

Newsletter of the MASON HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Mason, Ohio

and Alverta Green Museum

March 2022

RICHARD FOX LIVES THE DREAM

UD's Unbelievable Run to the NCAA Championship

Gina Burton Arens, Editor

Editor's note: With "March Madness" afflicting millions of basketball fans this month, we thought we would feature a hometown boy who had the incredible experience of being part of a team that went all the way to the NCAA finals and where he found his 15 minutes of fame.

Richard Fox was born and raised in a house his parents purchased in 1945 at 520 West Church Street. Albert Fox, a lifelong Mason resident brought his bride Norma (Shields) of Dayton to Mason to live and raise a family. Soon after their arrival Richard was born, and his brother Robert came along two years later.



As a high school player, Rich Fox excelled on the basketball court, and is one of the best players to come out of Mason High School.

Richard had a love of basketball from his early years. It was the main form of entertainment growing up in Mason. Whether it was a pick-up game at Mason Central or in his driveway where his dad had mounted a basketball hoop on the garage, there was always a game going. Richard says even in the dead of winter they would shovel the snow off the driveway and be ready to play.

When Richard reached high school, he played football and baseball, but his greatest accomplishments were on the court (1961-1964). His junior year, Richard led Mason to the Southwest AA District basketball

finals and scored 553 points for the season, a record that remains the highest total for a Mason junior. When he graduated, he was the school's all-time scoring leader with 1,354 points, second only to Ed Kelley (1970).

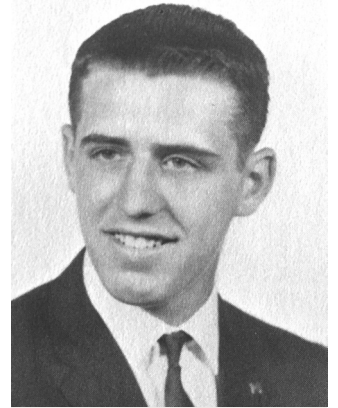
During his senior year Richard received a recruitment call from Coach Don Donoher from the University of Dayton (UD). At the time he was receiving offers from other schools including Eastern Kentucky University, Bowling Green, and Florida State along with some smaller schools. That summer Coach Donoher persisted and made a personal visit to Mason to recruit the 6'4" center. It was after his visit Richard decided to go to UD. Fox wanted to stay close to home and the University of Dayton provided the proximity he wanted.

Richard was one of six players in Donoher's first recruitment class. Another, Donnie May, a standout on the court and an All-American player went on to play in the NBA. Another recruit, Bobby Joe Hooper, an opponent of Richard's in high school ball also went on to play for the NBA.

UD, under the leadership of Coach Tom Blackburn, had built a successful, nationally recognized basketball program during the fifties and early sixties, winning the National Invitation Tournament (NIT) in 1962. Blackburn became terminally ill during the '63-'64 season and Don Donoher had been named his replacement. During Richard's first two years on the team, Donoher, with Assistant Coach Chuck Grigsby, guided the Flyers to the NCAA Sweet Sixteen. While the Flyers had a good '66-'67 season, no one expected them to go as far as they did.

The 1967 NCAA University Division Basketball Tournament involved 23 schools playing in single

story continues on next page



Rich Fox, Mason High senior, 1964.

The Mason Historical Society and Alverta Green Museum are located in the heart of downtown Mason, Ohio. Established over 40 years ago, the Society's aim is to create, promote and preserve the history and heritage of Mason.

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Join the Mason Historical Society at
Masonhistoricalsociety.org
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NEW WINTER HOURS

Note that starting in January,
the Museum will be open from
2-5 pm on Thursdays.

