



CONNECTIONS



November 2019

207 W. Church Street Mason, Ohio www.masonhistoricalsociety.org 513.398.6750

Open 1 to 4pm Thursday and Friday; First Saturday of Each Month 10 –1pm, and by appointment

Email — mason.oh.historical@gmail.com

Please Join Us For Our Annual Board Meeting & Elections November 12, 2019 at 7pm

Here's your chance to catch up on what's happening at the Alverta Green Museum.

Gain information, ask questions and make suggestions.

But most important, cast your vote and meet the Board Members you select to represent the Mason Historical Society.

We look forward to seeing everyone!



Annual Holiday Open House December 6, 2019 at 5pm

Once the City of Mason lights their Christmas tree,

Where better to warm up than the Alverta Green Museum's Holiday Party!!!

Bring the family and friends to see the museum at it's most festive time of the year.

Many of Santa's elves have been busy "decking out the halls" of the museum and baking lots of holiday treats!

This is an event you don't want to miss.



Memories of Mason Residents... PLANTING SEEDS ALONG THE WAY

Submitted by Susan Jayne Case
WMHS Class of 1961



The Mason Historical Society is a true blessing to our community and to those of us who no longer reside there a true 'CONNECTION'! Each month the newsletter arrives with news from home and keeps us plugged into the efforts and events of MHS. As it preserves artifacts and kindles memories of old Mason, it also is planting seeds! During the summer one of those seeds was planted in a newsletter article about the Rumpke kids' visit to the museum. Their picture and story of how much they enjoyed going back in time via the MHS, planted a seed in my mind! The treasures there are not just for those of us who have lived that past, but to be shared with the younger generations coming along behind!

So that seed that was planted did sprout! Thinking back to my parents move to the village of Mason in the early 50's. I remember walking to school from the Meadows, up the steps into the old Mason School and into Mrs. Blackmore's 3rd grade room! Realizing my youngest of five grandchildren was entering the 3rd grade, Charlotte was invited to share an adventure with her grandma! She has spent her young life growing up in her mother's hometown of Loveland. We needed to plan an afternoon exploring the town where her dad, grandparents and many ancestors called home!

Charlotte was given a picture of my 3rd grade class standing on the front steps of the old school. We squeezed a lot into that afternoon and we both loved every minute! First stop; Heritage Presbyterian Church where generations of the Case family worshiped, and Carl Sanker gave us a tour. Passing the newer schools and Dwire Field where her grandfather & uncle played on the first ever Mason football team and a few years later her dad, recalled the excitement of many Friday nights! Next stop the old school where we walked up those steps, thru the doors and right into my 3rd grade classroom. Heading down the hall to the gym brought back memories of basketball games and graduations. Let's head up to the Mason Historical Society and check out all the relics of our past with Jerry Mullins and Gay McCurley, our hosts! The display for the month focused on old athletic & cheerleading uniforms. Charlotte is a cheerleader and she was proud to pose for a picture in front of a display with her great-grandfather, Luther Case's picture on an early 1930's basketball team. She was amazed as she explored each room at MHS! Time for lunch at our historic Town Hall and Two Cities Pizza. Off we headed to visit the homes where her grandparents grew up in the Meadows and on Fourth Ave.

The seed was taking root as we pondered our last stops. The historic buildings, yes, but the people along the way they are the icing on our cake! So, we rounded the corner from Fourth and popped in on Marilyn and Noble Johnston. Charlotte was greeted by life-time Mason residents, just a step ahead of her grandparents! We had a wonderful visit and Charlotte even volunteered to do her half-time cheer routine. A quick stop at the Whippy Dip and then by a request from Charlotte a visit to Rose Hill Cemetery to check out the headstones of her 'ancestors'. Perhaps each of us will continue to plant seeds along our way, share a day and make a difference!!! Charlotte and I send out sincere and warm thank yous to all who made our adventure a truly memorable day!!!



Note: I hope this article inspires the readers to write something for "Connections". If you have something you would like to contribute please send it to Denise Landise: deniselandise@yahoo.com or call me, 513-850-3780. To ensure the NL goes out in a timely manner I do use a deadline, the next deadline will be November 15th. I know someone out there has a holiday story to share about Mason!

