Upcoming Events:

March 1, 2012 Thursday 7:00pm Lyceum- The Housewife’s Guide to a Clean House. Members Barbara McDaniel and Helen Pratt discuss cleaning and food preparation from earlier times. ‘Beating the rug’ ‘airing the room’ ‘rendering the fat’- all part of the housewife’s duties. Remember cleaning the wallpaper? Share your earliest memory of spring housecleaning. Bedford Hts. Community Center, 5615 Perkins Road.

March 3, 2012 Saturday Annual Reverse Raffle (see details inside.)

April 1, 2012 Sunday 2:00 – 5:00pm Spring Open House: A Life of Creativity. We inaugurate an exhibit of the works of artist Roger Fuhrmeyer. For over 50 years, Roger has created works in pastel, oil, watercolor, pencil and sculpture. The Town Hall Museum has been the beneficiary of several of his works including beautiful murals. The exhibit encompasses portions of his early works, sketches from his travels abroad, and sketches from his years at Chautauqua and commissioned works from private collections. Meet the artist this afternoon and enjoy a champagne reception and special hors d’oeuvres. Town Hall Museum, 30 South Park St (Squire Place).

April 18, 2012 7:30 PM Docent training (details inside)

May 3, 2012 Thursday Annual Dinner. ‘Meet First Lady, Mrs. Julia Grant, wife of U. S. Grant.’ (Details will be mailed.)

June 8, 9, 10- Annual Strawberry Festival

From the president

Thank you members for helping us close the year in the black. We have been able to pay all bills, continue our masonry project and look forward to serving our communities in 2012.

Bob Schroeter, Sr.

Book Update

Bedford and Bedford Township Ohio will be released the week of May 21, 2012. It will be available for $21.99 plus $1.70 tax. An advance order form is enclosed with this newsletter and will be on our website. Advance orders, through the museum store only, will receive an additional expanded index that Helen Batko has developed. We hope you will enjoy reading this pictorial history of Bedford and Bedford Township.

2012 Membership Dues

Thank you for your prompt renewal of dues. Also, thanks to our members who purchased a gift membership for someone else. Marge Keene, membership secretary.

New Life Member

Connie Mack is a new life member. Thanks, Connie, for your support.
Can You Spare Some Time?

One of the greatest assets that keep the Bedford Historical Society operating is the volunteers who donate time, talent and energy to help us continue our services. Help is needed for the following:

The Bedford City School annual 3rd grade tours. Can you spare a few hours in May to help with this important program?

Betsy Lee, Chair of the Strawberry Festival, hopes that you will be able to donate a few hours to make the Strawberry Festival successful. Help is needed to set-up, take-down, serve, host the buildings. Also, the car show on Saturday evening requires volunteers for directing the cars into their places.

The summer Party-in-the-Park concerts will be here in no time. Can you donate a Wednesday evening to help pop popcorn?

Call the Museum 440 232-0796 or email through our website-bedfordohiohistory.org.

Remember Cats in the Cradle?

We didn’t. Volunteers and staff tried to remember the string game where a large loop of string is ‘threaded’ through fingers to make a complex pattern. Finally, Helen Pratt found a book about the old string games that were played in childhood. None of us are too good at it. Feel free to stop into the Museum and try it yourself. We have the string and book ready for your visit.

Society Receives Bequest

The Society has received a generous donation from the estate of Stanley L. and Eloise Morgan. The Morgans were members of the Society who arranged a Charitable Remainder Trust to include the Bedford Historical Society. Trustees and the family are considering ways to better serve the community through the Society while honoring the Morgans for their generosity.

Bedford Hospital Guild

Longtime residents of the Bedford area and those who have needed the services of Bedford Municipal Hospital, now UHHS Bedford Medical Center, have reaped the benefit of the Bedford Hospital Guild. The Guild was organized in the 1920s to help raise funds for equipment and operating expenses for the proposed hospital prior to its being built on Blaine Avenue. Over the years its members supplied thousands of hours of volunteer service and funds for the betterment of all citizens who required the services of the hospital.

It is with sadness that we report that the Guild held its final meeting in December 2011. The Bedford Historical Society received a donation from the Guild for our efforts to serve the public in keeping its history.

Docent Training

Want to learn more about Bedford history or about the items we have in our museums? Join us for dessert and docent training on Wednesday evening April 18th at 7:30 PM. Whether you are a seasoned volunteer or would like to know more, this training session is for you. RSVP to the museum office so that enough refreshments are available.

Thanks!

