



LORAIN COUNTY
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

2023 Annual Report



MISSION

To collect, preserve, and share the history of Lorain County to educate and inspire present and future generations.

VISION

To be a respected hub of learning about history, where all people are encouraged to discover and develop a passion for the past, engage in relevant study and educational experiences, and make history a meaningful part of their lives.

Above: Archivist Eric Greenly gives a tour at The Hickories during the Holiday Open House.

Cover: In fall 2023, LCHS was invited to install an exhibit of Lorain County history in the Ohio Statehouse's Governor Thomas Worthington Center. Our display, in two lighted cases, highlights important industries in Lorain County such as agriculture and shipbuilding and contains artifacts manufactured in the county such as the Garford padded bicycle saddle and the red RIDGID pipe wrench. It also has significant aspects of Lorain County's history, like the Oberlin-Wellington Rescue of 1858, a key moment in the history of abolitionism before the Civil War, and the founding of Lorain County Community College, the first community college in Ohio to have a permanent campus. The Worthington Center is used nearly every day as a classroom for school groups and others who are meeting in the Statehouse. It is also open to the public when not reserved. The exhibit has been so well received that LCHS was asked to allow the exhibit to remain from its original end date of May until August 2024.

Page 3: LCHS's annual Valentine Tea weekend at The Hickories is one of LCHS's biggest fundraising events.



STRATEGIC FOCUS

1. Improved Interpretation

What stories do we want to tell and how will we tell them?

2. Facilities Planning

What are our short-term and long-term plans for our properties? What improvements are needed for collections storage and exhibit space? How can we pay for this?

3. Financial Resiliency

How do we ensure that there are adequate funds available to support our mission so that LCHS thrives now and into the future?



2023 HIGHLIGHTS



Lorain County was formed on paper from parts of Cuyahoga, Huron and Medina Counties on December 26, 1822. Thus the official kickoff for the **Lorain County Bicentennial** took place on December 26, 2022, and LCHS started 2023 with a plan to celebrate! We have taken advantage of the opportunity to promote Lorain County history in this special anniversary year.

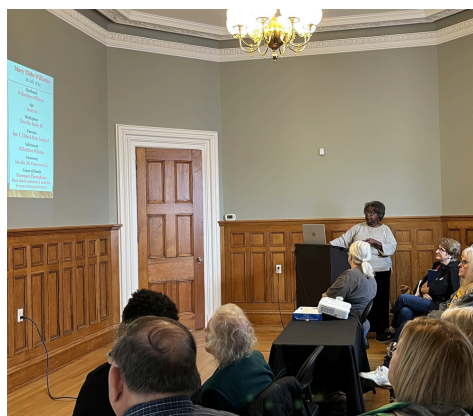
Throughout 2023, LCHS offered a **monthly Bicentennial Speaker Series**. Some presentations were given online while others were in person and offered the chance to tour a historic site. A variety of topics were covered, including the history of the Western Reserve, the Lorain County Metro Park District, the 103rd O.V.I., archaeology and early people of the county, and the Oberlin-Wellington Rescue.



With the support of Friends of the Hickories, we contracted with Durable Slate, a well-known roofing contractor who has previously worked for LCHS, to **repair The Hickories' historic slate roof**. Additional funds for the project were raised through **Connect to a Cause**, the twelve-hour fundraising day facilitated through the Community Foundation of Lorain County, and our Annual Fund year-end campaign.

LCHS successfully transitioned its **archival collection records** to a cloud-based searchable database.

We added over 500 materials to the collection in 2023, and answered 121 queries from the public concerning possible donations or historical research. A box with 322 negatives from the Bemis Collection was researched, digitized, and added to the collections database.



LCHS offered a free **Genealogy Workshop Series** with national expert Deborah Abbott. The first two sessions focused on basics of research, with how to get started and vital records. The third session focused on slave records. Dr. Abbott is a professional genealogist specializing in genealogical methodology, manuscript collections, and African American family research.

