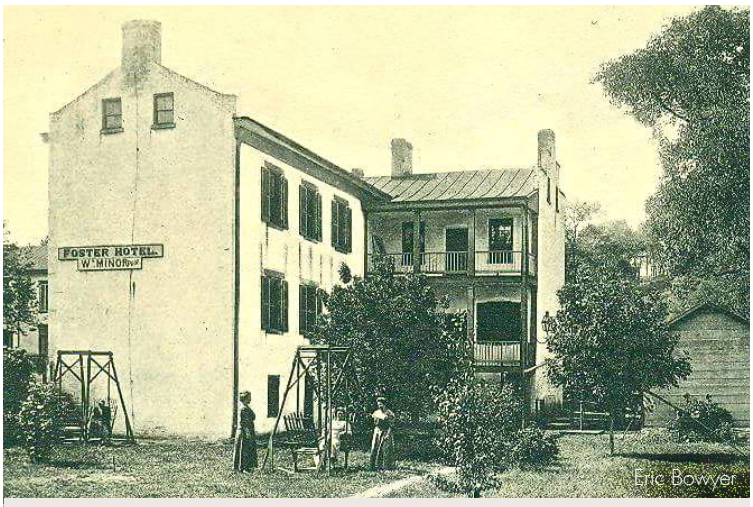
Newsletter of the
Mason Historical Society
and Alverta Green Museum
Mason, Ohio
November 2022

MONKEY SHINES

Sam the Chimp and the Ever-changing Life and Times of Fosters' Monkey Bar

Sally Sherman Caudill, Editor

The Monkey Bar & Grille has resided on the banks of the Little Miami River for over 181 years. In the late 19th century, it was a fashionable hotel and restaurant in a bustling and thriving community. Fosters was a beautiful hamlet, tucked away into the foothills of the River. It started its life as the 22-Mile Stand and was built by James Foster, son of Henry Foster who built the 20-Mile House.



Eric Bowyer

Built in 1841, the Foster Hotel, c. 1900, west view towards the river. The section closest to the river (in center of photo) was washed away in the 1913 flood.

From 1892 until 1907, the now-named Foster Hotel was a summer resort operated by the Maag family. There were 14 rooms in the house, and people came from all over for the great food. Chicken dinners were a specialty and bands played there on Saturday nights. It was conveniently located next to the Little Miami Railroad tracks. Earl Maag, nephew of the owner, once recalled that the 8:00 train would stop on Sunday nights with five coaches to take campers and visitors back to Cincinnati.

During the terrible flood of 1913, the covered bridge (adjacent to the now-named Mosher Hotel) spanning the river was washed away, and many of the area's buildings were destroyed. In 1914, a metal suspension bridge was built (and stood for 75 years) and life continued on in Fosters.

During Prohibition, the hotel served double duty as a speakeasy. (*During recent renovations, a special window was discovered on the east side of the building–you can see out, but can't see in. Check it out next time you're there.)* In 1934, the building which had been a hotel since its beginning, became a tavern and changed its name to the "Blue Danube."

In 1937, the state of Ohio built a new open-spandrel arch bridge over the river, which bypassed Fosters. This was a huge hit to the struggling community, but it still had the railroad, and the Blue Danube respectably chugged along for several decades. Locals recalled "big dances, good fish fries and mugs of cold beer."

Decades later, a slow decline persisted. In 1976, a deputy sheriff stated that for the previous few years it had been "somewhat of a trouble spot – fights and barroom brawls, but never any serious trouble"[1]…enter Joe Roy "JR" Harris.

JR Harris purchased the Blue Danube in October of 1975 and he renamed it "The Train Stop Inn." *(This turned out to be an ironic name since the tracks were closed a year later.)* Harris was one of 23 children in a tumultuous family from Kentucky. I was told by a former patron (who I'll call "DT"), "If the Harris boys couldn't find anyone to fight with them, they'd fight each other." For the next few years, the bar became 'Trouble with a capital T.' The first fire happened in December of 1975. It was started by someone throwing kerosene in the fireplace, and injured four people.

