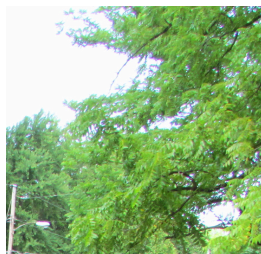


Lorain County
Historical Society

Annual Report

2024



Dear Members and Friends,

As we reflect on the past year at the Lorain County Historical Society, we're filled with pride and gratitude for everything we've accomplished together. 2024 was a year of celebration, collaboration, and connection—one that truly honored our mission to collect, preserve, and share the history of Lorain County.

A major highlight was our celebration of Lorain County's Bicentennial. Our traveling exhibit, created especially for this milestone, journeyed across the county and was honored with an award from the Ohio Local History Alliance—a testament to the power of local stories and the passion of our team. We were also proud to create a special exhibit at the Ohio Statehouse, bringing county history to the state level and giving it the spotlight it deserves.

We continued to expand our presence in the community with new and expanded programs. We collaborated with Elyria Community Partnership to offer a meaningful tour of sacred landmarks in downtown Elyria. Our Leadership Lorain County intern, Dylan Rice, created a pop-up exhibit at the History Center to highlight the historic churches open during the tour and David Simmer of the Lorain County Sacred Landmarks Initiative gave a presentation.

In the fall, we launched a brand-new, fun-filled series of programs to highlight the Victorian fascination with magic, spiritualism, and the supernatural. Thanks to support from the Black River Audubon Society, we opened the historic Smith House to the public during the West by the River Holiday Home Tour in December. Nearly 300 people toured through the home, beautifully decorated for the holidays!



LCHS created a series of events to share the Halloween traditions popular at the turn of the twentieth century in America.

Cover: The 2024 Ice Cream Social was a perfect summer day for the antique and vintage cars to roll onto the front lawn of The Hickories.

As we look to 2025, we're excited to carry this momentum forward into an equally meaningful year. We'll be celebrating the 50th anniversary of The Hickories as a museum—an incredible milestone that honors decades of dedication to local history. We'll also begin the inspiring work of preserving the Smith House as a resource for the community, bringing to life a long-held dream of former LCHS board member Jack Smith. Our Friends of The Hickories group is becoming more active, helping raise funds to care for this treasured landmark. And perhaps most significantly, we'll begin developing an interpretive plan that will help guide how we tell the stories of Lorain County—ensuring they remain relevant, inclusive, and inspiring for generations to come.

None of this would be possible without your support. Thank you! We can't wait to see what the next chapter holds, and we're so glad you're with us as we write it.

With sincere appreciation,

Jackie Kokai

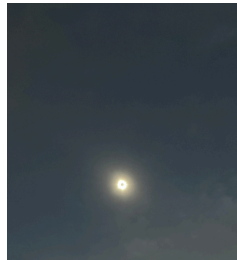
Board President

Kerri Broome

Executive Director

Our Mission

LCHS collects, preserves, and shares the history of Lorain County to educate and inspire present and future generations.



Lorain County had a front-row seat to a historic event on April 8, 2024 when a total solar eclipse crossed North America, passing over Mexico, the United States, and Canada.





Colorful scooters were on display by the members of the Lorain County Vintage Scooter Club at the Ice Cream Social.

Annual Fund Donors

Thank you to all who supported our Annual Fund. Your generous gifts help preserve the rich history of our community and ensure that its stories continue to educate and inspire for generations to come.

Jack & Mitzi Baird
Philip & Angela Bak
Sam Battle
Deb Bauer
James & Lee Ann Berlyoung
Kathryn Boylan
Holly & Greg Brinda
Margaret Brooks-Terry
Kerri & Nathan Broome
Lawrence & Eleanor Broome
Norma Brundage
Don & Dee Carman
Kathryn Dean-Dielman &
Brad Dielman
Drs. Fritz & Polly Dengel
Ellen Drell
Bob & Marcia Ebert
John & Lisa Farrar
Kevin & Gail Flanigan
Dave & Jana Goots
Eric & Cheryl Greenly
John & Renee Handyside
Robert Harper
George & Cindy Hasko
Marcia Hazelton
Bette Lou Higgins
Bill & Bonnie Ivancic
Jeff & Sandi Kinsley
Paul Kistner
Jacqueline Kokai

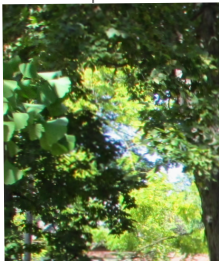
Marilyn Law
Dorothy MacIntyre
Roger & Jan McFrederick
Joan McLain
Kevin & Pam Monschein
John & Maureen Musson
Matthew Nahorn
Bill & Diane Nahorn
Lois Ohlemacher
Ellen Otis
James & Cheryl Piper
Barb Piscopo
Robert & Sandy Rieth
Liz Schultz
Jeff & Karen Sigsworth
Susan Sikora
David Simmer
The Pat & Alan Spitzer
Family Foundation
Sherry Tarry
Grant Thompson
Rory Tomasek & Denise O'Leary
Marilyn Wainio
Matthew & Barbara Weisman
Clarence & Mary Ann Wills
Judy Wilson
Jan McKay Wrzesinski
Bob & Brenda Yost
Bob Yun

2024 Connect to a Cause Donors

Thank you to all who contributed to our Connect to a Cause campaign. Your generous support through this special initiative of the Community Foundation of Lorain County will help to preserve the historic Smith House through an upcoming painting project and will strengthen LCHS's Endowment Fund—an investment in the future of local history.

