



# CONNECTIONS



## October 2019

207 W. Church Street    Mason, Ohio    [www.masonhistoricalsociety.org](http://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](mailto:mason.oh.historical@gmail.com)

### The Mason Historical Society's

#### Annual Cemetery Walk Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup> 7pm At Rosehill Cemetery

#### Take a walk through Mason history!

Do you want to learn about the mysteries and culture of the past? Or learn about important people who shaped the city of Mason?

Come to the Cemetery Walk put on by the Mason Historical Society.

Come and see important past Mason figures brought back to life.

Buy your tickets now - they sell out quickly!

You can buy them today by calling 513-398-6750 or visit The Alverta Green Museum, 207 W. Church St. Mason, OH 45040.

<https://www.masonhistoricalsociety.org/cemetery-walk.html> for more information.

We hope to see you there!



### The Mason Historical Society

#### Invites You To Join Us At The Alverta Green Museum For An Open House

Come Join the Mason Historical Society for an Open House Saturday, October 5, 10am-2pm at the Alverta Green Museum, located at 207 West Church Street in downtown Mason.

This is a great opportunity to see some of the history that made our community great.

Admission is **FREE** and light refreshments will be served.

# OPEN HOUSE



## Goodbye to Western Row School ... Again.

By Jeff Raines

May 23, 2019 saw the last classes conducted by the Mason City Schools at Western Row Elementary School, located at 755 Western Row Road. For the teachers, administrators and 970 students in the school that year, the final day of classes were an emotional goodbye to this beloved building. This school building has proudly served Mason students since it opened in 1962, and many current Mason students and graduates spent their elementary years in its halls and classrooms.

But this was not the first Western Row School to serve the students of Mason. The first school building on this site was built sometime before 1870 on the southeast corner of Western Row Road and Snider Road. On what is now a vacant lot, the original District 6 schoolhouse once stood. The school board offered Lucile Cox \$100 to teach at the District 6 Schoolhouse for the 1928-29 school year. (Mason teachers currently average \$70,498 per year). That building served as a schoolhouse until 1937, when it was sold to Otto and Belle Dumford for \$455 and converted to a residence.



### **Original Western Row School**

The current Western Row Elementary School building was approved to be built by the Mason School Board in 1961. With a budget of \$376,437, design work was undertaken by Alvin Voorhis of A.C. Voorhis Architects (now VSWC Architects, still located on Main Street in Mason). Construction on the building was completed in 1962 and the building dedicated. At the time the building was completed, it was located in Deerfield Township. In 1965, the property that held the school and what was the Mason Church of Christ (now the Masonic Temple) were officially annexed by the City of Mason. But this is not the end of the story for this historic building. In June, Mason City Schools signed a 10-year lease agreement for the building with the Warren County Educational Service Center for continued use as an educational facility. This will allow WCESC to expand its programs for children with significant disabilities.

The school sites on Western Row Road have served Mason students well for decades and will be an educational asset to our community for years to come. Those of us that passed through that school have fond memories, with new memories continuing to be built.

References and Thanks:

Springman, Rose Marie. "Around Mason, Ohio: A Story. Bicentennial Edition.

Thank you to Jerry Mullins of the Mason Historical Society for his help with the research and pictures.

Thank you to Tracey Carson of Mason City Schools for her help with information on the building transition.

[www.MasonOhioSchools.com](http://www.MasonOhioSchools.com)

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

### **Western Row Today**



Recently I've been receiving articles from our members sharing their experiences living in Mason. These stories are really enjoyed by the readers! I'm hoping this catches on and continues! No requirements are necessary other than submitting it to me by email (see my contact information on p.5). There is a deadline; Friday of the second full week of the month. The deadline for November's Newsletter will be October 18th. I look forward to sharing more of these articles. Denise Landise

### **Memories From Our Members...**

When my only grandson was five and in kindergarten his teacher asked his class to ask a grandparent to write about being five years old. This is the paper I sent him, written in what I hoped was five-year-old grammar!