Richard Fox, cont.

elimination play to determine the national champion of men's NCAA Division 1 college basketball. It began on Saturday, March 11, and ended two weeks later with the championship game on March 25 in Louisville, Kentucky's Freedom Hall.¹

In 1967 no one was using the term 'March Madness'. The term was first used in reference to basketball by an Illinois high school official, Henry V. Porter, in 1939. 'March Madness' wouldn't become associated with the NCAA tournament until Brent Musberger used it during coverage of the 1982 tournament.²

The Flyers made their way to the NCAA Championship game by beating #6 ranked Western Kentucky, 69-67 (OT) in the first round; #8 ranked Tennessee in the Sweet Sixteen, 53-52; and Virginia Tech in the Elite Eight, 71-66 (OT). After three straight squeakers — two OT victories and a one-point triumph, Dayton exploded against #4 North Carolina in a 76-62 victory in the Final Four.³

The Final Four didn't have near the fanfare it does now. It was held in Louisville's 19,000-seat Freedom Hall instead of a dome, was televised in individual markets rather than on a national network and was a Friday-Saturday affair instead of the Saturday-Monday format.² Still the nail-biting games that led up to the National Championship built a crescendo of excitement and anticipation amongst the players one could only imagine.

Fox recalls the National Championship game with the undefeated Bruins. "Entering the arena, we were 'star-struck' and within a few minutes UCLA was up 20 to 4." After a shaky start, the Flyers settled down and mostly held their own but ultimately fell to the #1 ranked Bruins squad 79-64.

Asked if they had been intimidated by the towering 7'2" Lew Alcindor (later Kareem Abdul-Jabbar), Fox said, "Not really, we'd only seen him on TV and didn't realize how big he was." Ironically, it was UD's 6'10" center Dan Obrobc who got the first tip-off of the game from Alcindor. Once the game got started however, some newspaper reports said that Alcindor overwhelmed Dayton with his defensive excellence and deft passing.⁴ There were also remarks about his incredibly long arms and the difficulty getting a shot past them. After the season ended it was said the dunk was banned in college basketball primarily because of Alcindor's dominant use of the shot. It was later reinstated in 1976.

The Dayton players believed the whole time they could win this but ultimately the Bruins were the better team. With the win the Bruins claimed their third national title in four years, topping off a perfect 30-0 season. It was the Flyers third straight year in the playoffs and the third time the Flyers had been eliminated by the number-one ranked team.

Back on campus Richard's 15 minutes of fame actually lasted the rest of the school year. The basketball team was celebrated as campus heroes and everywhere they went people paid their way. Fox recalls that for the rest of that year he didn't pay for one meal or one drink anywhere he went. Richard said the special treatment and respect the team received was a great feeling!

The following season UD, ranked #6 in the country, went on to win the NIT (National Invitation Tournament), but by then Richard had left the court. That season was Richard's senior year and he decided if he was going to get into medical school he needed to focus on his classes and grades. As much as he loved the game, he knew it would not take him very far. Even great players like Donnie May, ultimately only enjoyed a short run in the pros.

At a 40-year reunion of the team in 2007, Donnie May told Richard's wife that the only reason he was so good was because of the daily intense practice sessions he had with Richard. (That was putting it nicely!)

Richard went on to attend medical school at Ohio State University, graduating with honors and became an optometrist. His brother Robert is a dentist with a practice in Mason. Richard and his wife Sandy lived in Mason until 2016 when he decided he wanted to see what life was like outside his hometown. They moved to Madison, Indiana, a small community of about 12,000 residents on the Ohio River. Still working a few days a week, he says he loves his new home!

Wrapping up our conversation Richard remarked, "You don't realize at the time, as you go forward, that those are the best times of your life, college and especially the experience of being a part of the NCAA Championship Tournament. It's amazing because you know few people experience what I was fortunate to be a part of." Mason's Richard Fox, for one moment in time, lived a dream few will ever know.

¹ Wikipedia.com / ² ncaa.com/news/basketball

³ www.daytonflyers.com / ⁴ The Journal Herald (Dayton), 27 Mar, 1967.



UD's 1967 team photo. Rich Fox (#12) is in the first row, second from left.

Bobby Joe Hooper (#42) and Donnie May (#21) are first row, second and third from right. Coach Donohoe is back row, far left.

CELEBRATING GIRL SCOUTS IN MASON

Girl Scout Week is March 6-12

Gina Burton Arens, Editor

Last month we explored the history of Boy Scouts in Mason, so we thought it only fair that during March we give the Girl Scouts equal time. My mother was my girl scout leader, and I continued the tradition with my daughter, being her troop leader for five years. This month we gratefully recognize the women who established Girl Scouts in Mason.

