

The Columbia Historical Society
Spring/Summer 2010
Newsletter

February brought its usual dilemma with icy roads on meeting night. Last 3 out of 4 years the second Tuesday in February we have had to call off the meeting. Is Mother Nature trying to tell us something?

At the March meeting Tom Neff from Liverpool Township gave a very interesting talk on their history and the upcoming Bicentennial Celebration to be held in Valley City. Then Al Willoughby did a reenactment of David Beebe one of the first to settle in North Ridgeville. North Ridgeville is also celebrating their Bicentennial this year. Both townships give credit to the pioneers who came to Columbia first. These two gentlemen showed that local history can be interesting and entertaining.

Since Health Care has been much in the news recently here is a paragraph on health care about 120 years ago. Modern surgery was in its initial stages in the 1880's. Dr. David Agnew of the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania was among the first to experiment with the newly conceived Lister method of antiseptic surgery. At the time there were no autoclaves or water sterilizers; instruments were flamed and basins boiled and kept in a tub of antiseptic solution. Operating rooms and their furnishings were washed with green soap and carbolic acid solution. Surgeons did not use gowns or gloves. Water was boiled on the nearest stove. Candles, often used to provide better lighting, were held on a paddle near the wound.

Upcoming events:

May 2, 2 – 4 P.M. Bronson House Open House:

Debi Hitchcock will display items from her Cat Collection. If you really, really like cats you will love this display.

May 11 - Meeting at the Columbia Town Hall

7:00 P.M. social time, 7:30 P.M. Program, meeting to follow.

The program will be presented by Lou Ann Metz and her dog. They are a part of Summit Search and Rescue Dogs, Inc. The following is her description of what they do.

Summit Search and Rescue Dogs is entering its 15th year and is comprised of all volunteers from all sorts of backgrounds who are committed to providing quality search and rescue resources to law enforcement and fire service agencies. We have dogs that are operational in wilderness live-find and cadaver, water cadaver, human remains detection and historical human remains detection. We do not charge a fee for our services.

Our HHRD teams have worked across Ohio, Michigan, Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, Virginia, Wisconsin and Canada. They have worked with historical societies as well as Native American Nations to assist in the location of burials for the purpose of recognition and protection of the sites.

The training and operations of these handlers are in close cooperation with Anthropologists and Tribal Councils.

Late May/ early June - Columbia Story for the 3rd Grade and Bronson House Tour.

Block House Days presented to the 5th Grade.

Talk to teachers after Spring Break to determine date & time

June 5 – 6 Engine Show

June 6 1 – 3 P.M. Bronson Open House (different hours to correspond with Engine Show)
Dale Krismanth will bring some antique toys to show. Come and reminisce about toys from the past.

June 8 - Meeting at the Columbia Town Hall
7:00 P.M. social time, 7:30 P.M. Program, meeting to follow.
Jim Smith from the Lorain County Historical Society will present the program.
Old Glory: a short history of the Flag. The story of the symbolism and changes it has gone through.

June 19 - Columbia Park The Friends of the Library Festival of Arts
This is a good opportunity to show our books on local history.

June 25, 26, 27 Columbia Homecoming.

There are some changes at Homecoming. The fireworks will be on Saturday the 26th with the 27th as a rain date. The parade is on Sunday in the afternoon as it has been for a few years. On Sunday homecoming will end at 8 P.M. with “Liberty” as the final show. We have changed some of Bronson House open hours to match the new schedule. Bronson will be open Saturday 3 – 5 P.M. and 7 – 9 P.M. and on Sunday 1 – 3 P.M. Historic Maps will be the theme for display.

The booth will be open the hours of Homecoming.

July & August there will be no membership meetings. The officers will meet to plan for fall & winter.

August 1 2 – 4 P.M. Bronson House Open House
Blanch Nemeth will display Honey Pots.

Do you serve honey on your table for dining pleasure? If so, do you just plunk down a bottle? tsk tsk tsk Because honey is a treasure that is not easily come by (unless you just shop at Wal-mart) you should have your honey on the table in a delicate or unusual ceramic container (a honey pot) to satisfy not only the palate but the eye. Come and see my collection of honey pots.

