



OUR ANNUAL MEETING had a big turnout with almost 70 people attending. Check out the pictures.

Dinner – The Sandusky Yacht Club outdid themselves this year. We received so many compliments on the buffet.

Speaker –Will Cummings presented an excellent program about E. W. Roberts and the early days of aviation in Sandusky. Make sure to check

out our [website page](#) for some great pictures from the event.

Some Notes From The Annual Meeting – President Brent Gardner – As with most organizations, Covid slowed us down. We had to restart the engine, which was a real challenge. We began with some fun events. Some worked and others stalled, needing more work. All in all it was a good year. We look forward to more opportunities to network with other agencies and promote historic tourism. Shores & Islands are working on a Historical Trail which will provide a longer season for the County and for promoting local history. I particularly want to thank Leslie Korenko, our secretary, and so much more. If our organization has a heart – it is Leslie. She keeps this organization running in so many ways. And our thanks to Monty Kaufman, our Treasurer, who keeps our books and manages our accounts.

Membership: We have 150 active members – we are still recovering from the Covid impact with a few more rejoining each year

Website: We moved our website to a new host - giving us more control and security. The move did not go as smooth as hoped, and we had about 10 days of panic before everything fell into place. Ours is a really big website – 70 pages, 109 sub pages and 1600 media, documents & photos.

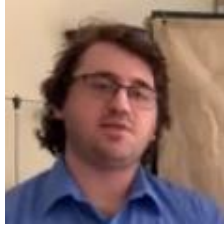
Facebook: We now have over 1100 Followers, and our more popular posts have reached 4,000 people. We have made an effort to share events held by the historical organizations in and near Erie County. This helps expand their promotion efforts.

Queries: We answered well over 100 queries this year - either providing answers, getting answers through our Facebook page (our Followers are really great) or referring them to another source. Queries range from histories of houses, donation of items (which we generally refer to the Sandusky Library-thanks to Jeremy), family research, etc.

Treasurer's Report - For the past several years, we have had a balanced budget, spending close to what we receive in donations, fund raisers, and memberships. We closed our safe deposit box and among the contents were really old bank records and some VCR tapes which we sent over to the library. They will be digitizing them for their archives. We finally got a credit card, which will help us better manage purchases (which we have doing on a reimbursement basis) and will be added to those vendors who invoice annually (website, Zoom, etc).

Historic Markers – We are working with the county and city to refurbish several markers. We had a new marker ordered for the Hinde & Dauch building. The cost of a new marker exceeds \$3000, so we are looking at alternate signage solutions. We are also working with private property owners to refurbish their building markers, offering an incentive to them. [A little bit more about this later in this newsletter.]

MEET OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS



JEREMY ANGSTADT – Jeremy is the Museum Services Manager for the Sandusky Library and Follett House Museum. Originally from Southeastern Pennsylvania, he graduated from Pennsylvania State University with an undergraduate degree in history and later he graduated from Villanova University with a master's degree in public history. He has worked at Eisenhower National Historic Site, Independence Seaport Museum, Valley Forge National Historic Park, and Slate Run Living Historical Farm Metro Park. Jeremy has been with the Sandusky Library for over six years.



MOLLY SAMPSON – Molly is the Executive Director of the Maritime Museum of Sandusky. She is a native of Northwest Ohio. She is pursuing a Master of Arts in WWII Studies and holds a Bachelor's of Liberal Studies with an emphasis in History and Marketing from Bowling Green State University. She is also the founder of the 1st WAC Living History Group, a nonprofit education group that offers virtual classes on the role of the Women's Army Corps during the Second World War. Molly was working at a military museum in NW Georgia when the position opened at the Maritime Museum of Sandusky. I am passionate about preserving and promoting the maritime heritage of the Sandusky area. As the executive director of the Sandusky Area Maritime Association, I oversee the daily operations, fundraising, marketing, and programming of the organization, as well as the development of the future museum and education center.

We bid a reluctant good-bye to departing Board Members Zack Dolyk and Brent Gardner.

BRENT GARDNER President of Gardner & Strayer Insurance Group, Inc. His business acumen, organization skills and fresh new ideas have helped moved this organization forward into the post Covid era. Brent served as our President and served on the board for 11 years.

ZACK DOYLK remains our legal advisor, serving on the Board for 6 years. Zack has been heavily active in various Vermilion organizations, the Sandusky Bay Chapter of the Archeological Society of Ohio (ASO) and the Amherst Historical Society. He also served as Trustee of the Vermilion-on-the-Lake Historic Community Center, and President of the Ritter Public Library Foundation.