DT went on to recall, "the hard-core drinkers would be there in the morning as soon as the place opened, and then in the early evening, us 'long-hairs' came in. We called it 'the changing of the guard.' When we were there, if one of the regulars didn't know you, you were kicked out."

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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.

The Monkey Bar, cont.

The trouble soon turned deadly. On Dec. 28, 1976, (Judy) Diane Harris, the 32-year-old wife of the owner, and bartender at the Inn, was found shot to death outside the bar. Six days later, at her Rose Hill graveside service in Mason, sheriff's deputies entered the cemetery and arrested JR Harris for his wife's murder; the result of a domestic argument fueled by alcohol. Harris was convicted in July of 1977 and sent to prison.

The Train Stop Inn during the trouble years, 1976.

JR's older brother, Kenny Harris, took over at the bar and it was business as usual. Another fire in 1979 nearly destroyed the historic building, but Harris restored it, despite losing the top floor. DT says "during those days, pretty much everyone was either packing a gun or a knife." Cross that with heavy alcohol consumption, and fights were inevitable…and frequent. During one particular brawl, bullets were flying and one guy unbelievably caught a bullet in his teeth. DT mused, "(The bar) was the tent, the clowns came in, and it was a show every night."

Another murder took place in January, 1978 when a man was shot and killed next door to the Inn. Kenny Harris was at the Inn, heard the shots and took off after the shooters in his car. He was shot twice during the pursuit to get their plate number and was seriously wounded. He survived the shooting and continued running the Train Stop.

Here's where the transformation of this historic tavern gets really interesting. Harris acquired "Sam" the chimpanzee ca. 1978 (reportedly in a card game). Harris made a home for him in an abandoned foundation at the Train Stop that was equipped with a TV/VCR, radio and refrigerator. Monkey Bar Historian Melody DeCarlo told me Sam would watch afternoon soap operas every day without fail. He eventually grew to be 4-ft. tall and 141 lbs.

Sam's previous life was in a carnival sideshow on a Boone County, KY farm, until he was abandoned. He was later owned by Bruce's Canoe Rental in Loveland. During his unconventional upbringing, he acquired a few interesting habits; he loved smoking cigarettes and drinking beer. He was also a huge fan of Nehi grape soda, potato chips and Snickers. This, of course, delighted bar patrons to no end and was a huge draw for the Train Stop. The opening of the Loveland Bike Trail in the early 1980s on the paved-over train tracks no doubt boosted the clientele. The bar unofficially became known by all as the "Monkey Bar."

Monkey Bar & Grille

top Sam the chimp puffing away.

right Sam gives a light to his owner, Kenny Harris.

In the spring of 1987, after complaints to the County about Sam's purported "filthy" living conditions, Harris was charged with cruelty to animals and Sam was taken to a Columbus research facility for a medical evaluation. Prosecutors alleged the chimp was forced to smoke and drink for the entertainment of bar patrons. Harris' lawyer James Sheets countered, "We admit the chimpanzee smokes, drinks and runs around like most human beings. He also brushes his teeth and combs his hair. He's not married, and he doesn't go to Sunday school. However, we don't think that's a cause for allegation of a crime of cruelty."[2] The lawyer concluded that it was crueler to Sam to "keep him in a small cage around a lot of yuppies that won't even talk to him. I don't want them teaching him to eat quiche and drink white wine. He grew up in a bar!"[3]

"He's got to have his cigarettes and coffee in the morning or he raises hell all day," said his owner, Kenny Harris. "He'll drink about two beers a week. He used to drink a lot more…but I cut him off."[3] During Sam's confinement, he was denied access to all his vices, which included his much younger girlfriend, 3-year-old Susie. (In his best PT Barnum-style, Harris planned a wedding for the two chimps when Sam returned home.) Harris was allowed to visit his pet in Columbus but had to wear a hospital gown and mask. He took Sam a toothbrush and a pair of trousers. His lawyer stated "Sam doesn't like to go around nude. These people don't understand civilized chimps."[4]

