



# Delaware County Historian

VOLUME 57, ISSUE 2

SUMMER 2012

## Society, Hayes High School Launch Political Americana Project

By Brent Carson

The Delaware County Historical Society and Hayes High School economics and government classes launched a joint program titled “The Political Americana Project” last semester. The project was a collaborative effort of Brent Carson, Society president and former history teacher in Delaware City Schools, and Jordan Blackburn, government teacher at Hayes High School.

A year of planning went into the project. Blackburn realized that curriculum guidelines would need to be met. He concluded that each student’s final product would not be graded as extra credit, but would instead count as a major portion of the student’s final grade. Fourteen seniors and one junior were chosen to participate.

The students were given over one hundred possible history topics from which to choose and were permitted hands-on access to thousands of authentic political items from American History. Some of the historic memorabilia belongs to the DCHS, including the blood-stained cloth from the assassination of Abraham Lincoln and the autographed inscription from Frederick Douglass. Most of the items were from the private collections of Central Ohio members of an organization named the American Political Items Collectors (APIC).

The project was a three-step process. Students were to first research the general topic. The second step was to re-search the topic’s connection to Delaware County. The third step was to photograph and describe authentic political memorabilia related to the subject.



**Hayes Senior Luke Leatherman at the site of Gen. Harrison’s visit to Delaware**

(Photo by Brent Carson)

Alex Rafeld, the group’s only junior, spoke glowingly of the project. “Just the opportunity to have viewed those collections was unbelievable. We covered so many of those topics in history and government and then saw the actual items,” he said.

The possible topics covered the whole of our political history from George Washington to Barack Obama. **(Continued on Page 4)**

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Mabel Cratty	2
Cellar Family Presentation	3
Report of Members	5
Committee Reports	6
News and Notes	7

# Who Is That Woman on Our Webpage?

By Susan Logan

In January 2012, a new banner was added to the Society's webpages. The banner features pictures of rooms in the Nash House and pictures from our photo collection, including a picture of Rutherford B. Hayes. A woman is also pictured and several individuals asked who she was. Her name is Mabel Cratty. I set out to learn more about this woman.

Mabel Cratty, a 1890 graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University, taught in the Delaware public schools and from 1900 to 1904 was the principal of the Delaware High School. According to Brent Carson, Society President, Willis High School had a organization for girls with the name "The Cratty Reserve."

In 1906, two years after entering Y.W.C.A. work in Chicago, Miss Cratty became secretary of the newly created National Board of the Y.W.C.A. She would hold that position until her death from pneumonia in 1928. Her obituary, which was published in the *New York Times* on February 28, 1928, states



**Mabel Cratty**

that Miss Cratty, at the time of her death, directed the work of 110 women secretaries in thirteen foreign countries and the 1,300 associations in the United States, with a membership of more than 600,000.

When she took charge of the work in 1906, there were only about ten workers and their activities were directed from one room.

In July 1927, Miss Cratty was a member of a group of university presidents, labor leaders, financiers, churchmen, and diplomats from the United States and Canada that attended the international conference of the Institute of Pacific Relations held in Honolulu. She was a member of the party led by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., that toured the Orient for four months in 1922. Ohio Wesleyan University honored her with the Doctor of Laws degree in 1922.

The Society has a digital copy of Mabel Cratty's picture due to the generosity of Society member Barbara Tull. The picture, which was taken by Mary Dale Clarke of New York City, was scanned and entered into the digital collection on July 23, 2011.

## DELAWARE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Established 1947

### OFFICERS

President	Brent Carson
Vice-President of Development	Jack Hilborn
Vice-President of Operations	Roger Koch
Recording Secretary	Gina Neer
Corresponding Secretary	T.K. Cellar
Treasurer	Jan Fleischmann

### TRUSTEES

Charlton Amidon  
 Louis Foster  
 Bob Gerspacher  
 Sue Heston  
 Matt Kear  
 Donna Meyer  
 Bonnie Newland  
 Bill Rietz  
 Doug Wilson



The Delaware County Historian is published at least biannually by the Delaware County Historical Society, Inc.