Anonymous
Anonymous
Sam Battle
Dr. Robert Baumann
Joe & Robin Bolash
Margaret Brooks-Terry
Grace Broome
Kerri & Nathan Broome
Lawrence & Eleanor Broome
Kathy Dean-Dielman
Helen Dupont
Bob & Marcia Ebert
Eric & Cheryl Greenly
Robert & Nellie Harper
George & Cindy Hasko

Marcia Hazelton
Bette Lou Higgins
Jeff & Sandi Kinsley
Jacqueline Kokai
Joseph & Lynn Koster
Terry & Sue Lang
Kevin & Pam Monschein
Ellen Otis
Liz Schultz
Jeff & Karen Sigsworth
Robert & Judy Skillicorn
Bill & Rebecca Voit
Marilyn Wainio
Ruth Wulfhoop
Bob Yun



Members of Leadership Lorain County's "Best Class" completed a scavenger hunt at The Hickories during their annual road rally day.

Event Sponsors

A big thanks to our event sponsors! Your support helped us share the stories and spirit of our local history with the community throughout the year.

Ice Cream Social

Sundae Sponsors

Corrigan Krause
Jackie Kokai

Double Scoop Sponsors

Kathy Dean-Dielman & Brad Dielman
Huntington Private Bank
Bill & Bonnie Ivancic
Edward Martin & Connie Ebaugh
Kevin & Pam Monschein
Jim & Jill Taylor
Dale Yost

Single Scoop Sponsors

Kerri & Nathan Broome
Larry & Eleanor Broome
Millie Buta
Robert & Marcia Ebert
Marcia R. Hazelton
King & Chavez Attorneys at Law
Jeff & Sandi Kinsley
Mark & Donna McGuire
Premier Property Management
LTD "Ely-Freeze House" Air BNB
Jeff & Karen Sigsworth
Mike & Patti Thomin
Grant Thompson
Vandemark Jewelers
Patrick Verburg
Marilyn & Jack Wainio
Bob Yun

In-Kind Sponsors

Black River Audubon Society
Marco's Pizza - Grafton
Pennylane Printing
Solid Brass

Valentine Tea

Gold Sponsors

Corrigan Krause CPAs and Consultants
Elyria Jewelers & Repair
Jackie Kokai

Silver Sponsors

Ellen Andrews
Botamer Florist & More
Kerri Broome
Elyria Law Director Amanda Deery
Fauver Co, LPA
Huntington Private Bank
Bonnie Ivancic

Bronze Sponsors

Julie Bajda
Eleanor Broome
Kathy Dean-Dielman
Diane Ferraro
Marcia R. Hazelton
Pam Monschein
Rita Thompson
Mailyn Wainio

Music from Solid Brass filled the air during the Ice Cream Social, LCCHS's annual summer party on the lawn of The Hickories.



Memorial Donations

Donations given in loving memory of individuals whose legacies continue to inspire our mission.

In Memory of Ellen Andrews
Kevin & Pam Monschein

In Memory of Steven J. Francis
Bill & Bonnie Ivancic
George & Donna Kolesar
Kevin & Pam Monschein
Frank & Dorothy Stewart

In Memory of Karis Lyon
Kevin & Pam Monschein

In Memory of Charlotte Norris
Eric & Cheryl Greenly
Kevin & Pam Monschein

In Memory of Marjorie & George Strom
Jeff & Karen Sigsworth

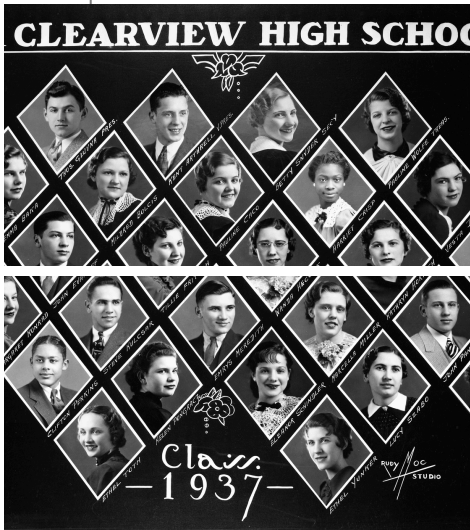
In Memory of Marjorie Strom
Commodore Perry Chapter of Antique
Automobile Club of America
L. William & Karen Gast
Eric & Cheryl Greenly
Kevin & Pam Monschein
Dorothy MacIntyre
Philip Strom

In Memory of Barb Sutton
Julie Bajda

Grants

Fueling history, education, and community through essential operating support.