TOM HORSMAN works for the City of Sandusky's Department of Community Development and serves as the staff liaison for the Sandusky Landmark Commission. Tom has a particular interest in Sandusky's historic architecture, its city planning history, and history of transportation and has been instrumental in streamlining our communications with the City.

Congrats to the Ottawa County Historical Society which received a Trillium Local Activity Grant from the America 250 Ohio Commission for a historical marker honoring a Revolutionary War veteran who became the first keeper of Marblehead's lighthouse. It is for its upcoming project titled Daughters of the American Revolution America-250 Patriots Marker.



CELEBRATE JUNETEENTH WITH A URR WALKING TOUR -

Join us in celebration (Tuesday June 19) with a walking tour of Underground Railroad sites in Sandusky. Our own Mary Ann Groot will lead us (30 minutes) and talk about some of the most interesting sites. Meet at the Popcorn Wagon in the downtown Sandusky park (Canton Row) at 6:30.



OLD NEWS – March 8, 1861 – The Water in Sandusky Bay – The prevailing westerly winds this spring have operated to keep the water in the Bay very low. The change yesterday has served to fill it again, and it is now nearly up to the usual depth. But the channel has deepened so much within a few years, that there is no trouble in passing through it, even when the water is low. Very few boats get aground lately, and only we believe when they got out of the channel.

HISTORIC MARKERS

We mentioned plans to inventory the condition of the County's historic markers. Even though some were missing and many were placed by other organizations, we have taken them under our wing.



Our first project was the **Hinde & Dauch marker**. This large plaque was damaged and after much debate, we decided to have another one made. We then re-wrote the text so that one side is Hinde & Dauch and the other the Paper District. This was finally installed late last year.

Next on our list was the **Old Fort Sandusky** marker that was located at Routes 2 & 6 near Margarettsville. We had it taken down for refurbishment

and discovered a crack near the bottom. A pretty big crack. It cannot be repaired and will need to be replaced. This was a joint project with the City of Sandusky and Erie County.



Thanks to Erie County, the marker for the Erie County Courthouse and the Jury of Erie County Women was moved to the front walkway of the courthouse.

Finally, the old Bicentennial Rose Garden marker, which was removed when the new traffic pattern was installed, was

finally located. Since the rose garden has pretty much been removed, we are trying to determine how best to repurpose this marker.



We have had several requests for new markers, but have put them on hold. New markers cost about \$3500 and refurbishment,



about \$600 to \$1000. Make sure you visit our [Historic Marker page](#), it contains photos and histories on every marker we could find in Erie County. There are some great new styles of marker too located in Huron and Vermilion.



A LITTLE ABOUT OUR WEBSITE

Did you know? Our top referrals come from Facebook, Shores & Islands, and Ohio.org? And our most popular pages are the [Underground Railroad tour](#), [Historic Maps](#), [Museums and Historic Sites](#) & [Walking tours](#) (Sandusky, Kelleys Island, Vermilion, Huron, Milan). Speaking of the Underground Railroad tour, we have created a brochure that you can carry along as you explore the many URR sites in Sandusky. Just [download](#) it. You can use the website page to get even more information about each location.

OLD NEWS – September 8, 1880 – Mrs. Mary Wels, a widow who lives in Perkins, fell down the cellar stairs in the residence of Geo. Fisher in that township on Saturday evening last and was very severely bruised and also pretty badly injured internally. Mrs. Wels had started to go to bed without a light, and as her sight is defective, she missed, her way and fell as stated.

SOME QUERIES WE ANSWERED



Info on Bartlett family –DAR- research needed - Help for vintage tractor repair 1940s Avery Tractor - Boat houses on Parker St-Sandusky\Tornado of 1922 - Dorn – old bottle of Old Island Muscatel found - Donation brochure for the Sandusky Tractor 10-20 model j - Historic Marker replacement request-Site of Shipyard - Family history Beerley/Birle - House on 802 W Washington Sandusky\Surf's up-wave pool in downtown Sandusky - 910 W Washington St, hidden room URR? - Milan Capt. Kelly/Kelleys Bldg. - Milan Walking |tour type and F Taylor attorney question - Huron marker replacement - John Kelley – Lakewood connection - James Ellsworth-Sandusky or Sandusky County -