LCHS acquired **five properties in the West by the River Historic District** in Elyria. These properties, including 304 West Avenue, were gifts to the organization from John F. “Jack” Smith (1927-2012). Jack was a decades-long supporter of LCHS. He was an Endowed Life Member and Director Emeritus of LCHS. Our Board and committee has been working to secure the properties and determine the next steps for LCHS.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathy Dean-Dielman

President

Sam Battle

Vice President

Bonnie Ivancic

Financial Officer

Jackie Kokai

Secretary

Margaret Brooks-Terry

Bob Ebert

John Handyside

Jeff Kinsley

Matt Nahorn

Jeff Sigsworth

Marilyn Wainio

Bob Yun

George Strom

Director Emeritus



George Strom, Director Emeritus and an Endowed Life Member of LCHS, passed away in September 2023. An LCHS Board member for decades, he served as president for over twenty years. Under George's leadership, LCHS purchased The Hickories as its first permanent home and initiated the Starr House project to create the Lorain County History Center.



VOLUNTEERS SPONSORS

Collections & Research

Bob Ebert
Tom Mangan
Jeff Sigsworth
Taylor Rock
Mackenzie Seidl
Mika Tirado
Alex Vargo

Museum Docents

Ellen Andrews
Margaret Brooks-Terry
Kathy Dean-Dielman
Helen Dupont
Bob & Marcia Ebert
Cheryl Greenly
John & Renee Handyside
Cindy & George Hasko
Jackie Kokai
Cyndi McCabe
Donna McGuire
Matt Nahorn
Suzy Ratliff
Jeff & Karen Sigsworth
Bob Yun

Valentine Tea Committee

Ellen Andrews, co-chair
Pam Monschein, co-chair
Cindy Hasko
Bonnie Ivancic
Jackie Kokai
Donna McGuire
Suzy Ratliff
Rita Thompson

Ice Cream Social Chair

Jackie Kokai

Hickories on Tap Committee

John Handyside, co-chair
Jeff Kinsley, co-chair
Kathy Dean-Dielman
Jackie Kokai

Valentine Tea

Rose Sponsors
Connie Butler, Botamer
Florist & More
Amanda Deery, Elyria Law
Director

Violet Sponsors

Ellen Andrews
Margaret Brooks-Terry
Eleanor Broome
Carole Doerr, Pearl's Girls
Knit & Stitch
Ann Hamker, Jaworski Physical
Therapy, Inc.
Bonnie Ivancic
Pam Monschein
Ellen Otis
Anne Patterson & Rose Donley
Rita Thompson
Marilyn Wainio

Daisy Sponsors

Julie Bajda
Kerri Broome
Millie Buta
Kathy Dean-Dielman
Diane Ferraro
Marcia Hazelton
Kim Renuart
Linda Snead
Marjorie Strom

Ice Cream Social

Sundae Sponsors
Corrigan Krause CPAs and
Consultants
Fauver Co., LPA
Re-Elect Mayor Frank Whitfield
South Shore Electric, Inc.
Dale Yost

Double Scoop Sponsors

Nathan & Kerri Broome
Millie Buta
Dean-Dielman Family
David DiVencenzo, Ely-Freese
House Air BNB
Garry Gibbs, Lorain County
Visitors Bureau
Marcia Hazelton
Hideaway Storage of Elyria, LLC
Huntington Private Bank
Bill & Bonnie Ivancic

King & Chavez, Attorneys
at Law
Jackie Kokai
Ed Martin
Ryan St. Marie Insurance
Mary Siwierka for Elyria City
Council
Jack & Marilyn Wainio

Single Scoop Sponsors

Larry & Eleanor Broome
Community Foundation of
Lorain County
Polly & Fred Dengel
Diane Ferraro
Richard & Denny Fogel
Neal & Cheryl Hubbard
Sandi & Jeff Kinsley
Matt Lundy, Families for
Lundy
Dave McGuire
Daniel J. Talarek, Lorain
County Treasurer
Ron & Rita Thompson
Vandemark Family
Bob Yun
Kevin Ziegman & Caroline
Ziegman

Hickories on Tap

Keg Club
South Shore Electric, Inc.