I realized as I reread this that it does not share family names: Mildred and Nelson Clingner and sister Jo Ann. And worst of all, I neglected to mention the birth of my brother (or "little bother" as my sister called him - prophetically, I might add!). He was born when I was five.

### **When I Was Five**

*By Janet Clingner Hamilton*

When I was five years old, I lived with my parents and sister and brand-new baby brother on a farm just outside of Mason, Ohio. Mason was a very small town. It was the town where my mother had lived all her life.

Mason schools did not have a kindergarten then, so I stayed at home with my mother while my daddy went to work. He worked at night in Dayton, Ohio which was a long way from Mason. My mother really was scared to stay in the country at night while my daddy worked, but she also didn't want her children to be afraid, so she pretended to not be afraid.

My daddy was a clever man. He used to "invent" all sorts of things, making new things out of old things. We had a nanny goat and one of the things daddy made was a goat cart. He would hitch Nanny up to the cart and she pulled my sister and me up and down the lane.

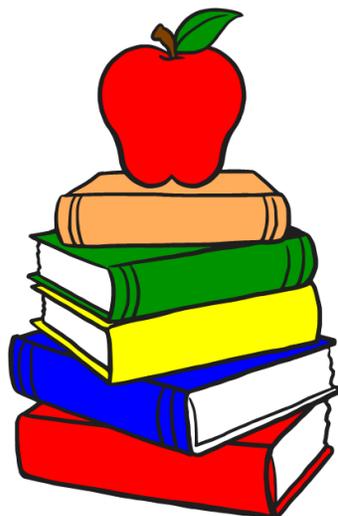
My sister was the only playmate I had on the farm. We played with toys, mostly dolls.

I started in the first-grade right after I turned six. Because we lived in the country, I had to ride the bus to school. I was very shy and afraid to ask for help, so I missed the bus that would take me home from school almost every day for the first two or three weeks. My mother didn't have a car to pick me up, but the mother of one of my classmates took me home. Fortunately, we moved into town about six weeks after I started to school. After that I walked to school every day.

At school, in the first-grade class, we sat at tables that were big enough for six children. We learned our alphabet and how to read. I still remember reading about Dick and Jane, Baby Sally and Puff the kitten. We also learned how to count and how to print letters and numbers. We had health lessons and a nap time. Of course, the best time was RECESS! We played on a playground that had swings, seesaws (we called them teeter-totters) a merry-go-round and slides. Nearly all the grades had recess at the same time, so we had to share with the big kids. Sometimes they weren't so nice about sharing with us little ones.

After we moved into town, I had several playmates who lived close by. In the summer we loved to play Hide and Seek and played it just about every night.

Being five and six years old was fun!



## Meet Our Student Volunteers

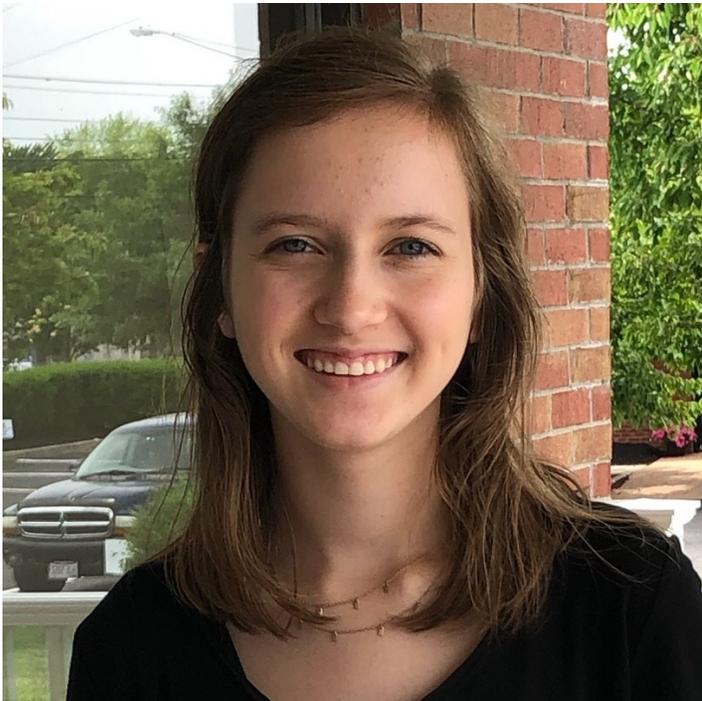
Hi! I'm Katie Maier, a junior at William Mason High School and a volunteer at the Mason Historical Society. My family includes a mom, a dad, a precious shih-poo dog named Lila, and two sisters (one younger, and one older). I was first drawn to the Historical Society to get volunteer hours for the National Honors Society because of my love of history. As a volunteer, I mainly archive ads and articles from old newspapers relevant to Mason. When I'm not volunteering, I'm writing historical fiction and fantasy stories, practicing violin, arguing the necessity of the oxford comma, participating in the high school GSA, and (re)watching HBO's *Game of Thrones*, NBC's *The Office*, and Netflix's *The Crown*. I also spend my time assisting the set-up of a room (called the CCR, or the Calming Comfort Room) in the high school (along with three friends) where students can go to calm themselves without judgement during times of emotional distress and panic attacks.

