Newsletter of the
Mason Historical Society
and Alverta Green Museum
Mason, Ohio
February 2024

MASON'S CANNERY ROW

Susan A. Chace, Guest Contributor

Author's note: A pair of century-old, weathered-green barns stand just north of Mason's downtown plaza, sandwiched between Buerkle Drive, the railroad tracks and Concord Crossing, surrounded by parked campers, boats and vehicles. Few people realize this was once the largest industrial employer in Mason. This is the story of one of Mason's oldest, continuously-operating companies, which was founded by my grandfather.

By 1910, William R. Chace had built a successful food and merchandise brokerage based in Cincinnati. Traveling by horse and buggy or train, he supplied canned goods, molasses, sugar, flour, coffee, tea, tobacco and other products to merchants and wholesalers throughout southwestern Ohio, northern Kentucky, and SE Indiana.

One of those customers was Bernard H. "Barney" Kroger. Always on the lookout for a supplier who could ensure an adequate quantity of quality products for his ever-expanding Kroger Grocery & Baking Co., Barney encouraged Will to invest in the booming canning industry.

Chace looked north to Warren County, a great corn-producing region that already boasted eight canneries. Chace found seven more investors willing to build another, this time in Mason.

On Feb. 24, 1911, the Mason Canning Company was incorporated. Five days later, the eight investors met in the director's office of Mason Bank and put up $12,000 at $100 per share to buy land and build a factory to process sweet corn and other vegetables.

Chace and Newton L. Bunnell each owned a third of the new company. Bunnell was an experienced canner from a longtime Warren County farming family. He already had connections with the Tom Corwin Cannery in Lebanon and another in Leesburg.

Charles Carroll Eulass, cashier of the Lebanon National Bank, owned about 20% of the company. Eulass would become the first president of Lebanon Citizens National Bank in 1925.

L-R W.R. Chace, and his sons, Jim, Ben and John, walk down the Atlantic City boardwalk when a national canning conference was in town, ca. 1948.

The remaining shares went to Marion C. Wikoff, a Mason grocer (his Main Street store was located where Two Cities Pizza parking lot is today); William H. Williamson, a longtime Deerfield Township trustee; Wallace E. Scott, a Mason area farmer, president of the First National Bank and charter member of the People's Building Loan and Savings Co.; and George S. Tetrick, a Mason builder who had served in a variety of local government positions. O.H. Woodard, who was hired as the canning factory's first superintendent, received 3 shares in the company.

Wagons loaded with sweet corn, waiting to be weighed on the scales outside the Mason cannery, ca. 1913

story continues on next page

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 promote and preserve the history and heritage of Mason.

TO SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER

Join the Mason Historical Society at Masonhistoricalsociety.org
Call: 513-398-6750
Email: mason.oh.historical@gmail.com

MUSEUM HOURS

The Museum is open from 2-5 pm every Thursday, and by appointment.

Mason Canning Co., cont.

The canning factory was built on 6.79 acres of John Scull's large farm just north of the village of Mason, pop. 629 in 1900. The site offered water, a railroad, seasonal labor from the village, and proximity to hundreds of farms throughout Warren, eastern Butler and northern Hamilton counties.

The company contracted with these farmers to produce and deliver crops to the cannery in Mason. The cannery guaranteed the farmers a price for their crops, usually set at the beginning of the growing season, and frequently supplied the seed to ensure a consistent quality.

The Mason Canning Company quickly proved successful. Eulass, told the *Warren County Appeal* that the Mason Canning Company had injected more than $50,000 *($1.6 million in today's dollars)* into the Mason and area economies in the first year of operation. Besides the labor and materials necessary to build and outfit the cannery, the company paid area farmers to grow 500 acres of corn and employed 100 people to pack 30,000 cases of corn during the 1911 canning season.

The Mason Canning Company packed primarily sweet corn and tomatoes under its own brands and for a variety of private food company and store labels, including Kroger, Flach Bros. and Burke groceries. In its earliest years, the cannery also processed hominy, beans, sauerkraut, rhubarb, pumpkin, and pork & beans.