Girl Scout Week is celebrated each March and always includes Girl Scouts' birthday, March 12. On this day in 1912, Juliette Gordon Low officially registered the "Girl Guides" organization's first 18 members in Savannah, Georgia. Later the name was changed to Girl Scouts.

A meeting in 1911 with Sir Robert Baden-Powell, the founder of Boy Scouts, inspired Juliette Gordon Low to establish Girl Guides the following year. In a time of cultural change—but before women had the right to vote—Girl Guides emphasized inclusiveness, the outdoors, self-reliance, and service.

Girl Scouts began in Cincinnati in 1916 but it wasn't until 1939 that a troop was formed in Mason. Marian Walker started a "lone troop" that year made up of 10 girls interested in scouting. Being a "lone troop" meant that the Mason Girl Scouts had their headquarters in New York, rather than a regional center and therefore, while allowed to use established Girl Scout camps, like Camp Butterworth, they had to take their own equipment and rely on their own personnel.

It wasn't until 1957 that Mason came under the jurisdiction of the Middletown Area Girl Scout Council. In 1964 this council merged with Great Rivers Girl Scout Council in Cincinnati. By 2008 Girl Scouts of Western Ohio was formed by merging four councils, covering 32 counties in western Ohio and southeastern Indiana.

According to Marian, "It (the troop) became too much for one person", and the troop of senior girls (ages 14-17) folded. But all was not lost. Five years later, Marian along with Ruth Batsche, Ruth Gray, Lila Lantzer and Lucille Bercau came together and revived efforts to establish Girl Scouts in Mason.

Armed with nothing but sheer determination and their girl scout manuals, the ladies organized a troop of Brownies (age 8 & 9), Intermediates (10-11), Juniors (12-13) and Seniors (14-17). Daisies (K-1) were not organized until 1984. The ladies went to Cincinnati for training and leadership sessions and secured sponsors from the local churches and businesses.

In 1950 another longtime Mason resident joined the leadership ranks. Her name was Verna Neiderman. She began volunteering when her daughter, Sandra became a Brownie and followed a second daughter through scouting until 1960. She later served as Cookie and Calendar Chair from 1974 to 1978 when she finally stepped down.

Walker recalled smiling, "Back then things were a little different than they are now. We had cookie sales, but we made the cookies ourselves!"

During those beginning years, before Mason joined the Great Rivers Council, troops in the Mason and Kings Mills area formed their own area council. They called the group "Ma-King". Women who served as Neighborhood Chairman or representative to the group included Frances Gilbert, Joyce Christianson, Helen Shumaker, Nancy Shaffernocker, Mary Peck, Nancy Knepper and June Hasselbring. In 1963 the Ma-King group merged with the Great Rivers Council.

"A lot of people have worked to keep girl scouting alive in Mason," said Ruth Batsche, "I think it is an important activity in young people's lives."



Marian Walker, Girl Scout leader extraordinaire.

Marian Walker recalls, "It was guided entertainment at a time when entertainment wasn't as readily available as it is today. It provided valuable lessons for the girls, but most important to the scouts, it was fun!"

Certainly, Marian and all those early Girl Scout organizers would be pleased to know that Girl Scouts are still thriving in Mason. Currently there are 41 troops with 445 girl scouts and 184 adult volunteers in the city continuing the Girl Scouting tradition they started over 80 years ago.



Verna Niederman

Not only were Marian and Verna Girl Scout Leaders, but they were also Mason's librarians.

girlscouts.org
gswo.org

ANVI, GIRL SCOUT AMBASSADOR

Featured in their annual report: "A recent Girl Scout alum, designed and launched an educational campaign and curriculum dedicated to raising awareness of human trafficking and what efforts the community can take to combat it. Her curriculum is being integrated into social studies classes at Mason High School."



A CENTENARIAN'S LIFE

Happy 101st Birthday to Evelyn Palmer Thompson

Sally Sherman Caudill, Editor

On March 9, 2021, it suddenly became very loud on a normally quiet street in Lebanon. Police and fire vehicles were driving up and down the road, blaring their horns. Neighbors piled out of their houses, which added to the chaotic atmosphere. You would've thought something terrible happened. But the sirens were sounding, not for an emergency, but in honor of a wonderful individual. For it was on this day, 100 years ago that Evelyn Palmer Thompson was born.