The Board of Trustees extends its thanks to Ronald Rue for his service as a Trustee and member of the Endowment Committee for the past several years. Through Ron’s efforts, the Society received a refund from taxes that were mistakenly collected by one of the utilities and has offered advice and help on many projects. Thanks, Ron!

Old Ways School

The Old Ways School begins in April. This is an opportunity to learn something new or improve a skill. The brochure is enclosed with this newsletter. Please spread the word about the classes.
The Society’s archives supply many requests about genealogy, historic places in the Bedford Township area and businesses. Because we hold the B. L. Marble archives, we help people who are researching their chairs and other product lines from the company. One of the recent requests was for a stenographer’s chair. The number was followed with a ‘V’. We thought you would like to learn more about it too:

The ‘V’ stood for Victory. Several models of chairs were altered during WWII because of the lack of materials. This was the case for swivel model chairs which had metal in the mechanisms and metal casters. When metal became restricted due to the war effort, Marble developed wooden mechanisms to serve as replacements.

The 1942 catalogue read: “Necessities of war have taken one product after another off the market. War Production Board’s General Conservation Order M-126 now forbids the further use of metal mechanisms on office swivel chairs.

“To meet the continued demand for swivel chairs, we have perfected an all-wood base, with a non-tilting revolving fixture, which we believe will be satisfactory for temporary use until metal mechanisms are again available.”

Christmas in Bedford Falls

Thanks to all the volunteers who hosted over 500 visitors to the museum. Special thanks to all of the cookie bakers! (We used all but a half dozen of the cookies, made two 90-cup pots of coffee, about 40 cups of tea and two gallons of hot chocolate.) And special thanks to members-Phil Saunders, Bob Pallat and Glyn Gary for setting up the magical Christmas village and train layout. It takes several hours of their time and talent to set up the village.(Phil is the chief architect of the village, Bob is in charge of all rolling stock and Glyn got roped into the whole set-up by the other two. He plans to complain to his union rep about the lack of enough breaks. It’s tough work building a city.) Thanks Phil, Bob and Glyn!

Left to right- Bob, Phil and Glyn.

What Was It?

Visitors to the Town Hall Museum during the Christmas in Bedford Falls Festival had fun guessing what this was. Guesses included-candle making equipment, a bead sorter, a book page separator, a pencil maker and a bean counter. What is it? The apparatus was used to fill several communion glasses at one time. The small communion glasses were placed on a tray, the tray was placed under the metal funnels. Grape juice was poured into the wide part and then the metal trough was tipped. The liquid was channeled into several glasses at once.
A Night in Old Italy

Saturday March 3, 2012
Doors open at 6:30
Dinner at 7:30

The Bedford Historical Society Board of Trustees invites members and their friends to a fun evening of delicious food, good company and special entertainment.

LaCasa Bella Party Center
26383 Broadway (State RT 14) Oakwood Village
Ohio

Menu- A special evening of regional Italian cuisine
Appetizers include Rita’s Italian specialties-
Arancini di Riso and Homemade Meatballs
Main dish includes
Chicken Parmesan, side pasta,
Garlic bread/rolls, salad, and dessert
Beverages include coffee, tea and soft drinks
A cash bar will be available

Live Entertainment

Jerry Salerno on guitar & Joe Abate on mandolin, known as ‘A Glass of Wine’ serenade us with Italian favorites.

A Big Board ticket with a chance to win $ 2500
Also a silent auction of special donated items

Your $50 donation includes dinner, entertainment & raffle. Two dinners sharing one raffle ticket $80. Dinner and entertainment only $30.

Please contact a Trustee or President Bob Schroeter (440 232-3849) for tickets. Enjoy an evening with friends while supporting the Bedford Historical Society. Proceeds help the Society continue its service to our communities.

Team Work

The photo above shows volunteer Jonathan McCandless (JCU engineering major) helping our librarian, Paul Pojman, assemble a new work station for the Museum. Archivist, Debbie Grubb, reads the instructions. A scanner-printer, recently donated by the City of Bedford, will be placed on the work station along with a computer. Volunteer Orianne Crow will be using the set-up to digitize our Civil War records of Bedford Township men.

Obituaries-

Donald D. Stouffer; Life member, Donald Stouffer, died on October 26, 2011. He is survived by his loving wife Donna (nee: Jackman), children Gary and Larry (Kathy). He will be missed by his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Domonick Casale; Member Domonick Casale passed away on December 11, 2011. Dom grew up in Maple Heights and was co-owner of Strachan Casale Insurance Agency. He served his country in the U.S. Army during WWII. He is survived by his loving wife Lillian. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Rose. He will be missed by his extended family and many friends.

Our sympathy to member Kay Parsons on the death of her mother.