Memories of the Big Screen *Written by: Jay Meibers*

In the late 1960's a special treat on a hot summer night in Mason was heading to the Highway 42 Drive-in with Mom & Dad and a few of my older brothers to watch a couple of feature films. I was only 7 or 8 years old at the time and it was a big thrill when we went to the Drive-In. Mom would make a big bag of popcorn and put some Big K sodas in a cooler to enjoy during the movies. I can remember the line of cars backed up all the way onto Route 42 waiting to pull into the entrance of the Drive-In which was a gravel lane stretching about 50 yards until you arrived at the entrance booth to pay. As you pulled up to the entrance, you could see the massive backside of the Drive-In screen. After paying, we would pass the intimidating screen to find a parking spot within the many rows and spaces available. Dad would slowly drive down a gravel row to scope out the best spot available to watch the movies and have room for lawn chairs to be staged next to our car. Careful not to run into a speaker post, Dad would methodically work his way to ensure we were on the correct side of the grass hump in the center of the parking spot so the car was facing up towards the screen. Once we pulled into our parking spot, Mom would partially roll down the passenger side window and mount the speaker to the window. She would turn on the speaker and you could hear that beautiful staticky sound that only the Highway 42 Drive-In could provide. Our car did not have air conditioning and would quickly heat up, so my brothers and I pulled out the lawn chairs to sit next to the car. We waited patiently for darkness to take over and for the first movie to begin. It wasn't long before the mosquito's started coming in for the kill, but we toughed it out as long as we could knowing that going back in the car was asking for a serious sweat bath. The first movie I remember seeing at the Highway 42 Drive-In was "Fantastic Voyage". My brothers were very excited to see Raquel Welch but at the time I was not sure why. A few years later it became clear to me!

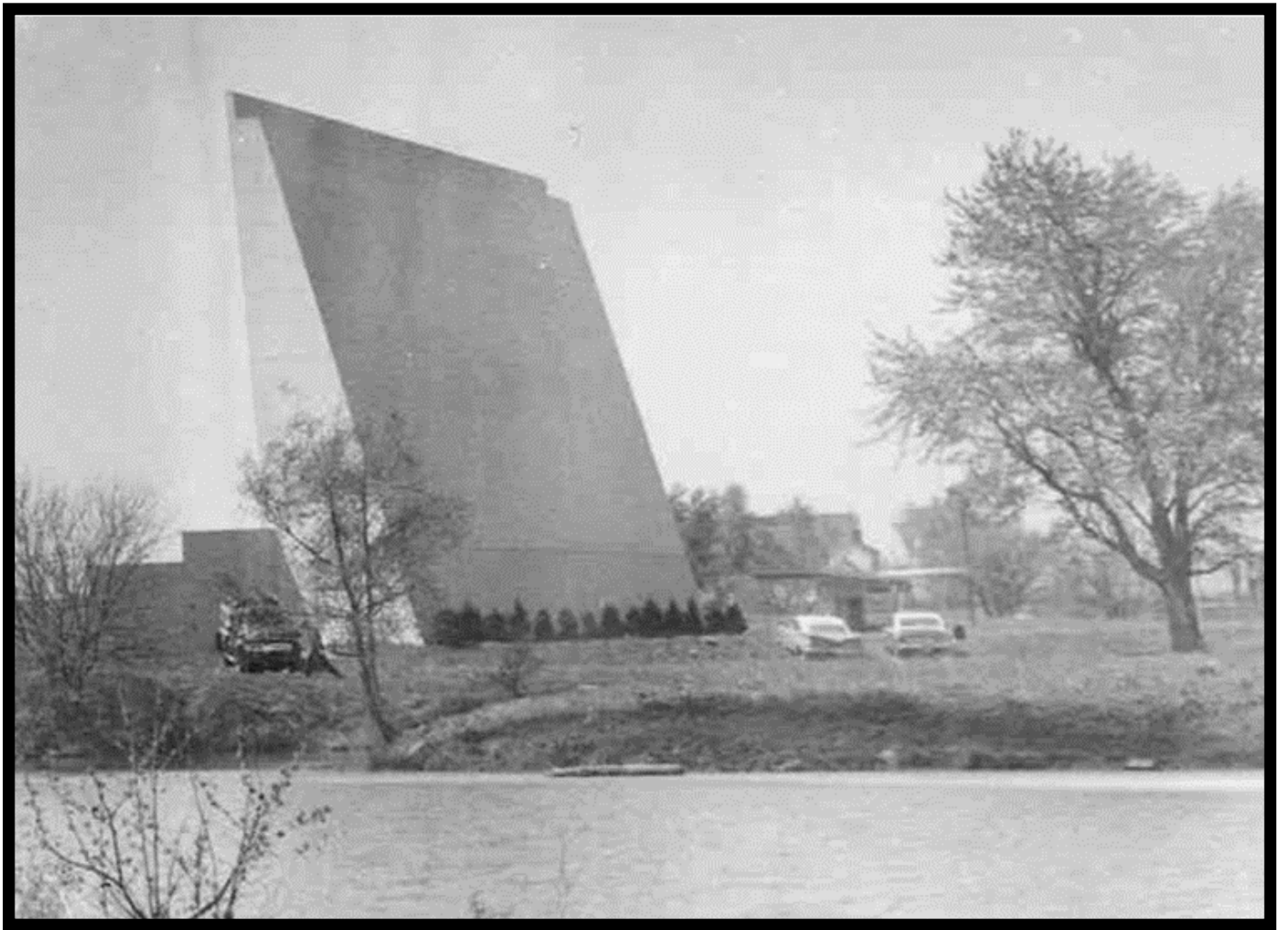
At intermission, as the dancing popcorn, pop, hot dogs & hamburgers danced across the screen, we headed to the refreshment building. I was overwhelmed with the smorgasbord of food and sugary sweets available to purchase and the addicting smell and sound of fresh popcorn popping. After a long wait, we gathered our snacks, paid the cashier and quickly started our return to see the second movie. Heading back to our car I noticed several vehicles parked way in the back row of the Drive-In with many open rows ahead of them. I asked my brothers why people would park so far away from the screen if they could park closer? They looked at me and smiled then began to laugh without saying a word. A few years later the reason for the back-row parking became clear to me as well! We got back in our lawn chairs, swatted mosquitoes and wolfed down the snacks. Halfway into the second movie Mom & Dad usually had enough and we would head back home typically on a sugar high.