The leftover corn stalks, husks, and cobs provided another source of revenue for the company. Area farmers bought the leftovers, known as ensilage, to feed their dairy cows and livestock.

Excellent harvests and increasing demand for canned goods in the decade before World War I fueled expansion of the Mason cannery operation. The company built a railroad siding and two warehouses for packing materials and equipment. In 1916, the company increased its capital stock to $50,000 to pay for more improvements, including a large barn for farm implements and livestock. Will Chace's brothers, Ernest M. Chace and Norman B. Chace, as well as Cincinnati food broker Ben Bruns, joined the list of company shareholders.

About this time, Will Chace bought acreage north and west of the Mason Canning Company property (now Concord Crossing). Ernest Chace bought 450 acres in Turtlecreek Township, about three miles north of Mason. The Chace brothers hired farmers to raise crops for the cannery and fatten a few cattle and hogs for the region's meat markets.

Suddenly, with the end of World War I, came a surplus of canned goods. Company directors agreed to shutter the canning factory for the 1920, 1921 and 1922 seasons. There was no demand for its products. Directors agreed to lease the Mason canning operation to The Kroger Grocery & Baking Company for one or two seasons and allow Will Chace to feed cattle at the cannery – as long as there was no expense to the Mason Canning Company.

Creation of a livestock feedlot on what was then the outskirts of Mason proved to be problematic as the village grew *(see sidebar)*, but diversifying helped keep the Mason Canning Company in business as markets changed.

The company reopened its cannery in 1923 and once again hired more than a hundred men, women and teenagers for the labor-intensive job of processing and preserving canned goods. Crops had to be unloaded. Machines could husk, trim, and cut kernels from ears of corn, but other crops, such as tomatoes, required more hand processing. Women – former employees confirmed it was always women – sat under a canopy outside the cannery building on ladderback chairs sorting and peeling scalding hot tomatoes by hand before the tomatoes were sent back into the cannery for processing.

Noble Johnston of Mason, who worked at the cannery as a teenager and young man in the 1930s through 1950s, recalled the backbreaking work of unloading a railcar full of coal for the steam-driven factory's boiler. (This was a job so onerous that Will Chace's son, Bob, designed and built a coal conveyor just so he could stop doing it.)

Noble also likes to tell a story about working on the can labeling line. After completing one order, workers switched to a different label before beginning the next. The woman standing next to Noble saw the next label to be used and exclaimed: "This is the only kind of corn I buy! It's the best." Noble chuckled. The canned corn was made with the exact same recipe as the order they had just finished.

Cannery jobs could be hard and potentially dangerous, but Mason residents welcomed the work.

"It was the way a lot of people in town made extra money," said Marian Whited Chace, who along with her mother and brothers worked in the Mason factory every canning season. Marian recalled the monotony of standing and folding cardboard into boxes for finished canned goods. Eight hours every day in front of a revolving platform that

View of the cannery looking east from the North Forest Avenue entrance, ca. 1952.

Mason Canning Co., cont.

delivered cardboard flats to be folded. But then, she also met her future husband at the cannery. She and Bob Chace would be married for more than 60 years, so it couldn't have been all bad.

All of Will Chace's sons – Ben, Bob, John, Bill and Jim – worked at the cannery before and after World War II. Ben, who became a fireman for the B&O Railroad, operated the steam boiler. Bob, who was a mechanical engineer (and later Mason's first village administrator) helped younger brother Jim keep the equipment operating. John signed farmers to contracts. Bill, a dual graduate of the University of Cincinnati's business and law schools, manned the scale house, kept the payroll and helped with administration of the W.R. Chace & Company brokerage and cannery businesses.

Despite a major upgrade of cannery equipment after Will's sons returned from their Navy service in World War II, the Mason canning factory packed its last can of corn in 1952. Having survived the economic upheavals of the Great Depression and two world wars, Mason's canning factory would not survive the increasing popularity of frozen foods in the 1940s and 1950s.