Lebanon's mayor and the Warren County Commissioners signed an official proclamation marking the date as "Evelyn Thompson Day" in Warren County. The day was capped off with a surprise party on the front lawn of her condo. Not too shabby for the humble guest of honor.

Born Evelyn Reitz, she is the youngest daughter of Clarence and Florence (nee Apgar) Reitz. Along with her three older sisters, Evelyn was a very young girl when her family moved to Socialville. Her early education was in the one-room schoolhouses in Deerfield Township. She attended Lick School for 1st grade and then was moved to Western Row the year after that. All the children walked to school at that time, and in the winter, this would certainly not have been easy (or fun).

Evelyn has never been a stranger to work. She and her sisters worked hard at home. They always had a great, big garden that they tilled, weeded and tended so that the family always had food for survival. Their mother was a wonderful cook and baker and the sisters were a great help to her in the kitchen. She also taught all her girls to sew. Evelyn even has a teeny doll dress that she stitched at the age of three. For entertainment, the family stuck pretty close to home; Evelyn and her sisters played games and played with dolls. She fondly recalls attending the Farmer's Institute at the Opera House every year. She recalls that they had a very happy life growing up.

Evelyn attended Mason High School (now Central) with many of her friends from Western Row. This time she didn't have to walk as Mason had its first school bus. She still recalls that Mason's first school bus driver was Russell Scott.

At the age of 15, she and a group of friends joined the Mason Grange in 1936. One of these friends, Floyd Palmer, was a neighbor who belonged to the same 4H group. A few years later, Floyd proved to be something much more as he and Evelyn married the day before her 19th birthday. They were supposed to be married at the Mason Methodist Church on W. Church St., but a smallpox epidemic hit town and the Methodist minister contracted the disease. He and his family were quarantined for 30 days, so Evelyn and Floyd scrambled and were married in Cincinnati, by a family member who'd just finished his ministry. Evelyn, always her own woman, wore a black suit for her wedding; an outfit she still owns and lovingly has tucked away in her cedar chest.

After a few years, the Palmers rented a 182-acre farm at Hageman's Crossing. They lived here while setting up their dairy herd by buying day-old calves and raising them. Eleven years later, the farm's overseers, the Bundys, passed away. So Evelyn and Floyd bought a beautiful 126-acre farm outside of Harveysburg. It was here that they settled into their happy life and welcomed two children, Bill and Virginia.

In addition to the cows, their farm also had pigs, chickens, and sheep. In the mid-1970s, they sold off their dairy herd. Since they didn't have to milk their cows twice a day, every day, this allowed Evelyn and Floyd to take a very loooooonng overdue honeymoon in 1976 to Hawaii. I'll bet that trip was worth waiting 36 years for!

In 1986, after many happy years of marriage, Floyd lost his battle with cancer, and Evelyn continued to work their farm. Her children were grown and gone, so it was up to her to drive the tractors, hay bailers and to bushhog. She grew soybeans and hauled them to Sharonville in

the big trucks; sometimes making three trips a day. Many a winter's night, she and her devoted Collie dog would stay in the barn, all night, when the lambs and baby pigs were going to be born. She was most definitely a farmer, not a farmer's wife. She says "I still watch the weather and think of the farmers, very few of them anymore. It's sad."

While in her mid-70s, coyotes got to her sheep one night and killed six of them. Devastated, she hand dug a hole for every one of them. She recalled "I'd dig awhile and then cry awhile. That's when I decided it's time for me to slow down." She kept the farm but moved to a new condo development in Lebanon, built on an old alfalfa field.

Floyd had graduated from Mason High in 1934. After he died, the class alumni would always invite Evelyn to their reunions. Her busy life didn't allow her to attend until the 1996 get together. A week later, one of Floyd's classmates, a widower by the name of Newell Thompson (*a WWII/ D-Day hero featured in the June, 2020 newsletter*) phoned Evelyn. As they chatted, she thought he had just called to give her the date for the next reunion. But she was wrong. Fortune shined on Evelyn once again when Newell asked her out on a date.