My brother Chris talked about the time in the early to mid-1970's when many high schoolers would try to sneak into the Highway 42 Drive-In by hiding in the trunk. Ownership soon became aware of this and started checking trunks on a case by case basis, especially when the lone person in the vehicle was a young driver (Duh). Many embarrassed high school kids were forced to get out of the trunk with many vehicles in line behind them who could possibly recognize them and inform their parents. One time, my brother Chris was in the trunk with a few other school mates with many others seated inside an older vehicle when they got in the long line for the entrance of the Drive-In. The gas fumes were so bad in the trunk that by the time they got to the entrance booth they were beating on the trunk to get out. After a good scolding from the owner they left and headed back into town for more misadventures.

Highway 42 Drive-In was opened in 1961 until it ceased operations in 1980. It was owned and

operated by Mr. Stallings and was located near the current Wall to Wall soccer facility on US 42 South of town. We would love to have copies for the museum if anyone has pictures of the Highway 42 Drive-In. I hope you enjoyed these memories and I'm sure many of you have experiences to remember as well!





The entrance for the Drive-In was located behind the cars in this picture. US 42 is not shown but would be on the right about 50 yards from the entrance.

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WE ARE THE CHILDREN OF THE FABULOUS 50'S ...

Submitted By Ron Macy

Murgatroyd! Do you remember that word? Would you believe the spell-checker did not recognize the word Murgatroyd? Heavens to Murgatroyd!

The other day a not so elderly (I'd say 75) lady said something to her son about driving a Jalopy; and he looked at her quizzically and said, "What the heck is a Jalopy?" He had never heard of the word jalopy! She knew she was old ... But not that old.

Well, I hope you are Hunky Dory after you read this and chuckle.

About a month ago, I illuminated some old expressions that have become obsolete because of the inexorable march of technology. These phrases included: Don't touch that dial, Carbon copy, You sound like a broken record, and Hung out to dry.