The Mason Canning Company did continue, but was under the sole ownership of the Chace family. The company reorganized in 1955 and served as something of a business incubator in Mason, leasing its buildings and acreage to other businesses. The Mason Canning Company helped birth several businesses including manufacturers of ice vending machines, backhoes, and livestock feed, as well as a boat/RV/vehicle storage operation that exists to this day. But that's a story for another time.

The third generation of the Chace family decided to sell the property and dissolve the Mason Canning Company in Feb, 2021, nearly 110 years to the day of its incorporation.

Aerial view to the east of the cannery, ca. 1949, likely taken by John Chace while in the Taylorcraft piloted by one of his brothers, Bob or Jim. The flight markings on the warehouse roof didn't just serve the flying Chace brothers; other pilots used the cannery as a visual reference. The warehouses burned down in 1962. Mason Central is seen at top center.

CANNERY CONTROVERSY

Generally, the Mason Canning Company was seen as a good neighbor to the village of Mason. The company's cannery supplied hundreds of jobs. Co-owner, William R. Chace, helped schools get coal for heat during a World War I shortage. The company even gave the village access to its water supply when the village's own supply ran low.

But the company's creation of a livestock feedlot at its cannery on the north edge of Mason proved to be increasingly problematic. As early as 1916, village residents complained of foul smells emanating from the cannery property. Rotting tomato skins were one thing. Manure from an increasing number of cattle and hogs was quite another.

By 1936, Mason residents had had enough and took their concerns – repeatedly – to the village council. Ed Whited, whose family lived on a farm at the intersection of North Street and North Section Line (Mason Oaks Townhomes today), complained that the creek running through his property had become "black, murky, foul and putrid" from the Mason Canning Company runoff. G.R. Johnson on East Main Street said he could no longer work in his garden because the "creek was white and moldy, and it bred mosquito swarms."

After several months of meetings with village, county and state health officials, the Mason Canning Company agreed to fix the problem. First, Company co-owner, Ernest Chace, an engineer who had designed the mechanical systems for the Peters Cartridge Company in Kings Mills, created a system of settling tanks to handle runoff from the feedlot. Second, the company would reduce the size of the herd.

Just as the Great Depression hit, Will Chace had purchased cattle to fatten over the winter months at the cannery and sell to the region's meat markets in the spring. It was a good way to keep cash flowing – at least until the bottom dropped out of the cattle market in 1937. Will found himself stuck with 700 head of cattle, at least half of them kept at the Mason cannery feedlot, that he couldn't afford to sell.

When the cattle finally were sold in 1940, Will had lost almost $300,000, according to his sons, Bob and John Chace. But the residents of Mason no longer had to suffer with the stench and pollution.

Editor's note: Susan has done an amazing job with her research and she says it has only just begun… "A lot of characters wandered through that place (over its many years), not the least of which were the Chaces themselves. No one has gone through all the 110 years of records yet." There are at least 50 more file boxes for Susan to examine. Mason history that is yet to be discovered...

Mason Canning Company and Chace family records.
The Kroger Story, A Century of Innovation, George Laycock. 1983.
"Our Corn Canneries," *Warren County, Ohio and Beyond,* Dallas Bogan, 2004.
Around Mason, Ohio: A Story, Rosemarie Springman, 1982.
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Residents of Rose Hill

STUMPIN' AROUND THE CEMETERY

Helen Fox, Contributor

Rose Hill Cemetery is a gem in our area and offers a park-like setting in which to pay respect to those buried here as well as a place to learn the history of our area and the greater world at large. "Residents of Rose Hill" will be a regular feature of the newsletter where we'll explore some of the cemetery's inhabitants and points of interest.

Have you ever noticed that there are some gravesite markers in Rose Hill that resemble tree stumps, trunks or parts of trees? Generally called tree stones, these markers tend to surprise, even delight us a bit because they're not what we typically expect to see. We are fortunate that Rose Hill Cemetery is home to several tree motif memorial sites.

