Perry Township Historical Society's 2009 calendar is available from any member of the society for a donation of \$3.00 or more. Please include an additional \$1.00 for shipping if ordering by mail.

Register

The register is the place where birth, marriages, special anniversaries or birthdays, and memorials or obituaries can be listed.

To list information please send the information to one of the contacts listed on the first page.

Volunteer Fire Department

Combined Fire & Rescue Calls

January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2008

Total: 950 Runs

Information Wanted

The society is interested in copies of all old photographs and documents including churches, schools, buildings, farm equipment, and people. Please contact us to share your history.

Reader's Recipes

Several of the society's members have contributed recipes for this issue. Many of these recipes can be prepared with fresh food from the garden. Additional recipes can be found online at:

Albert's Pineapple Zucchini Bread

3 Eggs
2 Cups Sugar
2 tsp Vanilla
1 Cup Oil
2 Cups Shredded Zucchini
3 Cups Flour
1 tsp Baking Powder
1 tsp Soda
1 tsp Salt
1 cup Crushed Pineapple Drained
½ cup Raisins and / or Nuts

Mix all ingredients. Pour mixture into greased and floured pans. Bake 1 hour or less at 350 degrees. Makes 2 loaves.

This recipe is from Albert and Kathy Jackson.

The following recipes are from Tom and Michelle Graham

Basic Salsa

3 Quarts Diced Tomato
2 Large Onions
4 Green Peppers
2 Jalapeno Peppers (remove seeds)
1 Tbsp Black Pepper
1 Tbsp Salt
2 cups Chopped Cilantro

Mix all ingredients except the cilantro in a 4 quart pan. Bring to boil then reduce heat and simmer for about 1 hour. Remove from heat and stir in the cilantro. Yields about 4 quarts. This recipe stays fresh in the freezer for about 1 year.

To make hotter salsa do not remove the Jalapeno seeds. Cayenne pepper can also be added.

For thicker salsa, about a tablespoon of cornstarch can be added.

Beulah's Spaghetti Sauce

3 Quarts Quartered Tomato
2 Large Onions
1 Green Pepper (Optional)
1 Tbsp Black Pepper
1 Tbsp Salt
1 lb ground beef rinsed

Brown the hamburger. Rinse the hamburger. Add onions and peppers and cook on low heat for about 10 minutes. In a 4 quart pan add the remaining ingredients and cook on medium heat while the ground beef is browning. Drain the grease from the ground beef and add the meat, onions, and peppers to the 4 quart pan. Allow to simmer for about 15 minutes. Sprinkle each serving with some Basil for a sweeter flavor.

Beulah's parents, Arthur and Maxine Swickrath, of Spencerville, cooked this for their children and the grand-children. It was always very good and made with tomatoes fresh from the garden. We added the green peppers for our own addition to the recipe but it tastes just as good without them.

Beulah's version of this recipe often omitted the onions and green peppers unless she was cooking for someone other than herself. She also would occasionally omit the tomatoes and use V8 in its place. V8 and hamburger actually makes very good spaghetti sauce.

George's Applesauce

1 quart Apples (peeled and sliced)
1 cup Water
1/2 cup Sugar (Optional)

Mix all the ingredients in a 2 quart sauce pan and cook on medium heat until tender, about 20 minutes. Mash the apples with a potato masher or spatula. Serve warm with a sprinkle of cinnamon.

If using a food grinder the apples do not need to be peeled. For thicker sauce the amount of water can be reduced.

This recipe cans and freezes very well. When canned it stays fresh for 1 ½ years

George Graham use to make this every Thanksgiving and sometimes Christmas to go with the meal Margaret had prepared.

The following recipes are from Kevin and Sue Cox. Sue and Kevin asked that the original spellings in the recipes remain unchanged.

I want to pass on a little history of these two recipes that I'm sharing with you. This old cookbook was handed down to me after my mother-in-law passed away. She taught me how to bake bread from scratch and how to can just about everything. So, In memory of Doris Cox (Kevin's mom), here they are. Try them and I know you will enjoy! -- Sue Cox

Zuchenni Soup

1 lb onion sliced
12 in. sliced zuchenni, sauted in oleo (margarine)

Put onions and zuchenni in pan while you brown 2 lbs ground chuck in skillet. Pour off fat (draw of grease) add to pan with onions and zuchenni. Add 1 Tbs worcester sauce. Add 1 lg can tomato juice. Cook on low til done. Then add any kind of cheese or sprinkle parmesan cheese once it is in the bowl.