Kenny Harris was acquitted of the cruelty charge in mid-June, and after nearly 3 months of quarantine and confinement, Judge Neal Bronson dissolved the order. While the judge agreed that a better environment for Sam would be with a zoo or primate retreat, the County did not have the legal right to keep Sam from his owner. The judge was clearly uncomfortable with his decision, as he stated that if it were a moral decision vs. a legal one, he would've ruled differently.

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The Monkey Bar, cont.

Sam was finally coming home. With the help of the USDA, Harris improved Sam's cage to meet their standards: better ventilation, a new shelter over top, and bar patrons could no longer reach him. Balloons and a crowd of about a hundred greeted Sam as he made his way to his renovated home on July 11, 1987. For his wedding to Susie, he wore a tuxedo T-shirt. Susie was radiant in a white gown.

Sam's two-level home, after renovation, following his short stint at a Columbus research facility in 1987.

With all his publicity, Sam had one very famous admirer– Dr. Jane Goodall. She has been the world's foremost expert on chimpanzees for 60 years. In 1986, she came to town to visit the Cincinnati Zoo, but when she arrived at the airport, she told Zoo Director Thane Maynard, before going to the Zoo, "I want to see Sam the smoking monkey first." She stood quietly observing him in his cage for well over an hour, and stated that Sam was one of the most content and happy chimpanzees she had ever witnessed.

Sam continued living alongside the bike trail for almost 10 more years. In January of 1997, Hamilton Twp., which owned this section of land, planned to build public restrooms on the site of Sam's home. *(They later built them on the other side of the trail.)* Kenny announced that Sam, after 20+ years at the bar had moved on to a new undisclosed location.

Without its one-of-a-kind, iconic mascot, the Train Stop limped along in quiet obscurity. But in 2016 when new owners Mark and Amy Altemeier took the helm, no one could've imagined this next stage of the Monkey Bar's evolution. In a wonderful show of community collaboration, they partnered with Kings High architecture students to help design their new bar. The students designed new interior and exterior spaces, an expanded outdoor patio, complete with a stage, cabana bar and canoe access. It now has a kitchen along with a family-friendly and dog-on-lead-friendly atmosphere. *(An additional 5,000 sq.ft. was added to the original 4,800 sq.ft.)* The results have exceeded everyone's expectations. Just try to find a parking spot within a half-mile of the place on a nice summer evening; I dare you.

For the first time in its existence, it was finally, officially, renamed "The Monkey Bar & Grille." I think Sam would be very proud.

Many Thanks to: Melody DeCarlo (MBG historian) – when you visit, ask for her if you'd like to hear more stories and see more photos. She's got plenty! (Don't forget to ask about the resident ghosts.)
Thanks also to: MBG Owner Mark Altemeier
DT (Deep Throat), former patron of the Inn, for the very colorful recollections
Lisa Krouse Tucker, witness to the "pull/bite"-my-finger incident

[1]*The Cincinnati Post*, 12/31/1976; also 1/4/1977
[2]*Mansfield News Journal*, 4/17/1987; also 1/14/1997
[3]*Dayton Daily News*, 4/17/1987; also 7/8/1987
[4]*The Cincinnati Enquirer*, 5/15/1987
Hamilton Journal News, 7/9/2017 / WCPO.com

SAM'S "ANTICS"