Soon after, Newell's son, Ken was driving his dad to a WWII Veteran's Reunion in Lexington. Just as they got onto I-71, Newell suddenly announced that he was getting married. Evelyn recalls that Ken told her that he almost



Evelyn and Floyd Palmer, ca. 1975.

Evelyn Palmer Thompson, cont.

wrecked the car! Ken soon called his sister, Sue Jackson to give her a little heads-up/warning before the bombshell news. Sue let her father break it to her and then asked, "Dad, is she young?" He nodded and smiled, slyly telling her that Evelyn was five years younger. They all laugh about it now. Evelyn and Newell had six very happy years together until Newell's death in 2002. She says "the class of 1934 had two good men and I got them both!"

Evelyn continued to work her farm even after the move to Lebanon. She decided to finally sell it in 2003 at the age of 82. These days Evelyn stays busy with household chores, the Methodist Church and the Grange.

Living to be a centenarian inevitably results in a lot of loss and sadness. In addition to losing her parents, sisters and two husbands, Evelyn lost her daughter Virginia in 1994 and her son, Bill in 2010. There are no more class reunions to be organized by her good friend, Elizabeth Craig. Elizabeth passed away a month after their last reunion at the Houston. But with a twinkle in her eye, Evelyn counts her many blessings, past and present. She has a devoted grandson who lives nearby. She's very close with Ken and Sue, her stepchildren, and she has more friends than you can count, and a social calendar to rival a high school cheerleader.

Healthwise, she's standing strong these days and has certainly not lost her sense of humor. A couple of years ago at the age of 99, she had heart surgery to replace a valve. She asked her surgeon if she was going to get a hog or a cow valve. He explained that she was getting a cow valve. Her reply..."That's fine. I just needed to know if I was supposed to go "oink, oink, or moo!"

I asked her the question everyone really wants to know, "What is the secret to a long life?" She replied matter of factly, "Nothing. But I can tell you what I did. I worked hard. I married a farmer. We ate well. We raised our own garden with no chemicals. And, here I am. And I still work!" It seems that the simple things in life can make the biggest impact. Happy 101st birthday, Evelyn!

GRANGER OF THE YEAR

Evelyn has been an active Grange member for 86 years, ever since she joined the Mason Grange in 1936 at the age of 15. While she's not certain, she is most likely the longest-serving Grange member in Ohio (if not the country!). She has always stayed busy within the organization. She and Floyd, along with Elmer and Esther Landen, managed the square dances and the card games for many years. In 2010, she took over the peanut brittle extravaganza, from Lydia Zachman. This is a hugely successful fundraiser for the Grange



Above Evelyn and Newell Thompson at their 1996 wedding.
Left Evelyn, beautiful inside and out, December 6, 2021.

GOOD GENES

Evelyn's sister, Bertha, lived to the age of 100 + two months. Her sister Clara lived to be 100 - 2 months. Sister Irene lived to 85 and her mother lived to be 92.



In 2013, Evelyn was Grand Marshal for the Mason Heritage Festival parade.

every Christmas. Evelyn's the math whiz behind the scenes. She calculates and orders all the ingredients, and organizes all the help to make between 800 and 1200 lbs. of candy every year. Evelyn is currently the Master of the Mason Grange, and for the last 20 years has served as Deputy for the State Grange. It's no wonder that in 2018, she was bestowed with the organization's highest honor as the Ohio State Grange's "Granger of the Year."

Berry	35	Beans	10
Hot Sauce	25	Angled P.A.	70
App	19	Calery	06
Potatoes	20	Cherries	20
Soft	15	Syrup	29
Cods	10	Sweet Pot.	13
Crab	25	Apple Butter	10
Tomato	20	Chung	19
Pine Apple	38	Ann. Day W	29
Sheep Pen	20	Calery	19
Beans	18	P. Butter	15
Leaf of	19	Sugar Cey	09
Armons	09	Brown Sh	15
Beans	19	Ann. Day	29
Peas	19	Salt	05
Corn	20	Corn Taste	10
Yolo B	23	Pasta	10
Potato	29	Baked	16
Tomatoes	15	Cakes	20
Spices	20	Plums	25
Tea	17		
Starch (Am)	09		1198
" " Lamb	08		Tail - 5
Vinager	15		1903
Butter	31		
Soda	04		
Baking Powder	22		
Rice	05		
Crackers	15		
Salmon	20		
Cherries	18		
B.W. Soda	23		
Pine Puffs	05		
Japanned	13		
Chicken Gumbo	10		
Cheese	49		
Maple Syrup	24		
Woolfing	05		
Wheat	15		
Pine Wood	25		
Yolo Beans	18		
Yolo	13		
Yolo	25		

