

COLUMBIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

WINTER – SPRING 2011

Happy New Year to all. The upcoming year should be a very interesting one. The officers hope that you will set aside the time to come to the meetings. We think we have something for everyone to enjoy.

Just short recaps of the fall season, our two open houses were well attended. In September, Bob MacIntyre did a great job with a short history of photography. Our Halloween open house was well attended. 3 years ago we started the Halloween open house and have increased attendance each year.

The meetings – in September, Barbara Knopf Beyer brought slides to show about her experiences while in Kenya with the Peace Corps. Intestinal fortitude was required as well as a lot of walking. Fun times too, trying to teach girls to play softball with branches and no regulation ball.

October – Louise Allen from Berea, brought a collection of aprons. Members brought aprons with memories and talked about who wore them and when. Also, there were men's aprons modeled by our members.

November – Karen Wright spent a year in Iraq and talked about the experience. She also brought a DVD that had been put together by one of the hospital personal showing what happened in the hospital where she was stationed.

Columbia hosted the Intersociety meeting-all the attendees give a short run down of what they have or will be doing. The program was a presentation of old time music.

December – Our Pot Luck Lunch, there was an abundance of great food. The meeting followed. The officers have been elected for 2011 – they are:

Pres. Mary Melnyk

Vice-Pres. Ken Roth

Secy. Jim Hitchcock

Tres. Dave Burnett

Corr. Secy. Debi Hitchcock

Appointed are Web-master Barb Hitchcock Publicity Blanche Nemeth

Jeanne Boey is unable to serve this year as program chairman. She did a wonderful job these last couple of years. Thank You Jeanne.

In the fall Bronson House had the two upstairs front windows replaced by Chuck Rutherford. This will help with ventilation in the summer and also keep out the bees & wasps. This will make those cleaning the room much happier. Also replaced at the same time was the living room window on the north side closest to the road. It was barely holding together. It now has a screen which will also help in the summer.

The society has received from Richard Hantel one large and one small file cabinet of deed abstracts covering Columbia that were going to be thrown out by a title company.

The officers met in late December to set the schedule for 2011. Between the discussion at the pot luck and the officers we have the following list of events.

All meetings are open to all with an interest in history whether near or far.

Feb. 8 Meeting at Columbia Town Hall, 7 PM social time, 7:30 program, Meeting to follow.
Some years ago the MacIntyre family explored the West in search of Ghost Towns.
Bob MacIntyre will present a slide show of the various towns they explored.

If it is snowing and Columbia Snow Plows are out at 5:00 PM the meeting will be cancelled and the program rescheduled. Call an officer if you are not sure.

March 8 Meeting at Columbia Town Hall, 7:00 social time, 7:30 program, Meeting follows
Tales of the Bus – Blanche Nemeth drove a Columbia School bus for several years.
Besides her experiences she is going to ask others who drove a long time for their
stories, such as who had the oldest bus to drive. We have a picture of one of the “Kid”
wagons that was horse drawn school bus.

If there is a snow question call Dave he is president pro tem tonight.

April 10 – Pot luck luncheon - Columbia Town Hall 1:00 P.M. eat at 1:15
Bring a dish to share and your table setting.

April ? Need to schedule a clean up day. Anyone interested in looking at the abstracts please
feel free to do so. The ell will need some rearrangement.

May 1 - Bronson House – Open House - A small display is needed.

May 10 – Meeting at Columbia Town Hall, 7:00 social time, 7:30 Program, Meeting follows.
The Columbia Story – slide show. For many years this show has been shown to
Columbia’s third grade and then they visit Bronson House. But many adults have not
seen it in years. The slide show was put together in 1956 for Columbia’s
sesquicentennial in 1957. They were trying to recreate the time period of 1807 – 1809.

May – various dates to be determined, The Columbia Story for 3rd Grade and Bronson House
tour. The showing of Block House Days to the 5th grade.

June - Engine show - A discussion about having Bronson open on Saturday instead of
Sunday was discussed at the officers meeting. A display will be needed.

June 14 – Meeting at Columbia Town Hall, 7:00 social, 7:30 program, meeting follows.
Following up on the Columbia Story is part 2, Block House Days. This slide show
was created a few years later to cover the War of 1812 time period. For explanation in
this case, block does not refer to cement block but to a wood structure built in a square
with a second story overhang. Some times it could be included at the corners of a
larger fort. Columbia’s was free standing on the east bank of the river south of what is
now Rt. 82.

There was a suggestion of a field trip in the summer to tour the Ohio State House as it is its
sesquicentennial. There are various events planned. If enough are interested we might get a
bus. Your thoughts are needed.