157 E. William St.

P.O. Box 317

Delaware, OH 43015

740-369-3831

[www.delawareohiohistory.org](http://www.delawareohiohistory.org)

Newsletter Editor: Matt Kear

Contributions of original historical research concerning Delaware County, Ohio, are welcome.

Send your contributions to the attention of the Newsletter Editor at any of the above addresses.

# Cellar, Others Present History Talks in Community

By T.K. Cellar

On behalf of the Society, T.K. Cellar presented a talk titled, "Early Pioneers in Delaware County and the Cellar Family" at Liberty Presbyterian Church in the evening of Thursday, May 17. He shared information about his great, great, great, great grandfather, Thomas Cellar, and his arrival in Liberty Township in 1802, shortly after the arrival of the first settler in Delaware County, Nathan Carpenter, in 1801.

Thomas Cellar settled on 4,000 acres of land he owned in Liberty Township. A portion of that land was later deeded to Liberty Presbyterian Church, and the old church there was built in 1820 by two of Thomas Cellar's sons.

Thomas Cellar was a gunsmith, and T.K. showed the group a Pennsylvania Long Rifle made by Thomas Cellar in the very early 1800s.



**Above: T.K. Cellar presents "Early Pioneers in Delaware County—The Cellar Family" to third graders at Alum Creek Elementary School, one of his seven visits to Olentangy Schools this spring.**

(Photo courtesy T.K. Cellar)

T.K. will repeat this talk on Sunday, August 19, at 11 a.m. as part of the Liberty Presbyterian Church "Founder's Day."

*Editor's Note: Society Board Members Brent Carson, Roger*

*Koch, Jack Hilborn, and Donna Meyer have also made presentations before various groups throughout the county already this year.*

## Second Volunteer Fair

A Volunteer Fair was held March 31st at the Cryder Historical Center. Attendees learned about the volunteer opportunities and enjoyed a sumptuous lunch catered by the Delaware County Community Market. Susan Logan and Paul Monks reported on the scanning of Society photos. Several volunteers shared their experience as a volunteer.

Cataloging artifacts and staffing the Society's exhibit at various events are important projects at this time. You too can be a part of our growing volunteer efforts. Contact Susan Logan at [volunteer@delawareohiohistory.org](mailto:volunteer@delawareohiohistory.org) or call 740-369-3831.



**Photo taken by Editor Matt Kear during his presentation at the Volunteer Fair**

## Hayes Students Learn Local History During Project



**Hayes Senior Valin Meyers with her project at the assembly**

(Photo by Brent Carson)

### (Continued from Page 1)

Causes and events including Prohibition, Communism, Vietnam Peace Movement, and Great Depression were also available for study.

Senior Valin Meyers chose Women's Suffrage as her topic. She traced the movement from its national beginnings to its connections in our own county. "I read the accounts in the Delaware newspaper of the local women casting their first votes. I thought about how proud they must have been in 1920," she said. One of the people she included in her study was Josie Main. In 1983, Mrs. Main told Carson that she had voted in every election since 1920. Carson said, "In 1983 Mrs. Main was 102 and living in the Sarah Moore Home in Delaware. She gave me a small button she had worn inscribed 'Votes for Women.'"

Meyers photographed the button and a valuable autographed inscription of Frederick Douglass. The autograph was obtained by a Delaware woman in 1883 when the African-American leader made his second trip to Delaware. On that trip, Douglass spoke at William Street Methodist Church on the subject of Women's Suffrage. The Frederick Douglass piece is on display at the Society.

George Washington was the subject of Kenton Ulmer's project. "I had always admired Washington. Had it not been for his leadership, this country's attempt at democracy would never have gotten off the ground," said Ulmer. The Hayes senior was allowed to photograph one of the most noted pieces in American political history—the "Linked States Button." The item dated to the first election and was done as a commemorative to George Washington. The item was part of a private collection belonging to a Central Ohio APIC member. It was

originally discovered on the grounds of an historic tavern near Philadelphia with a metal detector.

Ulmer was surprised that Delaware County had a direct connection to George Washington. The connection came through William Warrington, a Revolutionary War veteran who moved to the county after the Revolution. Warrington had served as one of the select unit known as "Life Guards." They were charged with protecting General Washington. Warrington was credited with uncovering a plot to poison Washington at Valley Forge.