These nature-themed memorials usually mark burials from 1880s through the 1930s. The use of a tree motif emerged during the tail end of the Victorian period when cemeteries were increasingly becoming retreats for the living. People wanted to focus more on the deceased's life and those left behind. In addition, society members in the late 1800s felt nostalgic about nature and the outdoors as industrialization surged and contributed to the loss of trees. People veered away from selecting more formal mausoleum sites that had been popular towards these rustic tree markers.

Additionally, a fraternal organization that originated towards the end of the 19th century, now known as the Woodmen of the World, used a tree symbol for its members' gravestones. Whether driven by Victorian fashion or Woodmen membership, tree stones were so popular that there was even a name for this trend - the Rural Cemetery Movement. Further proof of its popularity, the Chicago Sears and Roebuck catalog offered these "sturdy, grand trunk of a tree" monuments for sale in three sizes and in any lettering desired!

The meaning of a tree symbol may be derived from religious or secular traditions and represents many ideals including power, strength, and knowledge, as well as both humanity and eternity. The stump itself symbolizes a life cut short.

Tree stones vary in size and height from just a few inches high, to soaring 10 to 12 feet high tree trunks. Most have intricately carved detailing at the base. Rose Hill has many examples of fern carvings including the ferns that are carved at the base of Frank Black and Howard L Black's tree stones. (Photos 1 and 2) Ferns symbolize sincerity. Their appearance can also stand for humility because ferns, which like to grow in the shade, are not actively seeking the sun for themselves.

Often tree branches were broken off to show that a family member had died. Tops were notched in certain ways and bark appeared to be peeled back or cut off to reveal the epitaph of those buried there. (Photo 1) Because tree stones are uniquely three dimensional it allowed stone masons greater freedom for designs and carvings to elaborate on the deceased's life. A Rose Hill example of this is the following inscription on Laura Willa Cox's stone: *Willa's Last Words on Earth – Beautiful Home Angels Abound* (Photo 3). Willa, also called Willie, was a party planner and literary society member who was regularly mentioned in the newspaper columns. Another artistic design is the open pages of the book carved into the tree trunk of Willa's stone, where her aunt, Elizabeth White Beachey, and Willa's mother and stepfather, Sarah White Cox Hornby and Charles B Hornby are buried (Photo 3).

The family plots who have these unique markers in Rose Hill have the surnames Black, White, Dallman and Bunnell. They are located at the northwestern end of the cemetery in Section 6. Among others, Rose Hill tree stones include Ralph E, the seven-year-old son of Frank and Sarah Black, who lived to be 79 and 73, respectively, and the 19-year-old Civil War soldier George M. White, who like so many others, lied about his age to enlist at age 17. Several other Rose Hill residents ranging in between those ages are honored at Rose Hill with tree stones. No matter the age granted, most of us agree on the brevity of life.

The next time you're stumpin' in Rose Hill or other cemeteries, take special note of any graves with tree motifs. Appreciate the unique craftsmanship and the nod to our natural world.

wikipedia / wcgs.ohio.org
funeralhelpcenter.com /
gravelyspeaking.com / ancestry
All photos by author

THE ICEMAN COMETH

Written by Les Spaeth, Jr., *edited by Sally Sherman Caudill*

I already knew of the remarkable industriousness of the Spaeth "boys," after interviewing Les' younger brother, Ralph Spaeth for the Dec. 2023 newsletter. This story is just one more example of their incredible work ethic. In his later years, Les wrote down some of his memories to share with his family. Many thanks to the Spaeth family for sharing this story with us.

The Ice House was located in a garage behind the home of Les, Sr. and Allie Spaeth at 306 East Main Street. The business was owned by brothers, Leslie and Vern Spaeth. They also owned the Spaeth Bros. Trucking, which did general hauling all around the Mason area. General hauling meant they hauled everything from livestock to market, grain to the mill, household furniture, tomatoes and corn from fields to the cannery, items in and out of the King Powder Co., and the steel for the large WLW tower, from railroad depot to the construction site.