- Sam would sometimes sit at the bar with patrons. A few times, he left the bar, walked up the hill to a neighbor's house, took a drink from the garden hose, and sat down on the porch to relax. The homeowner called the police, who then called Kenny to pick up his pet. He drove to the house in his pickup, opened the door and Sam came over and hopped in. Sam must've liked this porch as he returned several more times over the years.
- Several times a week, Kenny's wife, Margie cleaned out Sam's cage and would find half a dozen lighters. Bar patrons would give Sam their lighter for his cigarettes, and what Sam got…Sam kept.
- Sometime in the mid-1980s, a guy was antagonizing Sam by throwing rocks at him and poking him with a stick. A friend of mine witnessed him telling Sam repeatedly to "pull my finger." Faster than lightning, Sam shot forward and bit off two of the guy's fingers and spit them onto the floor of his cage. As the now 8-fingered guy stood there in shock, Sam looked on (with amusement, no doubt). The guy's friend calmly took a stick and used it to roll the fingers out from under the cage door so they could take them to the hospital for hopeful reattachment.

WHAT HAPPENED TO SAM?

According to Mark Altemeier, current owner of the Monkey Bar & Grille, after Sam had to leave the Train Stop Inn in 1997, Kenny first sent him to an animal sanctuary in Florida. He soon brought him back north though and shuttled him between his Georgetown, KY farm and the barn which still stands just north of the Monkey Bar. Sadly, Sam died in the barn c. 2002, of carbon monoxide poisoning. He is buried 1/4 mile north of the barn where the access road, which runs parallel, curves and meets the bike trail.

Sam fishing on the Little Miami. He could reel it in like an expert, but refused to bait his own hook.

HONORING OUR VETERANS

Gina Burton Arens, Editor

As we celebrate Veteran's Day on November 11th, we honor and salute some of Mason's WWII military families.

The Patriotic Goforth Family

The Goforth family may have had the local record for the most family members serving in the military at one time.

During WWII the *Western Star* published news of many of Warren County's young men, sharing news of inductions, assignments and visits home. But there's one family the newspaper reported, "may have the largest number of men in service of any in Warren County." They were the sons of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Clay Goforth of Mason. Henry Goforth himself had served in the Spanish-American War, his sons following in his footsteps.

On January 28, 1943, they were reported to be engaged in the following positions:

- **George W. Goforth**, was a flight commander in the air forces, stationed in Arizona.
- **Corporate Louis Goforth** was in the Army serving in the Panama Canal Zone.
- **Staff Sargeant Roscoe Goforth** was serving in the Armed Forces in a foreign war theatre, probably North Africa.
- **Private Charles Goforth** and **Private Edward Goforth** were stationed in Army camps in the United States.
- **Donald Goforth**, 18, the youngest member of the group, had just been inducted into the service that month.

As far as we know all the Goforth men made it home safely after the war but there was a sad twist to their story. In May of 1945 while Louis Goforth was home on leave, a tragic car accident on Mason-Bethany Road took his life. His brother Donald was in the car as well but escaped with minor injuries. Louis had served in the armed forces for four years and was 26 years old.

Like Father Like Son

In another *Western Star tribute*, we see where, "The Johnson family are really doing their bit for Uncle Sam with father and son both serving in the armed forces." Both entered the service on the same day, December 8, 1942. **Private First Class (PFC) Merrill H. Johnson** graduated from the US Army Postal School in West Chester, PA. and was assigned to a base post office in Pomona, CA. After the war Merrill went on to serve as Mason's Postmaster. His son, **PFC Kenneth P. Johnson** was enrolled in Radio Operators School at Scott Field, IL. In 1944, as an aviation cadet, he was awarded the gold bars of a second lieutenant. Rated as a technical officer in communications, he was prepared to assume duties with tactical units of the Army Air Forces (AAF).

The Western Star, January 28, 1943

top The six Goforth brothers. The headline read, "Mason Family has Six Men in Service."

left The Goforth's parents: Henry Clay "H.C." Goforth (in his uniform during the Span. Amer. War) and Clara *(nee Porter)*.

Girton Brothers Represent Three Branches of Armed Forces

Dean and May (Snell) Girton had lots to be proud about during World War II as their three sons were serving in three branches of the armed forces. May would later admit that although she was very proud of her sons, she missed them greatly and was worried about them. They were featured in a 1943 issue of *The Western Star*.