Construction dates for a house – how to find - Recommendation for donation organization - Rye Beach Park history - History marker request – Wakeman quarry question - 1808 map of Firelands on our website - Capt. Pipe (Hopocan) American Indian 1820 (was for Sandusky Co.) - Holzaepfel-Cecil Laird & Jim Michael - Contact info for Berlin Hts. Historical - Donation of letters from 1915-16 - 250th Ohio celebration - URR tour, consult and research on Uncle Tom's Cabin, the real people behind the characters - Krupp & Herb families - Milan murders (Cassidy Family 1968) & Sheriff picture - Elisa Higgins & Lisha Flag - Donation of vintage dolls

AND WE GOT SOME THANKS TOO As you can see, we answer a LOT of questions. Sometimes we can't answer the question directly, but always suggest someplace to go for an answer. This often takes quite a bit of work! While it is satisfying knowing we helped someone, very few people take the time to say thanks. But a few do! Nancy B - I contacted the (Milan) library as you suggested. Rebecca Daneker provided the biographical information about S. F. Taylor that I needed, along with lots of other interesting tidbits. I included the information in



my document about Joseph Quigley my paternal-great-great-grandfather. Chris H - Wow. I don't even know what to say. This is so much more than I anticipated!! I'm so happy I asked. Marcia B wrote - Thank you so much! You've gone above and beyond!

A BIG THANKS TO THESE MEMBERS WHO DONATED TO US: Martha Abbott, Brian Baxter, Dave & Jacquelyn Clark, Judith Corso, Mike & Lisa Dendinger, Douglas Dickson, Larry

Fletcher, Candy & Gary Frankowski, Chris & Linda Gasteier, Mark Gross, John & Neill Hancock, Larry & Nancy Holkenborg, Hurricane Marine Transport, Rosemarie Jonas, Randy & Christine Koch, Bill & Karen Lally, John & Jennifer Lippus, Dean & Jane Lucal, Michael & Marilyn Marshall, Ann Patella, Jay & Jean Rounds, Barbara Ruggles, Robert Runner, Kay & Steve Shoffner, Carol Steuk, Bill & Erline Trsek, Kevin Zeiher.

OLD NEWS – August 12, 1871 - A Chicken Suit - A suit was brought before Squire Cross on Thursday, which will probably be followed by others of as similar character. Charles Schaeffler is the owner of several hundred turkeys, geese, chickens, guinea fowls and ducks. This large brood refuse to stay at home but go abroad into the neighbors' yards and make sad havoc of garden stuff, grapes and vines. A neighbor of Mr. Schaeffler, named P. Carlin, having suffered to a considerable amount from the ravages of his fowls, brought suit before Mr. Cross, laying his damages at \$100. A judgment for \$65 was allowed him. The defendant admitted that damage had been done in his own garden.

OLD NEWS - September 8, 1860- Night before last, the Northern lights flamed up over the whole Northern heavens for several hours. Painter never transferred to canvas nor poet painted in words, a more beautiful scene. Had not the heavy fingers of slumber pressed hard on our eyelids about midnight, we would not have tired of gazing. As it was, we drank in all the beauty we could from a few glances, with the promise of a larger draught at the "net appearance." – Last night, however, the windows of heaven were opened and poured out such treasures of rain upon the teeming earth as effectually to quench out "aurora" and poetry together. We hence wait some new jog to our inspiration.

OLD NEWS - Our Walk About Town - New Buildings, Business of the SD&C RR, Improvements, Sandusky Daily Register, July 7, 1860

Sandusky is not finished after all. Croakers have for some time past been positive that our town needed only a coat of cheap varnish to render it fit to be boxed up and sent off. Others, a little liberal, were willing to concede life to it yet, but claimed that it was but a dwarf, its growth having been arrested in infancy, and they advised that it be sold out to Barnum and put upon exhibition by the side of Tom Thumb. Some have been of the opinion that its paleness and miasmas was occasioned by its second dentition, and claimed that having a good constitution and being of good stock, it was sure of passing safely through the critical season, and that, these childish troubles over, it would pass securely up into ruddy city-hood.

In our walks about town, we have observed some indications that the latter prognosticators are soon to realize their expectations. We have observed that she, (for we can get along more fluently by changing the gender of our pronoun) is beginning to assume a more lively carriage and a more elastic step. Her features are brightening up of late; her eye begins to get a new sparkle; her cheeks are growing more ruddy, and it may be that ere the close of the season, she will become so far convalescent that the croakers will become silent and her friends be relieved of their anxiety in her behalf.

Thinking that our readers like ourselves, are best pleased by looking on the bright side of things rather than the somber, we give this morning a few items which we gathered in our yesterday's rambles.