Katie Maier  
Student Volunteer  
Mason Historical Society

Hello! My name is Vedarsh Shah, a junior at Mason High School. My hobbies include playing the piano, which I have been doing for 8 years, and running. I trained myself this summer to run a 10K. My favorite subjects in school include math, science, and computer science, which is where my passion lies.

Volunteering at the Mason Historical Society gives me the unique opportunity to combine my passion for technology and drive to give back to my community. I started volunteering at the Society in the fall of my freshman year on a weekly basis to help the Society with technology. I created a 2-year Digital Strategy for the Society that was approved by the Society Executive Board, which I now work to implement. This includes maintaining the Society website, developing and maintaining the e-commerce site, helping the society run effective outreach campaigns, developing and maintaining the iOS and Android mobile apps for the Society, and more. My goal is to help the Society better connect with its members (such as you) and the community, and help achieve its mission of creating, promoting, and preserving the history and heritage of Mason.

Vedarsh Shah  
Director of Digital Strategy  
Mason Historical Society



## Summer Splash Raffle Ticket Winners

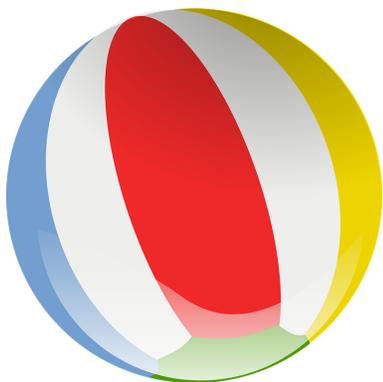
Congratulations to our Summer Splash Raffle winners below drawn at Heritage Days on Saturday Sept 14. Thanks to all that supported the Raffle this year. This is one of our big annual fundraisers and with your support it was a success.

**1<sup>st</sup> place winner (\$500)** – Marsha Giehls

**2<sup>nd</sup> place winner (\$250)** – Larry Jeffers

**3<sup>rd</sup> place winner (Mason Picture Book)**  
– Zeke & Betty Campbell

**4<sup>th</sup> place winner (Around Mason Book)**  
– Beryl Mitchell



*1st Place raffle winner, Marsha Giehls, presented with her winnings by Board Member, Perry Denehy. Congratulations to all the winners!*



5-30  
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“...There’s not one electronic device being used.”

## Condolences

The Mason Historical Society would like to offer its most sincere condolences to the friends and family of June Dumford Hill who passed September 2 and was a member of Mason High School Class of 1944.

To the friends and family of Bruce Hendricks who passed September 8. Bruce was also a member of Mason’s High School Class of 1944 and a past President of The Mason Historical Society.

## 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](mailto:www.mason.oh.historical@gmail.com)

513-850-3780

[deniselandise@yahoo.com](mailto:deniselandise@yahoo.com)

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

Thank you.