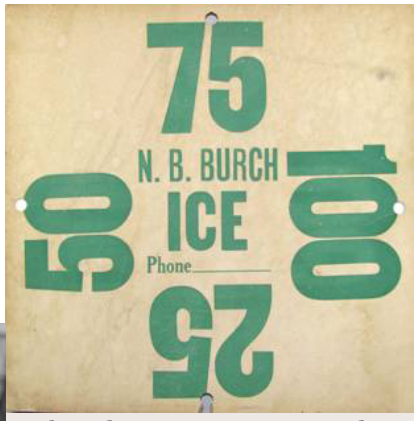
The Ice House was constructed of wood frame; the walls and roof were over one-foot thick and filled with sawdust. The inside walls and ceiling were tongue and groove boards to make a good seal. The wood was heavily varnished to protect it from moisture. The door and frame were notched so they met at three places, and each had rubber stripping to be sure it sealed tight. We never, never left the door open. Each time you entered you shut the door immediately behind you.

How did they keep the ice house cold to keep the ice from melting, when there was no refrigeration? They purposely melted some ice to keep the remainder cold. In the building was a galvanized tank that was open on top and hung on the wall near the ceiling. Chips of ice were placed in this tank and sprinkled with salt. The salt melted the chipped ice and by that evaporation cooled the remainder of the building. Remember how we used to make homemade ice cream? The salt melting the ice in the outer tub, would freeze the cream mixture in the inner container. Cooling the ice house was the same principle.

The ice was made in Lockland, Ohio. Each block of ice weighed 300 pounds, and was scored to outline the different-sized smaller portions, such as 100, 50, and 25 pound pieces.

One day while splitting a block out of the 300-pound piece, I thought I could hit the scored lines better with the pick if I backed up to the block, bent over, and swung the pick between my legs. One swing hit into the calf of my leg. I could not extract the pick while standing and had to sit down, cross my legs and pull it out. Did it hurt? Well, yes, but when Dr. Johnson decided it should be cleaned out with an antiseptic, my "WOW" made the hair on the back of my head stand up!
Yee-ikes! The hair on the back of my head stood up just reading this!!

All of us Spaeth boys learned to drive while very young, on the back streets of Mason, driving the ice trucks. We watched the windows in each house for an ice sign. The signs were marked for different-sized pieces on each of the four edges (25, 50, 75, 100). Whichever number was on top, was the size piece they wanted. The men would chip out the proper size, carry it into the home and place it in their ice box. If no one was home, the money would be on the box or nearby. If the amount was more than the charge, change was left. *(In the 1930s, a 100# ice block was approx. 25¢.)* Very few doors were ever locked in Mason in those days. On a hot summer day, the ice wagon was a favorite wagon for the kids in town. They would follow the ice trucks hoping to get a small chip of ice. *(And who ever said that there wasn't anything for kids to do in Mason back in those days…)*



above home ice sign example, ca. 1920

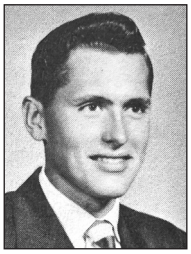
left Ice deliveryman "shouldering" his wares, ca. 1930

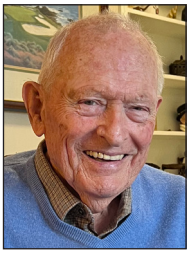
The Kroger store on the corner of Main and East Street was managed by Don Wolfe's father "Barney." It had a large walk-in meat box that required a large amount of ice. The ice was stored in the upper part of the box, requiring the men to carry 100-pound blocks on their shoulder up 4 steps. This achievement separated the men from the boys.

Les Spaeth, Jr., who passed away at age 92 in 2017, was a WWII veteran, and a dedicated public servant for over 50 years. He was Mason village council president in the 1950s and 60s; served 6 terms as Warren Cty. Auditor (1963-87); served on the Warren County Board of Elections; and was a charter member of the Mason Vol. Fire Dept. That's just to name a few of his accomplishments.