Mr. Gilcher is putting up, on the corner of Columbus Avenue and Monroe Street, a very fine residence. The foundations are all laid and the first story is growing up rapidly from day to day. It is to be built of blue stone; the upright part will be two stories and will have two fronts of 40 feet each. To this there will be attached a kitchen arrangement, running along Monroe Street 81 feet by 40 feet deep, including veranda. This, when completed, will be a fine addition to that part of town, and will add one more to the many residences of the kind for which our city is already celebrated. To our notion there is no material in Northern Ohio so fine for building purposes as the blue lime stone found so abundantly in this vicinity.

The SM&N Railroad Co. commenced clearing their ground yesterday morning for the purpose of erecting a new car house. It is to be a wood structure, 45 by 165 feet, and will be a great convenience for this road. This road has lately sent out a very fine locomotive which has been re-constructed and re-built at their shops in this city. It is one of the chief attractions of this road just now.

Thornton & Fitzhugh have been making extensive and permanent improvements on their docks at the foot of Columbus Avenue.

The SD&C Railroad contemplate some improvements at their docks in this city, which they will be commenced on Monday next. The filling in of their stock dock is to be completed; a track will be constructed through the length of the dock, and thus fitted up, it will be used for the purpose of freighting lumber. We learn from their freight agent Mr. J. H. Stead, that the business of this road has been largely on the increase during the last few weeks. In freight, the road has been working up to the full capacity of its rolling stock. They are now constructing and having constructed for their use fifty new freight cars and expect to add fifty more new ones during the season. The northward bound freight has been mostly grain, while the bulk of the returning freight has been lumber.

The lumber business along the line of this road is rapidly growing into a large trade.



Their facilities for receiving and freighting lumber from boats are unequalled by any port in the State. They have nearly one-half of a mile of dockage where lumber can be thrown from the water within reach of their cars without any cartage of any kind, beside the facilities which will be afforded by the new arrangement on their stock dock, which alone would enable them to do with

great facility a large lumber business. The lumber business of this road for the last year amounted to about 2½ millions of feet. They now have a contract with one firm, Mitchell & Rowland of Cincinnati, to ship to them during the coming months 4½ millions of feet. The lumber trade of this city is growing into a business of no mean magnitude, and we may have occasion to return to this branch of business again ere long.

SUPPORT OUR BUSINESS MEMBERS

GUNDLACH SHEET METAL WORKS, established in 1889, is a family owned and operated company specializing in the installation and repair of heating, air conditioning and ventilation systems. 419-625-4525 (Erie Co.) 419-668-0999 (Huron Co.) 419-734-7351 (Ottawa Co.).



FIRELANDS ADVENTURE TOURS - Your journey begins when seasoned tour guides pick you up at Jackson Street Pier, the heart of downtown Sandusky's vibrant waterfront neighborhood. Discover the hidden truths of the Underground Railroad and learn about the significant role that Sandusky, Ohio played in the lives of so many freedom seekers. Enjoy the Firelands area, Sandusky Bay, and Lake Erie in the comfort of a 20 passenger bus.

THE GOODTIME I – A Great Lake Day, begins with a cruise aboard *The Goodtime I*, a family owned business, providing luxury cruises along the Sandusky Bay, to Kelleys Island and to Put-in-Bay. They offer both public cruises as well as private cruising events, to help make your summer on Lake Erie everything you could imagine, and more!



SHORES & ISLANDS OHIO - There's a Great Lake between you and your worries. From island hopping to bird watching, record-breaking roller coasters to water parks, wineries to dockside dining, plus hidden gems that keep the fun going all year long. However you like to coast – you'll find it here; event lists, places to explore, and lots more.

HURRICANE MARINE TRANSPORT INC. – Your boat transportation experts. Operating from our home base along the south shore of Lake Erie, from Toledo to Port Clinton and Sandusky to Cleveland and on to Conneaut, our customers have made us the premier marine transportation provider for the entire Great Lakes region.



THE 1870 PUBLISHING GROUP – Two great books about **Cedar Point: Rolling Through The Years** by Ken Miller is a look back across time at the Worlds' Greatest Amusement Park and **Fun at Old Cedar Point** by Glenn Everett, a look back in time at 1935 Cedar Point and downtown Sandusky.

MARK GROSS LAW - A virtual law office providing timely and high quality legal services including: *Estate Planning & Probate. Business* (Small Business & Startups, LLC & Corporations, Contracts & Business Transactions, Liquor Permits). *Real Estate* (Residential & Commercial, Purchase Agreements & Leases, Development & Owners Associations, Real Estate Tax & Zoning Matters).



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