TO MARKET, TO MARKET

On March 8, 1940, soon after the Palmer's wedding, Evelyn began setting up housekeeping. One of her first stops was at a grocery located on W. Main, where the Two Cities parking lot is now located. In those days, you gave the grocer your list. He would rip off a large sheet of butcher paper, and as he moved throughout the store collecting the items, he would rewrite the list on the butcher paper along with the price. You thought CVS receipts were endless, this one is almost 3' long!

EMINENT DOMAIN AT CAESAR CREEK

In 1973, when the dam to build Caesar Creek Lake was going to be built, the government took 40 acres of Evelyn and Floyd Palmer's 126-acre farm by eminent domain. The Palmer's were told, "Your money's in escrow in Cincinnati. If you want it, take it. If you don't, take us to court." They took them to court. They were told they needed to "hire an attorney, and two professional appraisers and to plan on spending three days in court. And we will pick the jury." Despite all the roadblocks thrown at them, the Palmers did come out ahead. Evelyn says, "We were fortunate as so many of our neighbors lost their homes and their entire farms. They could've taken everything."



Interior of the Mason Food Market, owned by the Mount family; Dorothy, Vernon and son, Robert, are pictured. It was located where Pleasure Inn is today on E. Main St. In 1940, this market was very typical of grocery stores back in the day. It's no wonder the owner was the one who retrieved the items. It was such a tight space, customers probably would've brought the whole shelf of goods down!

1942 CHAMPS

As a follow up to a sidebar in last month's story on Al Voorhis, we wanted to highlight the formidable 1942 Mason High School baseball team. They dominated Warren County for many years. The team, shown here posing on the steps of Mason High (Central), was the Warren County Champion in 1942, 1943 and 1944. *Bat boy in front:* Toad Pickering *Middle:* Bob Gravitt, Jack Ross, Arnold Hill, Doc Walker, Bob Layman, Bob Middleton. *Back:* Al Voorhis, Ralph Spaeth, Everitt Bercaw, Tom Diehl, Red Cowan, Don Young, Coach Leo Ormont.



MON. APRIL 18 @ 7 PM

Suzanne Anderson Taylor

– With more than 30 years as a history teacher, Suzanne will present an interesting program based on her great grandfather's letters to his mother in Mason when he went west to California around 1900. He was an amateur photographer, so her presentation includes photos from his travels.

MON. MAY 16 @ 7 PM

Fatal Flight and a Nuclear Scare in Mason –

Sally Sherman Caudill will be giving an encore presentation of her in-depth look at the Air Force B-50 Bomber crash, which happened just north of Mason in 1950. Many were unable to attend the original presentation in September, due to high demand and space limitation. The Annex only holds 75 people, so reserve your seat(s) today. Call: 513-398-6750 or email: mason.oh.historical@gmail.com



JUNE (DATE IS TBD)

Annual Ice Cream Social and Baked Goods Auction Fundraiser.

The Board Report

Jay Meibers, President



How about the Bengals making it to the Super Bowl and almost winning it all! This shows that anything is possible if you keep trying. Should be fun watching the Bengals over the next few years with a premier quarterback in Joe Burrow leading the team. It has been a long time coming! Hopefully the Reds can get their act together as well if the season ever gets started.

We are very happy to report that Sherry Kuntz Williams has come on board as our new Curator as of Feb. 1. Slowly but surely, we have been filling most of our open Board positions and now the addition of Sherry as Curator only solidifies our capacity and capability to promote and preserve the history of Mason.

In this month's newsletter you will see our programs scheduled through June. In upcoming newsletters, we will provide additional 2022 program information as we

finalize dates and times. We hope to see many of you at the museum in 2022 especially since the Covid pandemic seems to be in our rear-view mirror!