Les Spaeth, Jr. and his wife, Ellen, at the Historical Society Ice Cream Social in 2012.

IN MEMORIAM





We were profoundly saddened to hear of the passing of Dr. Frank H. Batsche, Jr. at age 91 on December 31, 2023. Preceded in death by his wife, Libby (Beach), parents, Dr. Frank and Ruth Batsche, brother David Batsche, and son-in-law James White, he is survived by his five children, Betsy (John) Tancous, Priscilla (Les) Ungers, Jenny (Tim) DelMedico, Margaret White, and Frank (Laura) Batsche, his sister, Barb Batsche, sister-in-law Marilyn Batsche, as well as 17 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren.

Frank, who's story was featured in our Dec. 2022 newsletter, grew up in Mason and attended Miami University. While there he joined Sigma Chi fraternity and met the love of his life, Libby, on a blind date. He received his Doctor of Dental Surgery from OSU and during this time he married Libby and started his family. Upon graduation in 1957, Frank joined the army as a Captain and moved to Ft. Knox serving in the Army Hospital. In 1960, bringing his growing family, he returned to Mason where he started his dental practice.

Frank practiced dentistry for almost 35 years caring for many generations of families. He also served the community as a school board member and president, and was a great supporter of the Mason Historical Society, having served as president at one time. Frank was a true renaissance man. He was an avid reader and constant learner, who enjoyed travel, entertaining friends, genealogy, gardening, boating, and golfing. Frank and Libby enjoyed 58 years of marriage and always put their family first. He was generous and kind, a quintessential gentleman, and he lived a full and happy life. One of Mason's most respected citizens, his legacy lives on through his family and all who knew him.

A DELICATE BALANCE

Sally Sherman Caudill, Editor

I recently became aware of a fascinating fact about Mason's iconic WLW Tower that has been looming over our city for 91 years. What we already know is that the Blaw-Knox double diamond-shaped vertical antenna was built in 1933. It's 831-feet tall, weighs 136 tons, and was erected for $46,000.

Something I have always wondered about and never knew was… how does a tower that weighs 136 tons and narrows down to what seems like a point, get mounted to the ground?

The answer is – it doesn't! It balances on cup-shaped porcelain insulators that have walls less than two-inches thick. It's mind boggling to think that these insulators and their miraculous balancing act support a stress load of more than 900,000 pounds. Now, that's some pretty ingenious engineering!

Powel Crosley at tower base, 1933

Cutaway view of tower base.

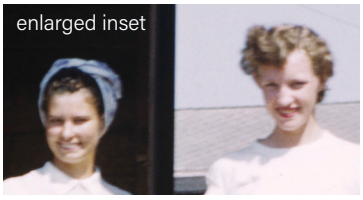
Thanks to Dennis King for letting us know about this fascinating fact.

Closeup of tower base insulators, still going strong today after 91 years!

Recognize Anyone?

Two unknown employees at the Mason Canning Co. pose while unloading a shipment of cans into the warehouse, ca. 1948.

Does anyone out there recognize either one of them? If you can help solve this mystery, please email us. Thanks!



APRIL PROGRAM
BLACK WEDNESDAY

We are partnering with the city of Mason to have the April 3 Black Wednesday (50th anniversary of the tornado that hit Mason) program held at the Atrium at the city municipal building. There will be plenty of seating so an **RSVP will not be required** in order to attend. It is open to the public and free of charge.

We hope to see many of you attending the "Black Wednesday: The Day that Mason will never forget" documentary program.

Wed. April 3rd, 2024

Mason Municipal Atrium
6000 Mason-Montgomery Road
6-8 PM

The Board Report

Jay Meibers, President

It won't be long until winter has passed and spring is upon us. Unfortunately, we have an extra day to suffer through this month. The Presidential election will start becoming front and center as the Primary season heats up. Please take the time to vote in what should be a very interesting election cycle.