Growler Gang

Kathy Dean-Dielman & Brad
Dielman
Corrigan & Krause CPAs and
Consultants
Fauver Co., LPA
Huntington Private Bank

Pint Party Patrons

Elyrians for Matthew Van
Wormer
John & Renee Handyside
Bill & Bonnie Ivancic
Jeff & Sandi Kinsley
Jackie Kokai
David McGuire
Jan McKay & Associates
Jeff & Karen Sigsworth
Vandemark Jewelers
Marilyn Wainio

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

*For the Year Ended
December 31, 2023*

REVENUE & OTHER SUPPORT

Contributions and Membership.....	\$355,818
Educational Funding.....	65,453
Grants.....	40,000
Special Events, Fundraisers, Programs.....	29,973
Investment Income used for Operations.....	171,242
Rental Income.....	22,047
Other.....	11,236
Total Revenue & Other Support.....	\$695,769

EXPENSES

Salaries, Payroll Taxes.....	\$152,816
Building/Grounds Maint. & Operations.....	128,138
Administrative, Office Operations, Misc.....	20,318
Legal & Professional Fees.....	41,090
Programs & Projects Costs.....	10,943
Development & Fundraising.....	8,558
Other.....	11,787
Total Expenses.....	\$373,650

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS.....\$322,119

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31, 2023

ASSETS

Cash & Cash Equivalents.....	\$28,679
Other Receivable.....	13,300
Investments.....	1,179,542
Property & Equipment, net of accum. depreciation.....	965,955
Total Assets.....	\$2,187,476

LIABILITIES

.....\$ -

NET ASSETS

Total Net Assets.....	\$2,187,476
------------------------------	--------------------

TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS.....	\$2,187,476
--	--------------------

FINANCIAL NOTES

2023 brought around some note-worthy changes to our Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet). LCHS acquired \$308,000 of Buildings through a generous donation from the Smith Estate bringing our total Net Assets to \$2,187,476 as compared to \$1,865,957 for the prior year.

Our Statement of Activities (Profit and Loss Statement) was also enhanced by the \$308,000 of donated buildings along with some positive gains on our investments resulting in a \$322,119 positive Change in Net Assets (Net Profit) for the year ended 2023.

We are grateful to the Community Foundation of Lorain County and the Elyria Rotary for grant funding in 2023. Thank you!

2023 DONORS

2023 Annual Fund

Anonymous
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Baird
Julie Bajda
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Bak
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Bate
Sam Battle
Dr. Robert Baumann
Jan Brooks
Margaret Brooks-Terry
Lawrence & Eleanor Broome
Nathan & Kerri Broome
Mr. & Mrs. Don Carman
Mr. & Mrs. James Carney
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Chavez
Mr. & Mrs. Jamie Christian
Peter & Maureen Davie
Drs. Fritz & Polly Dengel
Kathy Dean-Dielman
Robert & Marcia Ebert
Elyria Historical Association
John Farrar
Tim & Kristine Ferguson
Diane Ferraro
Kevin & Gail Flanigan
Dr. & Mrs. Richard Fogel
Mary Ann & Steve Francis
Eric & Cheryl Greenly
Robert Harper
Marcia R. Hazelton
Earleen Helman
Bette Lou Higgins
Bonnie Ivancic
Dr. & Mrs. Mark Jessie
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Kailes
Mr. & Mrs. David Karohl
Jeff Kinsley
Jacqueline Kokai
Gary Kornblith & Carol
Lasser
Marilyn Law
Mark & Donna McGuire
Pam & Kevin Monschein
Bill & Diane Nahorn
Matt Nahorn
Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin P.
Norton
Ellen R. Otis
Barb Piscopo
Millie Redon
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Rieth, Jr.
Randolph G. Rodachy
Christina Rombach
Liz Schultz
Jeff & Karen Sigsworth
Susan Sikora
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Skillicorn
Rory Tomasek & Denise
O'Leary
David W. Vargo
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Verburg
Mr. & Mrs. William Voit
Marilyn Wainio
Bob Yun

2023 Connect to a Cause

Carol Baptiste
Margaret Brooks-Terry
Joanna Broome & Kevin
Wacker
Lawrence & Eleanor Broome
Nathan & Kerri Broome
Laura Bunevich
Karen Chapman
Amanda Davidson-Johnston
Debbie Davis
Lou Ann Deisher
Brad Dielman
Frank DiMarco
Robert & Marcia Ebert
Judy Erdman
Michele Esper
Anthony Fought
Anthony & Theresa Gallo
Jana Goots
The Greenly Family
Marcia Harmon
Cynthia Hasko
Bette Lou Higgins
Bonnie Ivancic
Sandi Kinsley
Jacqueline Kokai
Lynn Koster
Judith Kovach
Kevin Krischer
Terrence & Susan Lang
Joseph Mackert
Cyndi McCabe & Chuck
Sakryd
Donna McGuire
Rod McGuire
Scott McKinney
Lynn & Bob Miller
Donna Moats
Kevin & Pam Monschein