There are a couple of exciting activities going on currently at the museum. First, Gina Arens will be working on behalf of MHS with the city of Mason and the chamber of commerce in planning 50th anniversary celebrations for both Kings Island & the Mason Golf Center. This is a great opportunity to partner with the city of Mason. Secondly, Amanda Stout from Mason & Deerfield Lifestyle magazine will be working with Perry Denehy to write an article for the April magazine. The article will focus on our museum as well as some other significant Mason History. Exciting stuff!

Thank you to all who have already sent in your 2022 membership dues. If you have not yet renewed your membership, please send your 2022 dues in as soon as possible.

Stay safe, stay well, and thank you for your tremendous support of MHS.

THIS MONTH IN MASON HISTORY

Excerpts from *Around Mason, Ohio: A Story*, Rose Marie Springman

1893: In March the town officials approved plans for a two-story building (town hall) and the clerk was instructed to advertise for bids in the Warren County Appeal, the Western Star and the Commercial Gazette. The next month the council decided that a lot on the northwest corner of Main and East Streets would be the best location for the new structure.

1904: On March 8 the local flour mill caught on fire and 23 of the 35 members of the Mason Fire Company responded, each was paid \$1 for his efforts by the village.

1906: On Tuesday morning, March 6, "Three sons of sunny Italy with two cinnamon bears afforded no end of amusement to the school children," the Warren County Appeal reported, the next Friday there was a dance for the community at the Opera House.

1914: In early March the speed limit signs in Mason were changed to read from 8 miles per hour to an allowable 15 miles per hour.

1933: Hazel Shumaker, who lived on a farm north of Mason, recorded in her diary on March 1: "They are having what is called a bank holiday starting today and do not know how long it will last. Some say 30 days and some 60 and others say it may last a year or longer. You cannot cash any check at the bank and can only draw 5% of what you have deposited each 60 days. In other words, the banks are holding our money unlawfully."

1953: The Rev. Warren C. Silven was elected the pastor of the Mason Presbyterian Church in March and he and his family moved to town soon afterward. The church had 255 members in its Sunday School with 20 parishioners teaching the classes in crowded quarters. By fall the need for a building extension was recognized and within 2½ years the new quarters were ready for use.

1972: Fifty years ago, Taft Broadcasting was finishing construction of Kings Island Amusement Park. Scheduled to open April 29-30, it covered 1600 acres with an approximate cost of \$30 million.

BUSINESS MEMBERS *and* PARTNERS

LIFETIME MEMBERS

Air Authority Heating and Air Conditioning
Al's Heating and Cooling
American Legion, Post 194
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 194
Brunk Excavating, Inc.
Chris Champ – State Farm agent
Jeff Hill Video
Mitsubishi Electric Automotive
People's First Savings Bank
R.E. Middleton Construction LLC
Senour-Flaherty Insurance
Shorten and Ryan Funeral Home
Voorhis, Slone, Welsh and Crossland, Architects
Walldogs – Mason Sign Company
Yost Pharmacy, Inc.

BUSINESS MEMBERS

Artis Senior Living of Mason
Heritage Awards
Lt. Robt. N. Mount V.F.W.
9622 Aux.
Mason Bowl, Inc.
Mason Health Care Center
Minuteman Press of Lebanon
Mueller Funeral Home
Terry's Lawn Care, Inc.
Warren County Historical Society
16 Lots Brewing Co.

PARTNERS

City of Mason
Culver's – Mason
LaRosa's – Mason
Mason City Schools
Mason Community Grange
No.1680
Mason-Deerfield Chamber
Mason Public Library

MASON HISTORICAL SOCIETY EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Mason Historical Society is excited to offer a \$1,000 educational scholarship to a graduating senior from Mason High School. It is another way for us to give back to our community for the next generation of Mason history-makers.

The scholarship will be used by the graduate to pursue post-secondary education in an accredited vocational/technical program, or at a two-year or four-year college/university. Applicants must be a resident of the City of Mason, and they or their family must be a member of the Mason Historical Society. Please see the application for more details. Applications are available in the guidance office at William Mason High School, at the Historical Society Museum and on our website. <https://www.masonhistoricalsociety.org>
Deadline for submittal is May 7, 2022.
Best of luck to the recipient on their educational journey.