Half Moon Cookies

Measure in bowl and stir.

3 C. Flour
1 Teas. Baking Powder
1 Teas. Baking Soda
1 Teas. Salt

Cream until fluffy

1 ½ C. White Sugar

¾ C. Shortning (Use part margarine – part crisco (shortning))

1 C. Sour Milk

2 Eggs

1 Teas. pineapple extract

Add dry ingredients –mix well. Drop by rounded spoonful on greased cookie sheet. Bake 375 degrees for 8-10 minutes. Ice when cool with creamy frosting.

Thanks weiner dog!!! (Her C.B. Handle)

Love you,

Sue Cox

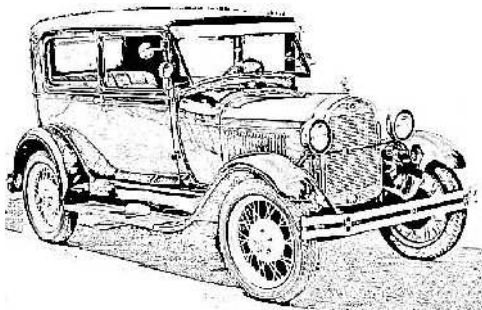
Perry Township Historical Society

2703 Greely Chapel Road

2nd Annual Founder's Day

Car & Tractor Show

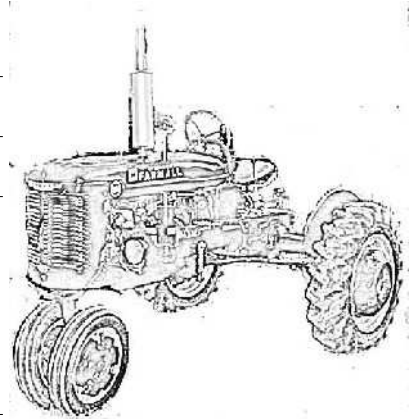
June 6, 2009



Parade Lineup	10:30 AM
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Parade	11:30 AM
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Activities: Craft Booths, Games & Food, Car & Tractor Show	12:00 PM
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**To be listed in our event program,
please register before May 22, 2009.**

Later registrations will be accepted, but not listed.

For each registering individual the fee is \$25.00 for first vehicle or tractor, and \$10.00 for each additional vehicle owned. For car club members there is a \$25.00 fee for the first members car and \$10.00 for each additional members car entered.

Name: _____ Club Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____, ST: _____ Zip: _____ Telephone: _____

**** Vehicle Information Please include additional entries on a separate sheet. ****

Make: _____ Model: _____ Year: _____

Please make check payable to Perry Township Historical Society and mail to Perry Township Historical Society, P.O. Box 2402, Cridersville, OH 45806

For additional information, including phone numbers please visit www.perryhistory-aoh.com

Perry Township Historical Society

2703 Greely Chapel Road

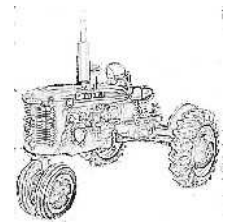
2nd Annual Founder's Day

Craft Show

June 6, 2009



Parade Lineup	10:30 AM
Parade	11:30 AM
Activities: Craft Booths, Games & Food, Car & Tractor Show	12:00 PM



To be listed in our event program, please register before May 22, 2009.

For additional information, contact Michelle at 419-371-1309 or visit www.perryhistory-aoh.com

Item	Price	QTY	Total
8 X 9 (54 square feet) space under tent	\$25.00		
6 foot table	6.00		
8 foot table	8.00		
		TOTAL	

You are not required to rent tables from us, you may bring your own.

Name: _____ Business Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____, ST: _____ Zip: _____ Telephone: _____

Please make check payable to Perry Township Historical Society and mail to Perry Township Historical Society, P.O. Box 2402, Cridersville, OH 45806

Please include a brief list of the type of crafts you will be selling on the back of this form. The description will be included in the event program.