Sgt. Glenn M. Girton (Toad), 20, was serving in the South Pacific in the 3rd Marine Division, 3rd Amphibian Tractor Battalion of the US Marine Corps. He participated in the Bougainville campaign on November 20 (and later four other major campaigns in the Pacific). Sgt. Girton had enlisted in the Marines after his graduation from Mason High School in 1941. Since Glenn was only 17 at the time his entry required his mother's signature.

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Honoring Our Veterans, cont.

After the war Glenn ran a restaurant with his brother Francis for a while. Afterwards he left for California and served as a police officer for over 30 years. Ultimately, he was a traffic officer for the California Highway Patrol, retiring as a sergeant. Glenn had three children with his first wife, Betty and two children with his second wife Elizabeth.

Sgt. Dean Alvin Girton (Duke), 24, was inducted in March 1943 and served in the 449 Bomb Group as a waist gunner in the air forces. Receiving his wings in Harlingen, Texas, he was stationed at March Field, CA. In 1944 he went overseas for seven months where he flew over 50 missions. On one of those missions, he was shot down over Germany but was able to parachute to safety and was rescued. A 1938 graduate of Mason High School he was then married to Martha Van Ness Girton and had a young daughter, Rebecca Jane. He would have another child by his first wife and a son by his second wife, Maxine.

After the war, like his brother, he went into law enforcement and served as an Ohio Highway Patrolman for many years. He later worked for Armco Steel as Chief of Safety and Plant Protection.

Finally, there was **Seaman Francis M. Girton**, 28, stationed at Great Lakes, IL, with the Hospital Corps School. Inducted in 1943, Francis served as a pharmacist's mate, 3rd class, assisting in surgeries during his assignment at Corpus Christi, Texas. At the time, the paper reported that Francis was married to Helen (Bishop) Girton and the father of "a charming young daughter," Nancy Ann. Francis and Helen would go on to have three more children.

After returning home he went back to work for Barney Kroger. He had been the manager of the local Kroger & Baking Co. before his enlistment. During the 1950's he and his brother Glenn ran a restaurant called Girton's Confectionery, while also serving as Mason's mayor from 1953 to 1959. Later Francis became postmaster. In 1979 he retired from his last and final job as vice president and treasurer of the Mason Lumber & Coal Co. Over the years he volunteered on the city's fire department, helping to organize its life squad and he worked 20 years with Boy Scouts. He also served as president of the school board and was a charter member and former president of the Kiwanis Club. In 1980 he was voted Mason's Citizen of the Year.

SGT. GILBERT LUTES

With Respect, Honor, & Gratitude
Thank You Veterans

THE "BUZZ" AROUND MASON…

A/C JAMES W. SHUMARD

Aircraft Commander James W. Shumard enlisted in the Army Air Force in January, 1941. In 1944 while stationed at Turner Field in Albany, GA, he finished his advanced twin engine training and received his lieutenant's commission and wings.

Jim Shumard's neighbor, (Dr.) Frank Batsche, Jr. remembers him fondly. He recalled with a smile that Jim had quite a mischievous streak… As a teenager, Frank was on the roof of his house at 208 E. Main St. He was in the valley in the center of the roof, painting the flashings. Suddenly out of nowhere, Jim (who was on leave at the time), swooped down in his plane and buzzed the house so close that Frank nearly fell over and spilled all his paint. Jim proceeded south on Main St. through town, continuing his theatrics to the delight and horror of everyone on the street.

Look for more Mason stories from Dr. Batsche in the December newsletter.

A Letter from Sergeant Lutes

In a letter to *The Western Star*, **Sgt. Gilbert Lutes**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Lutes, wrote the following:

"Received a copy of **The Western Star** today. The first since the new postal regulations went into effect. It was like seeing a long-lost friend." Featuring photos of graduation classes, it reminded Lutes of his own graduation days. Lutes had completed training as an aviation machinist mate in Chicago and related he had "travelled many miles and had many thrilling adventures" since that time.

