Up Coming Events:
March 2, 2006 8:00pm – Lyceum ‘Through the Lens of the Camera- the photography of Jim Johnston. Jim’s artistic eye and attention to detail have earned him national recognition. Join us as we learn how he captures his award-winning shots. A champagne reception follows Jim’s presentation.

March 4, 2006 6:00 Annual Reverse Raffle- it’s a Mardi gras! (See flyer for details).

March 18, 2006 Saturday an ABC Tea for Grandparents & Grandchildren. (See flyer).

March 23, 2006 2:00pm Docent Training

April 6, 2006 8:00pm Lyceum ‘Over There! The Music of World War I and how it shaped the outcome of the conflict. Member Fred Schuld discusses this interesting subject.

April 3, 10, 17 & 24. The Old Ways School- Monday evenings. (See insert)

April 9, 2006 Sunday 2:00 – 5:00: Annual Spring Open House. A special display of Paul Roman’s creations will be presented. His exact scale models are beautiful.

April 22, 2006 2:00pm Formal Tea and Tour of the Historic Gates-Handyside House. A rare opportunity to see the interior of this famous home. Details inside.

May 4, 2006 Thursday 6:30 - Annual Dinner, ‘Take me Out to the Old Ball Game’- Mr. Thomas Eakin. President of the Ohio Baseball Hall of Fame speaks about his friend Elmer Flick and Ohio baseball history. Details inside.

May 20th Saturday – A Pancake Breakfast with a Tour and Tales of the Bedford Historic District. This joint venture with the Cuyahoga County Metroparks includes a pancake breakfast at the Glens Ball field pavilion and then a tour of the Historic District. Registration is required. Call the Metroparks 216 341-3152 for cost & reservation.

From the President
Hello Fellow History Buffs,

Over 50 years ago, one of the society’s founding fathers, Dick Squire developed a lifelong interest in Abraham Lincoln and all things Civil War. This conflict has intrigued Americans for over 140 years. As a result of Dick’s love for this bit of American history, our museum has an incredible and incomparable collection of books and memorabilia from this period.

Have you and your family had the opportunity to visit and enjoy this collection? Have you noticed the immense collection of Lincoln books? Have you seen the ‘life mask’ of Lincoln? Did you find the hardtack & utensils used by soldiers? Have you noticed the picture frame handcrafted by an inmate at the infamous Andersonville Prison? How about the Civil War canon balls? Yes, all of these and so much more is available to you when visiting the Bedford Historical Society’ Town Hall Museum! We hope to see YOU soon at our Museum!

Dave Beveridge

Membership Update

Thank you for renewing your membership so promptly. In addition, special thanks to those of you who purchased a gift membership for someone.

Kathie Williams, membership secretary.
From the Archivist,
More from the scrapbook collection

Scraps of History

We delved into our large and varied collections of scrapbooks recently to find a requested photograph. We were pretty sure it could be found among the many PTA books in our archives. While we didn’t find the photograph on our first search, we did find food for thought to share with you today.

These PTA books cover a wide range of contemporary issues. And more often than not, what was important then is still important. A list of topics for the monthly meetings in 1969-70 included hopes for ‘A Smokeless Generation’. The Surgeon General’s report had been issued proving that there was a positive link between smoking and lung cancer. We are smoking less, but are not quite Smokeless. Another program asked “Where Will We Get Dollars for our Schools?” a question still not answered in 2006. Other programs that year addressed concern over our children’s emotional health in a world of changing values, as well as the realization that authority no longer holds the place with many kids that it once did.

A few things have changed. One serious. The appearance of peanut butter and other peanut-based foods has disappeared in many school cafeterias due to severe food allergies. Back in the 70’s, the local Kiwanis Club passed out flyers for a fundraiser selling only peanuts. The other item that we found was about a group being formed at Ellenwood School that called themselves the “Lug Moothmo’s”. While we could not pronounce this acronym, we did enjoy what it stood for: “Let-Us-Get-Mother-Out-of-the-House-More-Often”. She may not be at a PTA Meeting, but we’re pretty sure they succeeded in getting her out. And, oh yes, we found the photograph on our second try!

Joyce Maruna

New Mural in Lobby

A mural has been painted in loving memory of Bobby Schroeter III and Cynthia Deavers. The family asked artist Roger Fuhrmeyer to create a fitting tribute. Roger’s design depicts the many wonderful things contained within the museum from artifacts to books and archives.

The Old Ways School

Want to learn how it used to be done? The Bedford Historical Society is offering an opportunity to learn the old ways of printing, block carving and use of hand tools, knitting & crocheting and quilting. For four Monday evenings in April, you will have an opportunity to learn a skill so that the tradition is not lost. While the courses are geared for adults, you may register a grandchild or young person to attend with you providing they have the fine motor skills and listening skills to learn. A brochure and registration form is enclosed with this newsletter. Members have an opportunity to register early. Come and enjoy a few evenings out while learning something new.

