

Making Waves

The Greater Buckeye Lake Historical Society

Volume XIII, Issue 1

Serving Buckeye Lake, Hebron, Millersport and Thornville, Ohio

Winter 2011

QUEEN KEEPS CHURNING UP THE WATER

The Queen of the Lake II had another successful year in 2010. She safely cruised 3,700 passengers around the shores of good old Buckeye Lake from

May through September. The old gal has racked up some awesome statistics since her debut in Fall of 2007. Taking a total of 12,001 passengers over the past three years has helped to re-gain some of the past glory days of Buckeye Lake.



This year, there were a total of 136 tours that included Lake and Bog Tours totaling 2,454 passengers, that scheduled her through charters bringing in 19 motor coaches. The other groups were class reunions, senior groups, schools, naturalists, Red Hatters, birthdays and even three wedding were performed. You name it and we have it.

Needless to say, this cannot be achieved without the finest group of volunteers anywhere to be found. This year, there were 314 volunteer hours and a total of 1,355 over the past three years.

Now that is a full boat!

Shown left, is 1 of 3 summer weddings, on the Queen.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR NAMED AT ANNUAL BANQUET!!!

The volunteer banquet for the bog and lake tour volunteers was held in October at the Cherry Valley Lodge this year. Forty three volunteers came out to listen to the stories of the season and receive their goodie bags and volunteer awards for giving of so much of their time on the Queen of the Lake.

This year, the honor of Volunteer of the Year went to Member John Hoermle. John is a Captain on the Queen and he is also a member of the Historical Society Board where he chairs the Grounds & Building committee. John's major accomplishment this year, aside from his regular tasks, was being project manager of the Norma Dixon Addition.

This was a project from Dec – May. There were major stumbling blocks that John had to hurdle over and he did with great ease. John has been a volunteer with the society for over 6 years. He fills his time camping with his wonderful wife, Liz,

as well as doing things for the Museum. (Now there are grandchildren to keep him busy too!) John drives the Rocket Ship to all events and he keeps the gas tank full on the Queen, too. He makes sure the trash gets out and the alarm is on. His love of the lake drives his passion and we are happy he is our volunteer.

Charlotte Basnett took the top honor as Captain with the most tours. Lois Holler took the award for the most crew trips and Rae LeCompt was top billing when it came to most Bog Tour Guide trips!!! Joy Pratt received award of "Best Bird Narrator"! Everyone had a fantastic evening and the food was yummy.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Queen's tour group, either as a crew member or a bog tour guide, just email or call the museum. Volunteer Training begins in April. Watch the calendar on the website for updates.

www.buckeyelakehistory.org

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The Buckeye Lake Museum

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Located next to the
Post office on St. Rt. 79

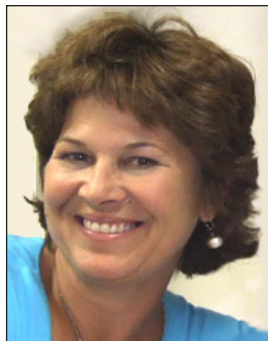
Hours are 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday - Sunday
740-929-1998



www.buckeyelakehistory.org

Email the Director at
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Greater Buckeye Lake Historical
Society is a non-profit organization
serving the history of the
Greater Buckeye Lake Region.
The newsletter is printed by the Society.



J-me Braig Director

QUEEN FINDS NEW BERTH FOR 2011 SEASON

Thanks to Buckeye Lake Marina and its owner (who by the way is a life member of our museum) Dave Levacy and his wife Ann. The Queen will be sporting a new berth this coming season as she will be docked at the Buckeye Lake Marina in Millersport, Ohio.

Dave is one of the lead supporters of the tour boat. He has always believed that this is a wonderful way to showcase the lake and in turn fund the museum and historical society. His generosity and his great staff make it a perfect fit.

All this touring has our Queen looking a bit tired and in need of some repairs. Come spring we will need volunteers with boat knowledge to join us at the marina for painting and repairing of the top sign. Please save the date of April 16th & 17th for this much needed "spruce up."

There are a few items we are looking for as donations to the Queen. If you can help with any items call J-me 740-929-1998 or email me at j-me@buckeyelakehistory.org



- Medium sized flags in nautical colors for around the top of the boat so she can be more visible on the water
- Artist that can re-paint the lettering
- Large spot light mounted on top
- New cushions

LCVCB AWARDS

Buckeye Lake Museum, Buckeye Lake Marina and The Buckeye Lake State Park received a partnership award from the Licking County Visitors and Convention Bureau in November. The first place award honored the 3 for working together to fulfill the needs of Queen of the Lake. This is the third year that the museum has taken a first place award.



Famous Speed Boats
Lines at the park
located beside the
drug store on the
waterfront. Owned
by Pappy and Mom
Regan and son Lee.
All 7 boats had star
names.
Photo Circa 1940's

ICE CREAM BOAT WILL BE BACK FOR THE 2011 SEASON

So many people asked, "Where is the Ice Cream Boat this year," and the reply was "It had a bad motor." The waters of Buckeye Lake went without ice cream last year, but this year she will be out cruising again filled with "cool" treats.

Fishers Marina has been its winter home for the past two years. Many thanks to the great family of Fishers for all the care they give her. It is our hope that they will be able to hook us up with a new (used) engine soon. Josh thought we had one last year but we couldn't make it happen.

The 20 foot pontoon boat was donated two years ago by Jimmy Carter Marina. It was a smashing success with all the boaters, especially the children. Signs were donated by member Doug Hymrod, freezer from Wendy's catering and lots of decorations from the Norma Dixon estate.

She will have a new berth this summer at the dock of members Ron & Emma VanAtta on North Bank. This will make it easier to stock up as the big freezer will be in their garage. Thanks to Fishers, Carters and now the VanAttas for helping to keep another museum fundraiser alive.



CONTEST FOR MEMBERS

We are looking for a name for this boat. So the contest is on..... If you have ideas for a name send it to us. Remember it has to be a female name and have at least 7 letters in the name.

That brings the vessel "Good Luck"

Contest Ends April 30, 2011



Fitches Grocery cart 1920's

Thanks in part to our many donors, the museum displays are always fresh. That makes our museum a great place to wander about, year after year. You will always find something new on every trip.

BUCKEYE LAKE ARTIFACTS KEEP POURING IN TO THE MUSEUM

Acquisitions Chairwoman, Charlotte Basnett, takes great care in making sure that each item is logged and the donor is given a certificate of donation and the proper tax deduction. Listed are just a few of the items that were donated in 2010.

Black light from the Crystal Ball Room that was used by the ticket person to illuminate the dancers hand from Waldin Bruce Sr.

2 beer mugs from the Blue Goose from Tom Grubb

Lakewood letter jacket in honor of 1970 grad Ronnie Grubb from Jennifer Graham

Roller Skates worn by Hale Scott at the Buckeye Lake Park Roller Rink --- from daughters Debbie Scott and Cindy Johnson.

Fitches Grocery cart 1920's along with Hebron Letter sweater and cheerleading sweater from Margie Kitchen

1906 Elementary school instruction booklet from Darrel & Doug Theiss

1988 Sea Ray power boat from Tim Fallon

Key Tag from Buckeye Lake Park 1940's from Robert Six

1940's Golf Clubs that belong to local athlete Margie Ryan from Patrick Ryan

Print of Buckeye Lake Map from 1900's from Jack Hunter

Picture souvenir of the Mayfair Room at park from Jerry Satterfield

50 photos and slides from the old park days from Don Wollard

Leedy Drum Set that might have made music at the Pier Ball Room from Charles Miller

These are just a few of the items we have received. If you have an artifact that you are holding because of sentimental value, consider the Museum as a permanent place for it. It will be a treasured piece of history with your name beside it as the donor.

MUSEUM PROVIDES HELP FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Over the past 6 years on the 2nd Saturday in December, the Buckeye Lake Community



I want a Lego City Airport...

Celebration Committee hosts a Christmas party for our kids. It takes place at the vacant lot in Z's parking lot across from the Village Office.

The mission of the BLCCC is to provide winter clothing for our children in the Greater Buckeye Lake region, as well as reaching

out to provide families in need with a happy Christmas. The first one was in the field beside the fire house in 2004.

Fund raisers are held all year long for this event that includes, Kar Shoz at the State Park, The BL Memorial Day Parade, Ice Cream Social, Poker Run and Turkey Treat Day.

We receive donations from many organizations throughout our area. The money raised goes to buy coats, hats gloves, toys and food for families that are in need. The Museum provides our meeting space all year long and is the head quarters for several events.

The day of the event we hand out coats, toys and other items. We have free hot dogs, drinks and cookies. There is a fire and community cheer.

Mr. & Mrs. Santa hand out candy and take the wishes of the kids as they sit on his lap.

The Salvation Army supplies the food canteen on the day of the event and provides us with the names of the families in this area so we can supply a Christmas meal and gifts for the children and their families.

The Army has a screening process that makes sure all families are served. We serve the fami-



Mayor Baker helps bring Holiday cheer to local Buckeye Lake area families.

lies in our area and help as many as we have money for. It is wonderful to be able to help our Buckeye Lake residents.

The Mayor and The Village Office help along with the BL Fire Department, as they transport Mr. & Mrs. Santa to the

event in the fire truck. The BL Police Department helps with traffic control during the event, shows the kids the squad car and provides safety tips to our little ones.

It is a great day and brings our community together, rich and poor, to celebrate in the spirit of giving and receiving.

What could be better than that...

MUSEUM IS HEADQUARTERS TO MANY AREA GROUPS



The Historical Society museum building is the site for many of the area groups to meet. Among those groups are the Buckeye Lake Civic Association, The Buckeye Lake for Tomorrow, the Cranberry Bay Homeowners Association and The Community Celebration Committee, just to name a few. It has become the "Town Meeting Place."

The Day of Caring Volunteers, under the guidance of Member Jo Fedor, has held several "kick-offs" here along with sending volunteers each year to clean the Museum, the Log Cabin and this year the Queen got scrubbed up.

The Buckeye Lake Community Celebration Committee also meets here all year long to plan events for the raising of monies for the Community Christmas Celebration, an annual event held the 2nd Saturday in December for the past 6 years.



TRIBUTE TO DWIGHT "JOE" JOSEPH

by J-me Braig

As I sat here beginning to type some meaningful words in loving memory of our now passed member Joe, I realize that it is not hard to find them. He was a true member of this museum in words and deeds.

There wasn't anything he wouldn't do to make the museum better. He was a member since the inception of the society, 1994. When we opened our doors Joe was right there to help us out.

He was our "print man" as everyone knows. He had a wonderful eye for creating flyers, newsletters, t-shirt logos, cards, you name it he could do it. He would stop here for my orders and then deliver them. He had ideas on how to create better advertising campaigns and we would toss them around and then we would have it done in a matter of a few days. It was always fun to work with him.

I will always recall the day he asked me if he could take the test to become a Captain for the Queen of the Lake II.

He said, "J-me I might not be too good at it" and I replied, "At what?" Joe said, "Driving the boat." "Are you kidding me Joe, you live on the lake" I replied. "Yea," he answered, "but just cause you live on the lake here doesn't mean you know how to operate a boat!!"

We both got a good laugh out of that. However, he was a wonderful Captain. He and his beloved side-kick, Babette, would show up for a public tour, all smiles and charm the guests the entire time.

He loved this lake. He loved to hear the stories as we toured the shoreline. I sometimes believe that is why he wanted to become a Captain, just so he could hear the stories when he took the helm. His home on North Bank was named "Chief Joseph's Lodge," a home we always point out on the tour with a double meaning to its name.

His creation of the Buckeye Lake Region booklet was marketing genius. The free booklet had all the information any visitor to this area needed. It was the most popular thing that we handed out here at the Museum and on the boat. It is loaded with stories about the history of the area, maps, business locations and each year the cover was a beautiful picture of our lake and its surroundings. He spent many hours making it the best it could be.

I miss him very much. I find myself wanting to call him to ask about certain things I need to do. I can't take his name off my email list. I haven't taken his cell phone off my speed dial yet. I want to talk to him. I need his advice.

Thanks Joe, for all you did for your small town. I know you are still around. I can feel your spirit.

I shall watch for you this summer when I cruise the lake. You will have one hand on the starboard bow, waving back at me.....

BIG BAND CONCERT DRAWS FUN CROWD

The summer music floated across the lake from Historic Picnic Point again as two bands were showcased this past year. Paul Clark Band took the stage in June on Father's day to a small but dancing crowd for the Museum Concert Series.

Paul played at Buckeye Lake Park as a young man and was thrilled to be playing there again. His songs brought many memories.

August brought back the Rick Brunetto Band. Rick and his wife, Landa, helped to start the return of the Big Band to Picnic Point last year. Great crowds poured in to eat a chicken dinner from Lee's Famous Chicken along with drinks and popcorn. The game tent, the "Rocket Ship Ride," looking at sunset on Buckeye Lake made for a perfect evening..... until the storm hit. Guests were grabbing chairs and racing over the bridge in the hopes of getting to their cars before the rain hit.

The committee is hoping to find 2 sponsors for the concerts this coming season. This would enable the historical society to keep more of the proceeds from the event for daily operations of the museum. If you or a company you are involved with is interested contact the museum. Tax- deductible remember!!!!

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION AND UPDATE

The New Year brings with it new resolutions and old reminders of things you might have forgotten to do. Your historical society membership renewal is so very important to the daily operations of the museum. Without your membership donations, our budget would be greatly affected. Continue to support one of your favorite charities with your renewal.

If you have your membership card, the date of expiration will be on it. If you are without a card please contact the museum by email or phone to provide you with an update on your membership. Our roster is being updated and might have some your data missing. We need to be current. We need your email address too!!!! We would like to begin to send our newsletter on line to help with postage costs. Get your E- addresses to us right away. That way you won't miss any events or happenings at the Museum.

There are membership forms on the back page of this newsletter. Fill it out and send it in along with your contribution for your membership and we will get a card out right away. You can also join on line at our website: www.buckeyelakehistory.org.

ADDITION IS DONE.... well almost

The Norma Dixon addition is completed. It has added a new dimension to the look and feel of the historical society. The glass structure with its high ceiling and brick memorial patio is breathtaking. The landscaping and new location of the flag pole brings stares from the folks driving by. The lights shining on the "Rocket Ship" in the evening hours make the entire structure just POP!



Beautiful all glass, front addition, to the Museum.

Two very special members, Jim Wolfe and Howard Everett, volunteered many hours to make it complete. **Howard, as you know is an excellent painter.** (He also plays trumpet in the Paul Clark Band, but you already knew that!!) He painted the entire wood ceiling and the trim of the new addition at no cost to the museum. It was no easy job either. His pleasant manner and smiling face gives him "two thumbs up" from the museum board and director J-me. Thanks Howard for a beautiful job!

Jim Wolfe has to be mentioned although he would rather stay behind the scenes. He did an outstanding job building the shelving for the gift shops' new look. He built custom shelves, installed a cabinet and worked on some trim. Jim is very quiet so many times he would be working and you wouldn't even know he was there. He left behind some beautiful work that also increased the size of the gift shop so there is plenty of room for the guests to browse. **You're the best Jim!!!!**

We are still searching for a donor to supply the carpet for the addition. The original funds are depleted and carpet is needed. We also would like to get a ceiling fan for the new area. Another item is a new sign out front. The board is looking for someone to donate a long wooden sign that would be placed in the front of the new glass windows facing St Rt 79. Should you like to donate any of these items or know of anyone that would, contact J-me or any board member.

New Year Brings In New Docents

Each year you say to yourself, "I am going to go volunteer at the museum." Time goes by and you go off onto other things and you didn't volunteer again. Many of us believe that to give your time for no pay, but just to be of service, is a good thing.

Also, each year the museum loses some of its valuable docents to aging, moving, job changes and just burn out. So we are always looking for new blood.

Volunteers, known as Docents, for the museum are needed. We are open 6 days a week all year and that takes a lot of man power. Right now we are seeking a docent for the museum office, open 1:00-4:00 pm Tuesday – Sunday.

Duties would be: answer phone, show people around the museum, operate gift shop transactions and just be friendly. You meet many interesting people and hear some fantastic stories from visitors.

It is especially fun because you can browse the archives and catch up on some of the Buckeye Lake history that is not known to many folks. Become a local historian... we need them.

Interested? Email the director or call the museum..

CAPTAIN'S LOG

Here are some tid-bits from the log of the Queen.

Sunday Sept 13

**Public Tour Charlotte Capt, crew John & Rae
Probably should not have gone out. 20-30 mph
winds but had A great time but really hard to
dock the boat...whew!**

Thursday September 4

Private tour Capt. Mike, crew Charlotte & Chalene
27 senior women and 3 old men all from Newark.
Ate lunch while they rode. Not many questions. Sunny
Breezy Day.

Sunday August 24

**Capt Charlene, Crew John & Mike
Private tour from Virginia & Wisconsin. 16 pas-
sengers. All very quiet, one person thought it
was free and Didn't want to pay, but they did.**

Wednesday July 24

Private tour Capt Fred Crew John & Renea
39 passengers from First Baptists Church, Beauti-
ful sunny day. Museum made lunches and they
were well received.

We had one wheel chair and one walker

Saturday September 18

**Public tour Capt J-me crew Beth & Lois
Had a full boat even with the OSU game
going on. 17 kids were
On board. Yikes!!**

QUEEN Capt.' n crew SAVES SUMMER BOATERS

It must be a matter of happen stance that sooner or later, the longer that you are out on the lake, you will make a rescue. However, for that to happen twice in the same season at almost the exactly same spot with the same crew is pretty rare, but it happened this summer!

The story goes that Captain Charlene Hayden and crew members Eric Spitzer and J-me Braig had just dropped off their passengers. This is on the 4th of July weekend and everyone knows how crazy that day is on the water. They were heading for their dock when Capt Hayden noticed a capsized boat off the port bow. Crew members Spitzer and Braig saw four people struggling in the water. At the same time, Laker Tim Ryan saw the action from shore and headed with his boat to assist. All four persons were hauled aboard the Queen. Tim hooked a line to

the capsized boat and all were taken to the state park, shook up but happy to be on land.

Not a month later in exactly the same spot, once again Capt Hayden, with crew Chuck Gleich and J-me Braig, spotted a capsized boat in the water with two people hanging on.

Once again Crew members Gleich and Braig ran forward. All at once out of the West came Tim Ryan and his faithful dog, Spot, who assisted in a rescue for a second time. Braig entered the water and helped haul the tired and water logged people onto the boat. They were also taken to the state park where they refused pictures, packed up their picnic and headed home. Who can blame them?

It just goes to show you that even though the main job of the Queen of the Lake II is to show off the lake, she is a lifesaver. The quick action of Captain Hayden and her crew saved six lives on the Lake this year. Now that is truly amazing.

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S EMAIL

Many of the emails I receive are from people seeking information about a cottage their family rented in the glory days of the park.... I thought you might find this one interesting. This resulted in a story in the Lancaster, Ohio Eagle Gazette.

Hello..I have written a short article for the Lancaster Eagle-Gazette newspaper in Lancaster about the "Wigwam Cottage" at Buckeye Lake. I will attach the article.

As you will see I have more questions than answers. I am hoping you might have more answers. Thanks for any help you might be able to provide.

Joyce Harvey

Joyce, I read your article with much enthusiasm. Wonderful pictures of the guests and cottages from



Wigwam Cottage at the lake.

the 1915-20's era of Buckeye Lake. There were so many folks that came to stay at Buckeye Lake.

The photos are amazing and would love to have the names of the folks in the pictures. We have a superb ar-

chive with several photos of the cottages, guests and pictures of the homes and the park from its inception in 1902. I do have a 1932 copy of the Bowers Brothers Floating Grocery Directory and Guide of Buckeye Lake. I realize from your information these visitors were from 1915 - 1920 and

our directory doesn't go back that far. However, I do have "The Wigwam" in the 1932 directory and it was owned at that time by Mrs. C.E. Mattingly of Johnstown Ohio. The address for the location of the Wigwam Cottage was 307 Central Ave. That is here in the Village of Buckeye Lake. It was probably about a two block walk south from the park and the lake. The cottage no longer exists.

It is a very early cottage. Might have been about 10 years old in the photo. The area around the lake at that time was swampy so that is the reason for the long board walk way.

I can only presume that your cottage was named for the Indian lore here at the lake. The Wyandot Indians had an encampment on top of Rising Park in Lancaster and stopped at "Great Buffalo Swamp" so named in the 1700's on their way to Flint Ridge.

The cottages were rented on a weekly rate, although many people came and stayed all summer at a particular cottage. Almost every cottage was named. Folks would tell people where they were by the cottage name.

I hope I have answered some of your questions. As I mentioned, we have wonderful archives so if you are ever here stop in and look it over. Lots of things from the year you are inquiring about.

Sincerely, J-me Braig, Museum Director

Membership Application
Greater Buckeye Lake Historical Society

Buckeye Lake, Ohio

- ☐ Individual Membership \$25.00 per year
- ☐ Family Membership \$35.00 per household
for parents and unmarried children up to 19 years of age.
- ☐ Life membership \$500.00 one time payment
for members and their spouse for a lifetime.
- ☐ Organization and Business - \$75.00 per year
for any business or organization
- ☐ New ☐ Renewal

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

Make check or money order payable to: Greater Buckeye Lake Historical Society
and mail to: P.O. Box 1 Buckeye Lake, OH 43008

Or Purchase your Membership online: www.buckeyelakehistory.org

The Museum
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