Ulmer described the importance of Warrington. "History classes have always emphasized the concept of *Cause and Effect* as we study history. Had William Warrington not uncovered the plot, had Washington died at Valley Forge, imagine the rippling effect it would have had on history. Without Washington there might have been no republic. The impact would have changed not just the United States, but the entire world," he said. As part of his project, Ulmer visited Warrington's grave near Ostrander.

Luke Leatherman's project was "*Presidential Visits to Delaware County.*" Leatherman said he was

**(Continued on Page 5)**

## Project Slated to Continue in Next School Year

### (Continued from Page 4)

amazed at the number of presidents and presidential candidates who visited here. "Of course I knew of President Hayes, but never knew of the visits of so many other great people in our history," he said. Leatherman traveled the county taking pictures and documenting the visits. He added, "Many of the locations are places I pass regularly, but I never thought about their connections to history. It does give you another reason to be proud of your community."

Blackburn, the teacher, decided that the project was worthy of a school assembly in the auditorium. "I felt strongly that the fifteen projects needed to be presented to more than a few other students in a classroom," he said. The American Political Items Collectors members and the DCHS agreed to allow the historic items to be displayed on the stage during the school assembly. A new technology was used to project each item on a large screen. The projector known as an *Elmo* gave the items a 3D effect when viewed.

Society President Carson introduced the project to the assembly of students. "This Political Americana Project is not only a first for Hayes High School. It is

a first for *any* high school," he said.

Brad Faust, Hayes High School principal, attended the assembly. Afterwards he commented, "I came away so impressed by the presentations and the entire project. It made those connections to history in ways that were meaningful to students. Anytime you can spark that interest, it enhances learning."



Jeff Burnett of Ashland, Ohio, learned of the project through his connections with the American Political Items Collectors. He called the project a "unique and a wonderful teaching tool." Burnett, a collector of political memorabilia and a retired high school history teacher, added that he was somewhat familiar with Delaware. He said that some of his family had attended Ohio Wesleyan University and that his grandfather had taught at the university. Burnett added, "Delaware is an old town with a rich

history. The Political Americana Project is so fitting for using those connections."

Jordan Blackburn concluded, "Please thank both the Delaware County Historical Society and the American Political Items Collectors for inviting our students to be the first to participate in this project. We look forward to continuing the project next year."

## Special Members-Only Event Upcoming on August 26

The Society is hosting the "Delaware County Historical Society Members' Commemoration of the 200th Anniversary of the Meeker House" on Sunday, August 26, 2012. The event will be held from 2-4 p.m. at the Garth Oberlander Barn, the home of Garth's Auctions, Inc., 2690 Stratford Road, Delaware, Ohio. The Commemoration is a special event for Society members only. As part of the program, there will be presentations on the history and past uses of the Oberlander Barn.

In addition to this, there is a very special Life Members only event that will be also be held that day. This special event will honor those people who have made a special commitment to the Society by becoming a Life Member. More details about these special events will be forthcoming soon directly to members and to Life Members.

## Report of New Members and Donors

### New Members (February 29, 2012- June 6, 2012)

Joanne Apple  
Damon Bower  
Andy Brush  
Andrew Cain  
Brent Cain  
Ethan Cain  
Lindsay Cain  
Gregory Drakulich  
Sue Hanson  
Catherine Heberding  
Karen Hildebrand  
Barb Macleod  
Mary Ann McGreevey  
Kent Schorff

Gary Simons  
William Wood

### Donations (February 29, 2012- June 6, 2012)

Undesignated  
Jeff Benton  
Lyman Leathers  
John Tombarge  
Shirley Johnson  
Barbara Macleod  
Boy Scouts of America

*Thank You Members!*

## Committee Reports

### Library Report

On April 14 and July 7, those interested in library volunteer work received orientation and a refresher on current activities in the library. Topics that are covered include history of the Society, volunteer duties, city directories, property history, and Past Perfect searching.

We have cataloged 1,920 photographs, of which 80 will soon be available online through the Society's home page, [www.delawareohiohistory.org](http://www.delawareohiohistory.org).