Back in the olden days we had a lot of moxie. We'd put on our best bib and tucker, to straighten up and fly right.

Heavens to Betsy! Gee willikers! Jumping Jehosaphat! Holy Moley!

We were in like Flynn and living the life of Riley; and even a regular guy couldn't accuse us of being a knucklehead, a nincompoop or a pill. Not for all the tea in China!

Back in the olden days, life used to be swell, but when's the last time anything was swell? Swell has gone the way of beehives, pageboys and the D.A.; of spats, knickers, fedoras, poodle skirts, saddle shoes, and pedal pushers. Oh, my aching back! Kilroy was here, but he isn't anymore.

We wake up from what surely has been just a short nap, and before we can say, "Well, I'll be a monkey's uncle!" Or, "This is a fine kettle of fish!" We discover that the words we grew up with, the words that seemed omnipresent, as oxygen, have vanished with scarcely a notice from our tongues and our pens and our keyboards.

Poof, go the words of our youth, the words we've left behind. We blink, and they're gone. Where have all those great phrases gone?

Long gone: Pshaw, the milkman did it. Hey! It's your nickel. Don't forget to pull the chain. Knee high to a grasshopper. Well, Fiddlesticks! Going like sixty. I'll see you in the funny papers. Don't take any wooden nickels. Wake up and smell the roses.

It turns out there are more of these lost words and expressions than Carter has liver pills. This can be disturbing stuff!

(Carter's Little Liver Pills are gone too!)

Leaves us to wonder where Superman will find a phone booth...
See ya later, alligator! Okeydokey.



8th Annual Cemetery Walk Is A Hit!

Submitted By Perry Denehy

Our rainy skies cleared for a fabulous sunset during the Society's eighth annual Rose Hill Cemetery Walk. Over 160 guests were entertained and informed by Mason Community Players portraying significant community members of the past. The emcee of the evening was former Rose Hill sexton Mr. John Liming. He spoke of the tranquil beauty of this sacred ground. Highlighted this year was a return performance of Rebecca McClung's murder in her own home. William Mason spoke of his early travels through fertile rolling land along the Muddy Creek where he eventually settled following the War of 1812. A young Masonite, Lewis Albert Hulse recounted his march from Ohio to Tennessee as a member of the Ohio Volunteers Infantry. There he suffered mortal wounds at the Battle of Stones River at the age of 18. William Van Fossen was elected to four terms as Mayor in the mid-19th century. He promised better roads with less congestion for all traveling in Mason.

Mrs. Evelyn Wilkerson-Hatfield inspired many young students in the areas of vocal and instrumental music. The town and school benefited from many plays and concerts under her leadership. Tommy Baysore followed in his father's footsteps to lead the Mason Fire Department. He battled the historic East Side fire of 1930 when 18 buildings and homes were destroyed. Coach "Bub" Dwire highlighted his time at Mason HS as a student-athlete, coach, and athletic director. Truly, once a Comet, always a Comet. There were plenty of mouths in Mason made better by the skillful care of Dr. Clyde Erbeck DDS. Payment could be made in cash, pies, chickens or an IOU. Mrs. Francis Gilbert was known as a dedicated mother, businesswoman and volunteer with several organizations. Who could resist her salesmanship of peanut brittle or quilt raffle tickets?

We hope that everyone enjoyed the evening and will spread the word for others to attend next year's presentation. Thanks to Mark Steiner, Rose Hill Superintendent, the Deerfield Township Administration, the actors from the Mason Community Players led by;

Mary Beth Benken-Reisenberg, Jeff Hill Videography and the Historical Society Board Members and volunteers.



The weather remained in our favor allowing all to sit outside and enjoy the event. The Mason Community Players entertained the large crowd with their portrayals of Mason residents from the past. It was a successful and enjoyable evening!