While congratulating all the high school grads, many of them personal friends, he encouraged them "when entering the field of production don't forget the farmers' fields, as they will soon have to feed a big, hungry war-torn world."

He closes by saying, "To *The Western Star* force I say – thanks a million for the inspiration of your messages from home. You stand for all the things we are fighting for."

ELECTIONS FOR MHS BOARD

A last-minute reminder that our Mason Historical Society election will be held on Nov. 8th at 6:30 pm at the Museum. Jay Meibers has decided to step down this year, and we are looking for candidates for president.

For the Mason Historical Society to continue to thrive and survive it is vital that members stay involved in its continued success. Many who started the society in 1979 are no longer with us so it is up to a new generation to continue its mission. We hope you will consider committing to its success by serving on its board.

If you would like more information regarding what any of the available board positions entail, call or email the museum and Jay will contact you directly to answer any questions you may have.

Our Current MHS Board Members

Jay Meibers – President*
Jeff Raines - Vice President*
Larry Jeffers – Treasurer
Cindy Meibers – Secretary*
Missy Courts - Membership
Jason Kaufman – Historian
Sallie Nally – Social Media
Maureen Campbell - Trustee
Perry Denehy – Trustee**
Ray Mueller – Trustee
Sue Erbeck Rapp – Trustee
Lou Rapp – Trustee

*These positions are open, current members will be stepping down from these positions at the end of 2022.

**Perry Denehy will be running for Vice President so a Trustee position will also be open.

SPECIAL MILITARY DISPLAY

The Alverta Green Museum will be featuring a special military display for the **month of November**. Plan to stop in and see this special exhibit which honors many of our local veterans throughout the decades.

Note: The Museum will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, but will be open from 2-5 pm on all other Nov. Thursdays.

OLHA AWARD HONORS MHS PROGRAM

On October 1st, the Ohio Local History Alliance (OLHA) held their Annual Awards Ceremony honoring 11 groups and individuals who have contributed outstanding work in local history in our state. This year, our own **Sally Sherman Caudill** received an award for "Public Programming" for her presentation of "Fatal Flight and A Nuclear Scare in Mason." The program tells the story of a B-50 Bomber crash just north of Mason, occurring in the early days of the Korean War. Sally researched this event, developing a complete in-depth analysis of the times, the mission, the plane, the crew (16 airmen) and the crash itself. The plane was carrying a nuclear bomb at the time of the crash, and Sally uncovered new information, including that the plane was on a secret mission to Europe, a fact the US Government denied. Since the first presentation, word has spread about this program and Sally has presented it throughout Warren County. We are proud to recognize Sally's receipt of this prestigious award in addition to the outstanding work she contributes to our monthly newsletter.

The Ohio Local History Alliance works to advance the field of local history in Ohio through education, advocacy, and collaboration. They represent over 300 member organizations ranging from small neighborhood historical societies to large history museums.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

If you have any thoughts you would like to share regarding Mason history, please email them to: mason.oh.historical@gmail.com

Beth Muskopf – "(In the October newsletter) as a side note to the 1990 memory about Mason teachers – I was president of Mason Education Association at that time. We were ready to strike when I made a chance encounter with Mr. Frey, the superintendent. After exchanging a few comments we agreed to pursue negotiations. I was criticized by many teachers for backing down a bit but had enough knowledge to know how detrimental a strike would be. We soon reached agreement."

The Board Report

Jay Meibers, President

November is a very special month of the year. The weather begins its turn toward winter and the leaves say good-bye until spring. Elections kick-off the months big events so please take the time to cast your vote. Veterans Day is next and we cannot thank enough all who serve and protect this great country of ours! Thanksgiving follows, and I hope that all of you have the opportunity to gather with friends and family as the holiday season begins.