Denise



**2019 MEMBERSHIP FORM ... MASON HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Become a NEW member of the Mason Historical Society or RENEW you membership TODAY!  
Please make your check payable to the Mason Historical Society and mail with this form to the address below.

Mason Historical Society  
MEMBERSHIP  
207 W. Church Street  
Mason, OH 45040-1607  
[www.masonhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.masonhistoricalsociety.org)

NEW \_\_\_\_\_ RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_

**Types of Membership:**

**Non-Profit Org.** \$40 \_\_\_\_\_

**REGULAR**

Student \$ 10 \_\_\_\_\_  
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**(Lifetime can be paid in 4 quarterly installments  
within 12 months)**

MAY WE CALL ON YOU TO HELP PRESERVE MASON'S HISTORY BY VOLUNTEERING YOUR TIME \_\_\_\_\_?

The Mason Historical Society is a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization, as defined under the Internal Revenue Code.  
MEMBERSHIP DUES, DONATIONS AND MEMORIAL GIFTS IN ANY AMOUNT ARE APPRECIATED AND ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

\*\*\*\*\*

U.S. Military \_\_\_\_\_ Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_

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**BRICK TO BE ENGRAVED AS FOLLOWS:**

(Limit of 13 letters including spaces on each line.)

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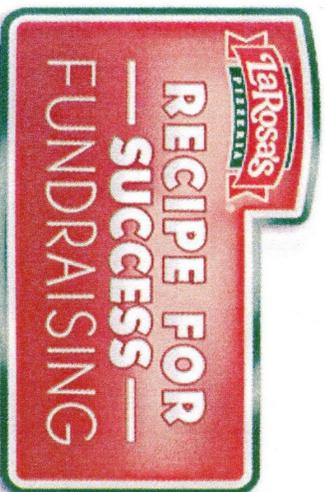
**Make checks payable and return to:**

**MASON HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

207 W. Church Street

Mason, Ohio 45040 DONATION **\$50** Paid \_\_\_\_\_ Ck# \_\_\_\_\_

Forms- Member/brick 2019



**Piece of the Pie**  
FUNDRAISING EVENT

**Mason Historical Society**

2019 Fundraiser

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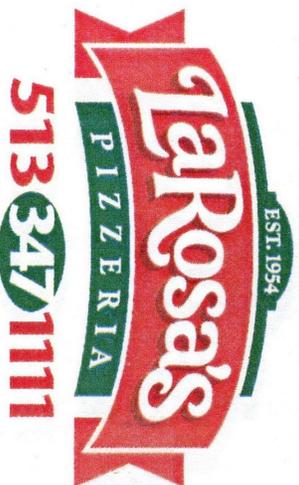
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**2019**

**Events Reminder**

If You Have Not Already Done So

Please Sign Up At Kroger Community Rewards

Mason Historical Society Number Rewards #HE524

Open House Saturday, October 5th 10-2pm.

The Mason Historical Cemetery Walk Monday, October 7th, 7pm @ Rose Hill Cemetery. In the event of rain the location will be Mason's Municipal Center.

Yoga-October 14, 21 & 28 @7pm.

Annual Board Meeting & Elections Tuesday,

November 12th @ 7pm @ the Alverta Green Museum.

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

## **BUSINESS MEMBERS AND PARTNERS**

### **LIFETIME MEMBERS**

Air Authority Heating & Air Conditioning  
Al's Heating and Cooling  
American Legion, Post 194  
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 194  
Brunk Excavating, Inc.  
Jeff Hill Video  
Mitsubishi Electric Automotive  
People's First Savings Bank  
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Voorhis, Slone, Welsh & Crossland, Architects  
Walldogs the Mason Sign Company  
Yost Pharmacy, Inc.

### **BUSINESS MEMBERS**

Artis Senior Living of Mason —**2019**  
Lt. Robt. N. Mount V.F.W. 9622 Aux.—**2019**  
Mason Bowl, Inc.— **2019**  
Mason Health Care Center —**2019**  
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**

### **PARTNERS**

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

**Permit No. 38**

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**207 W. Church St.**  
**Mason, Ohio 45040**