Jeff Newcomb
Mary Ann Nolan
Cathy Nunnari
Meg Oudeman
Lisa Owens
Shelli Poll
Stefanie Radachi
Liz Schultz
Jeff & Karen Sigsworth
Robert & Judy Skillicorn
Tracy Taylor
Libby & Roy Thomas
Annette Towner
Freda Verburg
Patrick Verburg
Deb Wahl
Marilyn Wainio
Ruth & Bill Wulfhoop
Samantha Wyler

Memorial Donations

In Memory of George Strom
MaryAnn & Lew Canter
Commodore Perry Antique
Automobile Club of America
Peter Davie
L. William & Karen T. Gast
Eric & Cheryl Greenly
Karis Lyon
Dorothy MacIntyre
Kevin & Pam Monschein
Russell & Mary Stein IV
Dan & Debbie Strom
Mike & Judy Tascher

In Memory of Barb Sutton
Barb King

2023 MEMBERS

Endowed Life Members

Ruby

William & Janet Bird

Emerald

Patrick & Freda Verburg

Sapphire

Nancy Baldauf

Kerri & Nathan Broome

Steve & Sherri Chavez

Robert & Marcia Ebert

Ada Gates

Fred & Lynda Gatz Helyes

Margo Hirth

Bill & Bonnie Ivancic

Jacqueline Kokai

Kevin & Pam Monschein

John & Maureen Musson

Ben Norton

Jaki Pearce

Jeff & Karen Sigsworth

Michael & Linda Tomlin-
Brenner

James Vandemark

Clarence & Mary Ann Wills

Garford Club Members

Brad Engelland

Ellen Otis

History Starrs

Kathryn Dean-Dielman &

Brad Dielman

David George

Richard & Annalea Rorick

Bob & Brenda Yost

Heritage

Maud Andre de la Porte

Dr. Robert Baumann

Drs. Fritz & Polly Dengel

Dave Dicken

Richard & Denise Fogel

John Haynes

Wesley Johnson

David & Linda Karohl

Brian Kljun

Edward Martin

David McGuire

Robert & Lynn Miller

Lynn Newell

James & Cheryl Piper

Jim Slaughenhaupt

Talia Starr

Jane Stewart

Debbie Teeters

Sherie Watson

Nonprofit

Community Foundation of
Lorain County

Patron

Philip & Angela Bak
Phillip & Carol Baptiste
Margaret Brooks-Terry
Millie Buta
Terry & Amy Butler
Leonard Czarnecki &
Cynthia Murnyack-
Czarnecki
Peter & Maureen Davie
DeAnne Dench-Layton
The Fortnightly Book Club
William & Jane Fowls
Ron & Marcia Harmon
Robert Harper
Bethany Hobbs
Carol & Tim Hobert
Carolyn Hobert
Neal & Cheryl Hubbard
Joyce Ignatz
Joseph & Lynn Koster
Richard & Christine
Laubenthal
Tom Mangan
Mark & Donna McGuire
Jan Wrzesinski McKay
Sherrill McLoda
Lynn Morrone
Rory Nemeth & Larry
Worden
Jane Nord
Gino & Judy Pulito
Bill & Antoinette Ries
Jay & Jean Rounds
Charles & Susan Schillig
Richard & Beverly
Schmittgen
Roy & Libby Thomas
Michael & Patti Thomin
Marilyn & Jack Wainio
Ralph & Christine White
Pat Worcester

Family

Paul & Laurie Bate
Sam Battle
Bruce & Mickey Becher
James & Lee Ann Berlyoung
Leonard Boey
Jan Brooks
Lawrence & Eleanor
Broome
Connie Butler
Don & Dee Carman
Jim & Marianna Carney
Jamie & Pam Christian
Cyndi McCabe & Chuck
Sakryd
John & Clare Coulis
Jeffrey & Heather Curtiss
Ben & Christine Davey
Ellen Drell
Michele Dull
Ronald & Linda Ellis
Judy Erdman
Ann Fauver
Greg & Darla Folkwein
Kenneth Frankel & Celeste
Brlas
Ron & Barbara Geil
Dennis & Sandra Gidich
Daniel & Maricela
Goldsmith
Dave & Jana Goots
Lisa Locke Graves & Dan
Graves
Eric & Cheryl Greenly
John & Renee Handyside
George & Cindy Hasko
Alex & Stormee Heyd
Charles Holtzman
Mark & Jackie Jessie
Gary & Carol Kailes
Leo & Marilyn Kenzik
Jeff & Sandi Kinsley
Paul Kistner

Family, cont.