The Cemetery Walk was a big success this year. Perry Denehy did a great job coordinating the event and the Mason Community Players did an outstanding job acting out the scripts at the various tombstone locations. The weather was perfect and everyone had a great time. Special thanks to Mark Steiner and Deerfield Township as well as Jeff Hill for filming the event. We will have Cemetery Walk CD's available for purchase at the museum.

If you drive by the museum you will see a new addition to our landscaping. Thank you to Ken Natorp and family who were kind enough to donate a white spruce that we will be able to decorate for Christmas starting this year!

I placed the memorial brick order in mid-October with our vendor. Typically, it takes a couple of months to get them completed and returned to us.

The Board elections and annual report will be held at the museum on Tues. Nov. 8 starting at 6:30. All members are welcome to join. The Fabulous Fall Raffle drawing will also take place that night. There is still time to turn in your tickets or buy more before the Nov. 8 drawing. Due to many members purchasing tickets and many kind donations we have had a very successful raffle.

Stay safe & stay well!

SUBMIT YOUR PROGRAM IDEAS FOR 2023

We are seeking program ideas from members for next year. Please email your ideas to the museum at mason.oh.historical@gmail.com.

THIS MONTH IN MASON HISTORY

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

1849: On November 27 Ephraim Mehan and his wife, Mary, bought the large brick hotel on the northwest corner of Main Street and Section Road *(Mason Montgomery)*. They paid $2,500 for the business to James Fugate, Mary's father. The Mehans and their children ran the hotel for the next 37 years. At first it was called The Railroad House but later the name was changed to the National House. It was razed by the city in 1972 and is now a parking lot next to Servatii's.

1859: The next school term began on August 15 and lasted until November 18. There were 76 students registered and an average of 43 came in any one day.

1890: The old calaboose no longer was large enough to hold the prisoners in town and in November inquiry was made to the Cincinnati Workhouse about a contract for caring for Mason's overload of prisoners.

1906: In early November the school board met in emergency session to order Twenty Mile Stand School closed until further notice because of a scarlet fever epidemic.

1916: A large sociable crowd enjoyed Thanksgiving dinner at a cost of 40¢ each in Rebold's Hall on November 30. First mentioned in 1885, community dinners were held each year, quite often hosted as fund raisers by the Mother's Club. These continued until the late 1940s.

1929: In mid-November the fire company planted a tree in the public yard beside the town hall and designated it the community Christmas tree.

1931: The Students Hall Mothers Club discussed in their Nov. meeting the need for electricity in their school bldg.

1937: The movie theater on Main Street, which had been renamed the Dream Theater some years before, showed two movies on Saturday evenings and one on Sunday evenings. On November 13 and 14 "Saratoga" with Jean Harlow and Clark Gable was scheduled.

1946: In November the numbering of houses was begun in the village and official names were given to the alleys - Fox Drive, Burke Drive, Miller Drive, Buerkle Drive and Aunker Drive.

1957: On November 21 the 17 charter members of the Four Seasons Garden Club in Mason met for the first time under the direction of Mrs. George Weis. The club's primary interest was flower arranging but members were encouraged to be active in the development of their gardens too.

Holiday Gift Ideas

Make your shopping easier this year by giving one-of-a-kind gifts from the Alverta Green Museum to friends and family. Mason history books, cookbooks, gift memberships and commemorative bricks are perfect for those hard to buy for on your list.

Call or visit our website's E-Commerce page located under "Support Us" tab.

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

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People's First Savings Bank

R.E. Middleton Construction LLC

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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

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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

Dan Conn
Joseph Conn
Tom Conn
Mason Community Players
Ralph & Pat Wiggins

YOGA AT THE MUSEUM

Every Monday from 7–8 pm. All levels welcome. Wear comfortable clothes and bring a mat and water. No pre-registration is required, men and women are welcome to attend. Classes are donation-based; with half of all donations going back to the Historical Society. Call Missy Courts at 513-289-3086 with any questions.