We will have our 2023 income/expense results in next month's Newsletter for your reference. Also, next month we will include a memorial brick order form in case you may be interested in having a brick engraved and placed outside at the museum. Ordering a memorial brick is a great opportunity to remember family & friends and have them join our memorial brick walk at the museum.

Last month I wrote that an RSVP would be needed to attend the "Black Wednesday: The day that Mason will never forget" program to be held this April 3. We have partnered with the city of Mason and there will be sufficient seating available at the City Building so an RSVP is not required. I look forward to seeing many of you there on April 3. Hard to believe that 50 years have passed since the tornado hit in 1974!

2024 membership fees are due. Thank you to everyone who have already sent in their 2024 dues. Just a reminder that new members who signed up after June 2023, your 2024 dues are covered. If you have any questions on your membership then please call or email us at the museum. Our membership numbers continue to increase which is critical to our Society's future.

Please remember to let us know if your address and/or email has changed. This will help us keep our records up to date and ensure we can provide you our monthly newsletter and other communications. Stay safe & stay well

THIS MONTH IN MASON HISTORY

Excerpts (up to 1965) from *Around Mason, Ohio: A Story*, R.M. Springman

1830: At some point during the past years William Mason had moved from his farm to a house south of his town. The house was on Road Street and faced east toward the Muddy Creek. A well from which the water supply was brought up by means of a well sweep was in the yard. In February William Mason died in that well. His granddaughter, Flora Tetrick, was to write in her journal: "Grandfather was drawing water and fell in the well head foremost, struck his head and drowned." Born in 1760, Mason was 69-70 years old.

1863: On February 16 Lewis Albert Hulse died of a wound received in the Battle of Stones River, Murfreesboro, Tennessee (35 miles southeast of Nashville). He was the son of David and Ernestine Hulse. After the war his mother hand sewed a flag which she placed on Lewis' grave each year on Memorial Day. The Hulse flag is framed and proudly displayed in the Alverta Green Museum.

1906: A petition was presented to allow liquor sales in the village and council immediately set February 12 as an election day on the subject. When council met in February the results of the liquor election were recorded: 102 for the sale of liquor in Mason, 99 against it.

1932: By February 20 the township trustees had paid out $172.15 from the Poor Fund for medical care and groceries for the needy. This was during the heart of the Great Depression.

1940: On February 10 the Mother's Club (forerunner of the PTA) sponsored a Valentine Dance and made a profit of $31 ($675 in today's dollars). Six days later they met and realized it was the 200th meeting of the club formed in 1915. The Mother's Club was a fund-raising machine and financed many items benefiting the schools including electrical wiring & daily hot lunches.

1960: The American Legion was permitted the use of the municipal auditorium one Sunday afternoon for a "Teenage Hop" in coordination with WSAI radio in Cincinnati.

1962: Wick Calvert started a taxi service in the village and had to pay a $25 license fee to the corporation for the first cab and $10 for the second.

On February 5 the first organizational meeting of a boosters club for William Mason High School was held. The goal of the group was the support of a safe and rigorous athletic program at the school. The first officers elected were Francis Girton, Dan Fisher, Karl Springman and Walter Dwire. The men chose "The M Club" for its name but later it simply became the Booster Club.

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

Craig & Jamie Natorp

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

Baysore's Flower Shop

Heritage Awards

Lt. Robt. N. Mount V.F.W. 9622 Aux.

Mason Community Players

Minuteman Press of Lebanon

Mueller Funeral Home

Warren County Historical Society

PARTNERS

City of Mason

Culver's – Mason

Mason City Schools

Mason Community Grange No.1680

Mason-Deerfield Chamber

Mason Public Library

WARREN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Affiliate Member

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Please join us in welcoming the following new members to the Mason Historical Society

Badges Drum Shop

Ronald Dullaghan

Bob Jack

Robert Osner

Janeen Regholz

Doug Rogers

Nathan Schmucker

Jerry Spaeth

Kelly & Jay Sullivan