A Revolutionary Meal

Members have an opportunity to taste an authentically made Revolutionary War era meal on Saturday April 29th. Member Rich Featherstun and his troop of re-enactors, will start cooking about noon. The meal should be ready to serve about 5:00. Anyone may stop by the museum and view the meal being prepared and tended. Those who wish to purchase a meal ticket may do so by sending a check for $8/ meal made out to the Bedford Historical Society. Please indicate whether you will eat at the hall or want the meal ‘to-go’. A keepsake ticket, printed on the 1894 press, will be sent to you in time for the event. There is a limit of meal reservations being accepted, please reserve early. If you have questions please call Sharon Naylor at 330 468-1842. Our thanks to Sharon for arranging this event and to Rich and friends for their willingness to educate us about this era in American life.

Calling the Local Boys of Summer

We are looking for team photos of amateur league sports teams that played in Bedford and surrounding area ball fields. Do you have one to loan? How about that old jersey you used to wear? Can we borrow it? Call 232-0796 to help. Thanks.
Our Artifacts on Display

The museum has a temporary display at the Southeast Branch of the Library. Artifacts from our collection of World War I are on view in the glass case inside the main lobby. This is in conjunction with the Cuyahoga County Library, National Video Resources and the American Library Association. The display will be on view through February, it then returns to the War exhibit at the museum. We also have items on display at the Warrensville Hts. Library.

Docent Training

It is that time of year again to review our safety procedures and learn what is new. Docents and those who would like to be trained as a docent, please plan to attend an hour training session on March 23 at 2:00pm. Please note that this is an afternoon session not the usual evening training. If you can only attend in the evening, please let Janet know so that other arrangements can be made for you. Light refreshments will be served.

Can You Help?

We recently received a donation for a new computer and software from a museum visitor. Supplemental funding was received from an additional source. The museum has purchased a new software program designed for small museums called Past Perfect. Now it is your turn- can you donate a few minutes of time to enter data into the new program? If you can type, you can help. Thanks for your consideration.

Geo-caching

The society is interested in placing a geo-cache for visitors who enjoy this activity. Geo-caching uses a small device that gives directional signals from satellite. Thousands of small caches, or containers, are hidden throughout the world for people to find with their GPS devices. They enter their visit in a logbook. The containers have small inexpensive ‘gifts’ for those who find it. Visitors usually leave a small gift in exchange. Call the museum if you are interested in learning more about this family activity or if you would like to help.

Sedlon Art Garden Update

Another project that is a fledgling endeavor is the restoration of the Richard Sedlon Art Garden at the rear of the Dunham House. The Bedford Arts Initiative now has a chair to guide the project. Marj Ginther, manager of the US Bank in Bedford, has stepped forward to chair this committee.

The Bedford Historical Society has received a grant for $2000 toward the project. Total cost and the final design is yet to be determined. Steps in the garden’s creation include surveying, fencing, additional site clearance, a walking trail and a small shelter. Then the project is completed, the society and the arts initiative will have seasonal arts activities for youth and adults.

Ohio Historical Society Marker

Bedford’s first Ohio Historical Marker was dedicated on November 23rd at the Annual Lighting of Public Square. The two-sided marker tells a brief history of the business district in the heart of Bedford. The marker was temporarily posted near the gazebo for the event. It will find a permanent home on the northeast corner of the Square.

Elmer Flick Statue Committee

Jim Wagner and a group of interested citizens have formed a committee to erect a bronze statue of Baseball Hall of Fame great, Elmer Flick. Flick, a life long resident of Bedford was a baseball super hero 100 years ago. Location of the statue is yet to be determined. Cost of erecting a statue is close to $50K. Your historical society has been asked to accept the funds for this historic endeavor. If you would like to serve on this committee or can think of a way to raise the necessary funds, please call Jim at 440 439-7915. If you would like to donate to the cause please send contributions to the Bedford Historical Society; PO Box 46282, Bedford OH 44146. Checks should be marked Elmer Flick Statue on the bottom of the check. Your contributions are tax-deductible as allowed by law. Good luck to Jim and committee in getting Flick recognized. Thanks to June, our treasurer, for the extra bookkeeping as we help with this project.
Samples of ‘Cuts’

The beautiful etchings, such as the thistles above, are from antique printing ‘cuts’. The cuts are etched engravings that were purchased for the Museum’s print shop. Printers could order ‘cuts’ and reuse them many times. They added visual appeal to the printed page. The museum print shop has many cuts. Some are of a general nature, some are from the old Lincoln Press, its predecessor Mutual Printers and Miller Printing. We even have some from businesses in Indiana. Many of the Bedford ‘cuts’ are business logos and brands. Here are some of the cuts from the collection:

Can You Help Identify?

Joyce Koch, a museum visitor from Michigan, has been researching her family genealogy that includes the Philips and Faulkner’s of Bedford. She has sent a copy of a photo of several relatives and hopes that someone will recognize the faces. Stop in and view the photo if you think you can help. Thanks.

Obituaries:

Vivian Crowl. Long time Bedford resident, Vivian (nee: Book) Crowl passed away on December 24, 2005. Vivian was a member of the society since 1995 and was active in many of our events. She was the widow of Ken. She is survived by her children Cathy McFarlane, Caren (Ron) Trivett, Cynthia (Rick) Trivett and Jeffery (Jan) Crowl. She leaves many loving grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Word was received that Helen Javorsky passed away. Helen was a life member since 1990.

Our sympathy to Chris Mallin on the death of his mother, Mildred.