Paul Kistner
Bill & Mary Ann Kloss
Gary Kornblith
Mark & Brenda Kristosik
Carol Landolfo
Marilyn Law
Dr. & Mrs. Dennis Lehman
Paul & Bev Lieux
Julie & Matthew Limpach
Marty & Kathy Martinez
Roger & Jan McFrederick
Anne & James Michael
Dennis & Kathi Mileti
Bill & Diane Nahorn
Kirk & Patricia Nevins
Dennis & Rita Pallardy
Chris Pyanowski & Amanda
Deery
Robert & Sandy Rieth
Mike & Gayle Ritsko
Ken & Gloria Roth
Paul & Deborah Sadowski
Robert & Judy Skillicorn
Doug & Ruth Skillicorn
Mark & Sheila Smith
Matthew & Rhonna Smith
Chris & Julie Smith
David & Constance Spillar
Paul & Maureen St. Marie
Matt & Shannon Swabb
Tom & Tracy Taylor
Ronald & Rita Thompson
Tony Tomanek
Bill & Becky Voit
Mike & Debbie Warden
Alan & Janet Willoughby
Kevin & Caroline Ziegman

Individual

Jean Adkins
Lou Amos
Barbara Arguello
Julie Bajda
Kenneth Barnes
Deb Bauer
Roland Baumann
Bonnie Bisoglio
Rose Marie Bommer
Pamela Bonnallie
Kelly Boyer Sagert
Kathryn Boylan
Norma Brundage
Janet Campbell-Kuhl
Vicki Chainey
Sandra Danchuk
Sally Diederich
Dia Dobos
Carole Doerr
Helen Dupont
Alexis Edleman
Dorothy Eldred
Ruth Exstrom
Beverly Ferguson
Diane Ferraro
Judith Friedman
Marilyn Gerhardinger
Judy Gill
Brittany Gradisek
Marcia Hazelton
Earleen Helman
Bette Lou Higgins
Don Hilton
Connie Ippolito
James Jablonski
Marlene Jacobs
Jackie Johnson
William Kies
Barb King

Individual, cont.

Albert Kopronica
Diana Leitch
Richard Llewellyn
Rita Lockhart
Tracy Lovell
Linda Maiorca
Ben Mancine
Cindy Martin
Vivian McCullough
Jan McCune Linden
Suzanne McDougal
Roberta McGowan Meister
Loretta Miller
Deborah Mohler
Kathleen Moss
Matthew Nahorn
Shelia Nemeth
John Nemeth
Charlotte Norris
Dixie Oakes
Lois Ohlemacher
Sally Pack
Barb Piscopo
Laura Ploenzke
Patti Poporad
Evelyn Purdey
Suzy Ratliff
Millie Redon
Marci Rich
Edward Robertson
Randolph Rodachy
Maggie Savoy
Liz Schultz
Ernie Sciulli
Doug Seybold
Susan Sikora
David Simmer
Kelsey Sizemore
Jane Slutzker
Jim Smith
Jared Smith

Individual, cont.

Sandy Spike
Marie Stashick
Sherry Tarry
Elaine Valentine
David Vargo
James Walther
Susan Walzer
David Wessely
Bridget Yoder
Carolyn Young
Bob Yun
Sandra Zaborniak

Honorary Life Members

Jack & Mitzi Baird
John Farrar
Linda Greenaway
Joan Kamper
Jan Kleinberg
Karis Lyon
Dorothy MacIntyre
Steven McQuillin
Cindy Nord
Ginny Palmer
Marty Perry
Arthur & Mary Ann Powell
William Rorick
Elaine Stevenson
George & Marjorie Strom



LORAIN COUNTY HISTORY CENTER

284 Washington Avenue
Elyria



THE HICKORIES MUSEUM

509 Washington Avenue
Elyria



UNDER DEVELOPMENT: SMITH HOUSE MUSEUM

304 West Avenue
Elyria

STAFF

Kerri Broome
Executive Director

Amanda Davidson-Johnston
Education & Tour Coordinator

Eric Greenly
Archivist

Pam Monschein
Operations Manager



LORAIN COUNTY
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY