

# Making Waves

## The Greater Buckeye Lake Historical Society

Serving Buckeye Lake, Hebron, Millersport and Thornville, Ohio Spring Issue 2013

### **Celebrating 15 Years of Service** **2013 is going to be a banner year for the** **Greater Buckeye Lake Historical Society**

#### *History of the Society*

It is hard to believe that the museum has been open for that many years. There have been over 40,000 visitors through the doors to see the history of this small town and lake.



Yesterday and today, to be found in the many displays at the Museum

In September, 1994, a group of interested people came together for the purpose of starting a Historical Museum in the Buckeye Lake area. This was to preserve the historical record of the Lake, including the Amusement Park, the Ohio Canal, the Interurban, the National Trail, the early pioneers and early boaters. Just the history of it all! The group met in the Civic Association building on Hebron Road and from the first, all were very enthusiastic.

Donations began to appear: A gun from the shooting gallery, a Rocket Ship and a Bug Car from the old Park, a piano that had arrived in Hebron in 1840, roller skates, swim suits from Crystal Pool, photos, cards and other memorabilia. Phil and Betty Holtsberry Clark gave us an old log cabin built around 1840.

Donna Braig, having gotten the group together, conducted the first meeting and was later elected as the first president. Kathie Brussee was the

co-chairman. Karen Kentosh, a gal who grew up at the Lake, said she would be Secretary and David VanSicke who was manager of the National City Bank, agreed to be the Treasurer.

The first 'general membership' meeting was held at the Lions Clubhouse in Millersport and a slide show was presented by historian Chance Brockway. In 1996, the Society had 200 members who paid a membership fee of \$10. Moneymakers were needed. Going into the second year, the Society found membership totals reaching 250 members.

### **Historical Society 15 Year Anniversary Celebration** **May 26, 2013 Program begins at 2:00 pm**

Since those humble and exciting beginnings, the Society has seen many changes: The Queen of the Lake II Tour boat, 2 additions to the building, the management of Cranberry Bog, enlarged gift shop, an entire estate was bequeathed to the society, 6 boats have been donated and one canoe. In the beginning,



The 15 Year Anniversary Celebration will be held at the Society's Museum

there were 10 volunteers along with countless others that donated their time to the building of the museum. It has now grown to include a paid director and over 70 volunteers. We have a fantastic website, thanks to a volunteer, a Facebook page and we are open 6 days a week. The Queen has taken over 20,000 passengers on tour, with several hundred of those passengers going to see Cranberry Bog, our most famous asset.

**Spring Issue 2013**

## **The Buckeye Lake Museum**

4729 Walnut Road  
P. O. Box 1  
Buckeye Lake, Oh 43008  
Located next to the  
Post Office on St. Rt. 79

**Hours are 1:00-4:00 p.m.**

Tuesday – Sunday  
Closed Mondays & the month of February.

### **Donations:**

Historical Society Members Free  
Non-members \$4 • Children \$1  
Special Tour Groups can be Arranged.

**740-929-1998**

### **Officers of the Museum**

President Fred Bair  
V-President Mike Cassidy  
Secretary Ila Mason  
Treasurer Jim Layton  
Director J-me Braig

### **Trustees**

Donna Braig  
Zenna Sayre  
Raye LeCompte  
Josh Fisher  
Dave George

### **Board Members**

Charlene Hayden  
John Hoermle  
Charlotte Basnett  
Rob Klinger

[www.buckeyelakehistory.org](http://www.buckeyelakehistory.org)

Email the Director at

[j-me@buckeyelakehistory.org](mailto:j-me@buckeyelakehistory.org)

The Greater Buckeye Lake Historical Society is a non-profit organization preserving the history of the Greater Buckeye Lake Region.