*-Susan Logan, Subcommittee Chair*

### Education Committee Report

A Collection Subcommittee of the Education Committee has been established with the purpose of reviewing and accepting donations of objects, photographs, manuscripts, and books for the Society. In addition, the Subcommittee will be reviewing a back file of donations to confirm that they are valuable to the Society and warrant the time necessary to preserve, catalog, and store the items. Members of the Subcommittee are Maggie Webb, Brent Carson, Ann Simons, and Susan Logan.

The Society has subscribed to the StEPs (Standards and Excellence Program for History Organization) workbook. Three of the sections of the self-study workbook—Audience, Interpretation, Collections—relate to the Education Committee function.

The next meeting of the Education Committee was scheduled for June 4, at which time at which time the committee was to begin drafting the Education and Outreach delivery plan, which is a part of the Society's overall strategic plan.

*-Susan Logan, Interim Chair*

### Membership Committee Report

The DCHS Membership Committee has been busy on several fronts. We are currently planning a Membership Event at the Garth Oberlander Barn, the home of Garth's Auctions, on Sunday, August 26. See the announcement elsewhere in this newsletter.

The committee also updated our portion of the DCHS Strategic Plan by adding another six months to the plan. The committee is careful to follow our "action steps" each month to achieve our goals.

Our committee works with numerous other DCHS committees, and we are currently working closely with the Programs Committee to plan events for the rest of this year and 2013 and 2014.

The most important piece of membership expansion is current members talking to friends and acquaintances about the Society and its importance to

Delaware County, and the fact that the entire organization is staffed by volunteers and relies heavily on membership dues and donations. And that's where you come in—please share your experiences and reasons for joining the DCHS with others. As always, if you'd like to serve on the membership committee, please let us know.

Thank you for your continued support!

Your membership committee is Sue Heston, Louis Foster, Jack Hilborn, Janell Kuck, Susan Logan, Brent Carson, and T.K. Cellar, Chair.

*-T.K. Cellar, Chair*

### Finance and Budget Committee Report

The DCHS Finance and Budget Committee is one of several working committees that keep the Society business running smoothly. We meet monthly to review financial reports, discuss timely issues and prepare for the monthly Board of Trustees meeting. The committee is comprised of volunteers who represent many different areas of expertise. We take our fiduciary responsibilities seriously and, together with the Board, we are conservative and attentive, taking care to monitor the finances, to maximize income, and to control expenditures prudently.

In addition to the volunteer time that goes into managing our finances, we maintain high quality by contracting with a bookkeeper for a few hours each month to enter data and to print checks, which are then signed by both the treasurer and the president. Currently, the Finance Committee members are Jan Fleischmann (Chair and DCHS Treasurer), Brent Carson, Bob Gerspacher, Jerry Heston, Jack Hilborn, Roger Koch, Janell Kuck, and Doug Wilson.

*-Jan Fleischmann, Chair*

### Museum Subcommittee Report

There are always several items that Maggie Webb, Curator of the Nash House Museum, and her maintenance helpers need to keep the museum looking its best for tours. Currently she would like to find a replacement for the worn-out 9x12 oriental-style rug in the Gentleman's Study, and a canister-type vacuum cleaner for the second floor. If you have either of those two items that you could donate to the Society for use in the Nash House, call the Society (740-369-3831), or e-mail us at [info@delawareohiohistory.org](mailto:info@delawareohiohistory.org). We will pass your message on to Maggie, and she or one of her elves will contact you.

*-Roger Koch, Vice President of Operations*

## *News and Notes from the Nash House*

### Upcoming Schedule of Events

- \*Aug. 18-19 Harlem Days in Center Village
- \*Aug. 26 Meeker Homestead Bicentennial  
Note: This event is for DCHS members only and will be held at the Oberlander Barn, 2690 Stratford Road, Delaware, Ohio, from 2-4 p.m.
- \*Sept. 15-22 DCHS Booth at Delaware County Fair
- \*Sept. 29 Rutherford B. Hayes Birthday Celebration, location and time TBD
- \*Oct. 13 Tours of Old County Jail, 2-4 p.m. Contact: Jan Fleischmann
- Nov. 15 Annual Meeting, 7 p.m. 65th anniversary of DCHS incorporation. To be held at the Oberlander Barn, 2690 Stratford Road, Delaware, Ohio

\*Denotes need for volunteers. Contact Bill Rietz for more information. Check the Society website for further updates.