Reunion of Mason High School Class of 1964

Submitted by Marcia Knight Simons

Mason High School class of 1964 held their 55th class reunion on Saturday, October 5th, 2019 at the Mason Golf and Tennis Center. Of the 87 original graduates, 30 were in attendance plus 22 invited guests. Twenty-seven class mates are deceased. Our guest of honor was Mr. Emerson Brown. Mr. Brown came to Mason Schools as an 8th grader and in 1957, a high school math teacher. He later became the principal at the high school and remained there until his departure in 1968. We celebrated Mr. Brown's 90th birthday with a small cake and a special thanks for coming to our class reunion. Many friendships were renewed among our classmates and a few "tall tales" were retold. Just who did throw that smoke bomb in the hotel room on our class trip to New York? As the night drew to a close, plans were being made for our 60th class reunion. Hope to see you all there in just 5 short years!



Decorate Your Museum....

This year we invite all members to be part of "decking" out the halls of the Alverta Green Museum for the holiday season. Please join us Tuesday November 19th at 6:30pm to "Deck the Hall's" of the Alverta Green Museum. This is a chance to see friends, make new friends and be part of making our museum the most festive place to see in Mason this season! We have several trees, including one that stands 9 feet tall! There are many old ornaments and decorations including garland, figurines and an old Santa Claus suit.

We have many rooms to decorate, including everyone's favorite, the children's room. There are no special requirements needed, just a desire to have fun, decorate and enjoy friends and food. We will provide pizza to sustain everyone's energy.

If you plan on attending please respond by Nov. 23 leaving a message @ 513-398-6750 or send an email to Sue Erbeck Rapp: sueerbeckrapp@gmail.com letting us know how many people will be attending with you.

Condolences

The Mason Historical Society would like to offer it's condolences to the family and friends of Mary Lou Shields who passed on October 7, 2019 and John Meyers, resident of Poulsbo, Washington.



Note From the Editor

Remember this is your newsletter. If you have any contributions or suggestions for making the newsletter better, I'm easy to reach.

Contact me at: 513-398-6750

www.mason.oh.historical@gmail.com

513-850-3780

deniselandise@yahoo.com

Remember the things that happen today, no matter how small, are tomorrow's history.

Thank you.

Denise



2020 MEMBERSHIP FORM ... MASON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Become a NEW member of the Mason Historical Society or RENEW you membership TODAY!
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The Mason Historical Society is a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization, as defined under the Internal Revenue Code.
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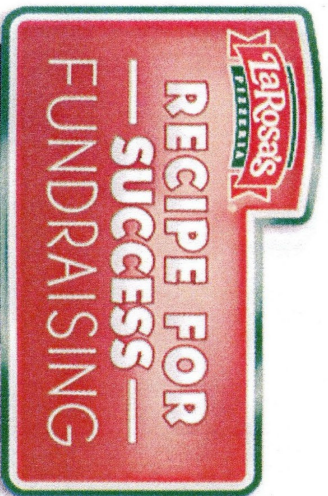
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Forms- Member/brick 2020



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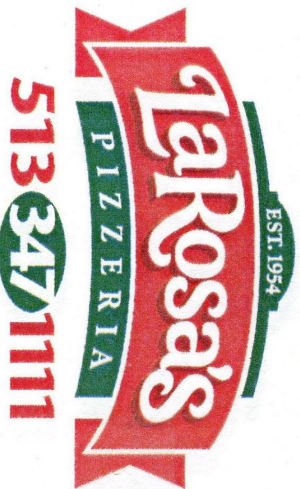


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2019

Events Reminder

If You Have Not Already Done So

Please Sign Up At Kroger Community Rewards
Mason Historical Society Number Rewards #HE524

November 2nd, Saturday we will be open 10am-1pm
November 12th, Annual Board meeting & elections
@ the Alverta Green Museum beginning at 7pm
November 19th, Holiday Decorating Party, 6:30pm
@ the Alverta Green Museum. Pizza provided.
Yoga, November 4, 11, 18 & 25 @7pm
Dec. 6th, Holiday Open House
@ Alverta Green Museum beginning at 5pm

The Veteran's Display is now available to be seen at
the Alverta Green Museum through November 8th.

We love to help the neighborhoods we serve!

BUSINESS MEMBERS AND PARTNERS

LIFETIME MEMBERS

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Minuteman Press of Lebanon — **2019**
Mueller Funeral Home—**2019—New**
Terry's Lawn Care, Inc. **2019 — GOLD**
Warren County Historical Society
16 LOTS Brewing Co.-**2019 — New**
Chris Champ—STATE FARM AGENT—**NEW**

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