Community Foundation of Lorain
County
Elyria Rotary



In 2024, LCHS digitized this image of Clearview High School's Class of 1937.

It is one of over 300 negatives of local school district class photographs taken by the Rudy Moc Studio.

Our work would not be possible without the dedication, talent, and passion of the people who power our mission. From our volunteers and board members to our staff, each person plays a vital role in preserving and sharing the rich history of our community. Thank you!

2024-2025 Board

President

Jackie Kokai

Vice President

Sam Battle

Financial Officer

Bonnie Ivancic

Secretary

kathy Dean-Dielman

Directors

Bob Ebert

John Handyside

Jeff Kinsley

Matt Nahorn

Jeff Sigsworth

Grant Thompson

Marilyn Wainio

Bob Yun

Staff

Executive Director

Kerri Broome

Education & Tour Coordinator

Amanda Davidson-Johnston

Archivist

Eric Greenly

Operations Manager

Pam Monschein



Born in Black River (now Lorain), Quincy Gillmore was an acclaimed Union Army general during the Civil War.



This portrait of General Gillmore, in LCHS's collection, was properly reframed in 2024 to ensure its conservation.



Volunteers

Carol Baptiste
 Sam Battle
 Margaret Brooks-Terry
 Annelise Broome
 Eleanor Broome
 Grace Broome
 Nathan Broome
 Allison Camp
 Kathy Dean-Dielman
 Lane Dean-Dielman
 Brad Dielman
 Carole Doerr
 Helen Dupont
 Bob Ebert
 Marcia Ebert
 Brooke Faber
 Cheryl Greenly
 Ethan Greenly
 Joel Greenly
 Reuben Greenly
 Linda Gross
 John Handyside
 Renee Handyside
 Marcia Harmon
 Ron Harmon
 Cindy Hasko
 George Hasko
 Alex Heyd
 Richard Hooper
 Madonna Horrocks
 Bill Ivancic
 Bonnie Ivancic

Jeff Kinsley
 Sandi Kinsley
 Gabe Kokai
 Jackie Kokai
 Lucas Kokai
 Owen Kokai
 Mary Ann Wepfer Loew
 Alan Loew
 Tim Mackert
 Cyndi McCabe
 Mark McGuire
 Donna McGuire
 Kevin Monschein
 Cynthia Murnyack-Czarnecki
 Bill Nahorn
 Diane Nahorn
 Matt Nahorn
 Ryan Quinn
 Suzy Ratliff
 Anthony Restifo
 Terry Shilling
 Jeff Sigsworth
 Karen Sigsworth
 Tim Taylor
 Tracy Taylor
 Mike Thomin
 Patti Thomin
 Grant Thompson
 Rita Thompson
 Marilyn Wainio
 Bernie Yun
 Bob Yun
 Diane Yun

LCHS held an
 appreciation
 dinner for our
 many volunteers
 in December.



Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2024

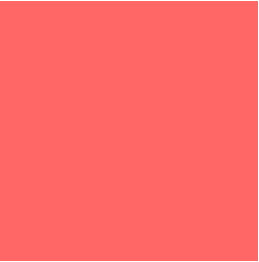
Assets

Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$73,602
Other Receivables	13,300
Investments	1,161,163
Property & Equipment, net of accumulated depreciation	932,540
Total Assets	\$2,180,605
Liabilities	\$0

Net Assets

Total Net Assets	\$2,180,605
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$2,180,605

The traveling exhibit we created for the Lorain County Bicentennial was on display throughout the county in 2024.



Statement of Activities

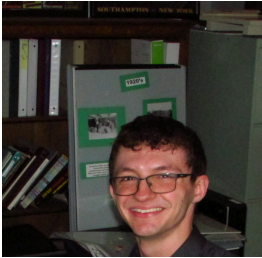
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Revenues & Support/Income

Contributions & Membership	\$37,355
Program & Project Funding	111,163
Grants	13,000
Events & Fundraisers	31,842
Interest & Investments	60,836
Unrealized Gains	79,503
Total Revenues & Support/Income	\$333,699

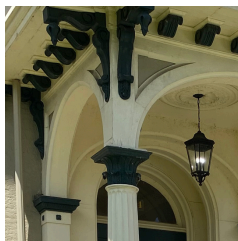
Expenses

Salaries, Payroll Taxes	\$148,102
Building/Grounds Maintenance & Operations	108,524
Professional Fees	35,304
Administrative & Office Operations	30,576
Event & Fundraising Expenses	7,907
Program & Project Costs	6,435
Total Expenses	\$336,848



Dylan Rice helped with many projects as a summer intern through Leadership Lorain County.





The Elyria School District installed a scale model of the solar system throughout the city of Elyria in 2024.

LCHS was delighted that the Lorain County History Center was selected to be the site of one of the planets.




Lorain County History Center

 284 Washington Avenue, Elyria, OH 44035


The Hickories Museum

 509 Washington Avenue, Elyria, OH 44035

Smith House (under development)

 304 West Avenue, Elyria, OH 44035

 www.lchs.org

 440-322-3341