### New Computer Addition

Thanks to life member Sandra Cryder's generous donation in recognition of her parents, Marilyn and George Cryder, and their long-time leadership of the DCHS, we have acquired another new computer this summer to replace a very slow, old PC. The new computer will allow the volunteers at the Cryder Historical Center to move ahead more quickly with the cataloging of the Society's collection and the digitizing of historical resources. When completed, this work will make our collections much more accessible to researchers and the public.

**Delaware and Delaware County Now Available For Sale at the Library, Beehive Books, and other area retailers!**

### Recent Donations January – April 2012

The Collections Subcommittee is meeting monthly to review the recent donations to the Society. As part of this review, the subcommittee works to determine if the items donated support the mission of the Society, and to confirm that the donations enhance the Society's collection. If the donations meet the criteria of the subcommittee, they are accepted into the Society's collection. It is a subcommittee of the Education Committee, and the current members of the Collections Subcommittee are Brent Carson, Maggie Webb, Ann Simons, and Susan Logan. Recent donations include:

- *History of the Marion Presbytery 1836-1952* by George Johnson -- Steve Shaw, Delaware OH, donor
- Columbus, Delaware & Marion electric railroad (C,D & M) framed information card; a C,D & M metal destination sign -- Thomas Wilson, Portland OR, donor
- A 11"x17" picture of the 1913 Flood (Central Avenue); a large 1854 map of Delaware -- John Faber, Sunbury OH, donor
- Bicentennial Quilt made by Conger School mothers; 4 Brown Jug souvenirs (1968); 8 old Delaware School pictures (including Conger & South Schools); DCTA (Delaware County Teachers Association) history; Conger School dedication program (1966) -- John Blakeslee, Delaware OH, donor
- 1952 plat map of Ostrander, OH -- Terry M. Dresback, Delaware OH, donor
- 1938 plaque from Willis High School recognizing Gerald Lawrence Smith, drum major and trombone player -- Lois Smith, Delaware OH, donor
- 16 soft cover books about historic preservation and managing non-profit organizations -- Roger Koch, Delaware OH, donor
- Ashtray from Delaware County Bank on London Road (first drive-thru bank in Delaware) (ca. 1916); Brass medallion (3") commemorating 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Mary Catholic Church cornerstone dedication -- W. Roland Smith, Sunbury OH, donor
- Items from Rutherford home including 2 1880s dresses, 1 milk can, 1 stoneware jug, 1 corn grinder wheel, piece of a double tree yoke, yoke with pulleys, 2 pictures of farm on S. Section Line Road, 9 pictures of the old Girls Industrial School in Rathbone -- Marleen Tulas, Dearborn MI, donor
- Six Christmas ornament lights, previously owned by Helen Willis, daughter of Senator Frank B. Willis -- James Freed, Delaware OH, donor

Delaware County  
Historical Society

157 E. William St.  
P.O. Box 317  
Delaware, OH 43015

Phone: 740-369-3831  
Email: info@delawareohiohistory.org  
www.delawareohiohistory.org

*Our History,  
Our Heritage*

Find us on  
Facebook!



Non Profit Organization

U.S. Postage Paid

Delaware, OH 43015

Permit No. 163

Return Service Requested

**DCHS MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Memberships received between September and December (excluding Life Memberships) expire December 31 of the following year. All memberships are "per-person" amounts, including life memberships.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Status (circle one): Renew New

**Membership Type**

Student Membership \$5.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Life Membership (Single) \$300.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Senior Membership (60+ yrs) \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Life Membership (Joint) \$500.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Adult Membership \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_

For Student Membership, name of your school: \_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter preference (circle): Printed E-mail Both

In addition to your membership noted above, please consider an additional gift to the Society:

\$100.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$250.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$500.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,000.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Special Gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

For/In Honor or Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_