This Newsletter is published by Society Member Philip Vaughn.  
[www.designertothestars.com](http://www.designertothestars.com)

## **My Buckeye Lake Memories**

Historian, founder of the historical society and lifelong resident of Buckeye Lake, Donna Braig, has authored her second book, entitled *My Buckeye Lake Memories*. It has been released and she will have a **book signing on May 26 at the Historical Society 15 Year Anniversary Celebration**. At the age of 86, she has put her



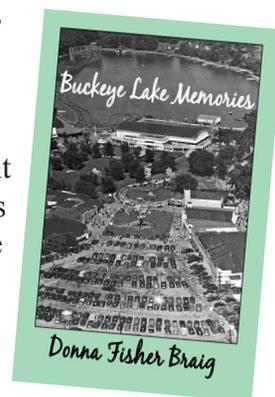
Author Donna Braig

stories to print once again about people, places and things she experienced while growing up in Buckeye Lake and Hebron.

In *My Buckeye Lake Memories*, Donna provides vivid accounts of life during the Great Depression, some good, some not so good, but always told from a personal perspective. Canal boats, school events, organizations, important families and individuals

and the famous “Playground of Ohio” Buckeye Lake Amusement Park, are just a few of the interesting stories.

Donna’s first book, *My Buckeye Lake Story*, in its third printing has sold over 5,000 copies. It is a complete history of the area with humorous stories of events at Buckeye Lake Park where Donna worked as a young woman.



## **Honoring Local Residents & Businesses**

The Society has been honoring local residents and local businesses since 1999 as historical sites around the lake. There are 27 sites honored by a plaque at each resident or business and at the Museum. The first two honored were Sayre Brothers Marina and Lions Club House in Millersport. Cully House in Hebron, Taylor’s North Bank cottage, Fisher’s Marina and Weldon’s Ice Cream are just a few of the honored sites. Every site owner will be invited to the May 26th Anniversary event.

One of those historic sites honored is the Thomas Cully House in Hebron, Ohio which was built in 1830. It was placed on a working

The Historic Thomas Cully House

Indian mound and was also part of the Underground Railroad. The land bordered the Ohio Canal where Mr. Cully built two large warehouses. The House is described as a Federal Vernacular.



# Calendar of Events for the Summer 2013

## April

**09** - Training for Queen of the Lake volunteer crew and captains, 7:00 pm at the Buckeye Lake Museum.

**11** - Training for Cranberry Bog Guides 7:00 pm at the Buckeye Lake Museum.

**21** - Training for all volunteers that were not able to make the weekday evening training, 4:00 pm at the Buckeye Lake Museum.

**27** - Last Saturday in April. Jim Matheny Kar Shoz. 12-5:00 pm. Registration is 12-3:00 pm. Awards begin at 4:30 pm. For registration contact Jim Matheny 740-522-6635.



The Queen of the Lake II on a Historical Society Summer Island Tour.

**25** - Open House at the Museum. Admission is free, refreshments provided. Oral History taping from 1:00–4:00 pm. Anyone is welcome to share their memories about Buckeye Lake.

**26** - Historical Society 15 Year Anniversary Celebration at Buckeye Lake. Program begins at 2:00 pm. Invited guests such as members, friends, past officers and donors will be there recalling their favorite memories of the Museum. Donna Braig's "new" book, *My Buckeye Lake Memories* book signing at 3:00 pm. Recording memories from past residents for the DVD from 4:00-6:00 pm. A Special Queen of the Lake tour will take place at 4:30 pm for guests attending the event.

## June

**15** - Open Cranberry Bog Day 9:00-5:00 pm. Food, history and fun. Boats leave every 20 minutes. \$5 donation for boat transportation to and from the Bog. Volunteers are needed for this event.

## July

**03** - Fireworks at Buckeye Lake begin at dusk.

From 1:00 pm until after fireworks, there will be food (Dan's Deli,) ice cream (Weldon's) and entertainment. The Queen of the Lake Boat Rides with trips to the Winery.

Event takes place at the Buckeye Lake North Shore State Park. Plenty of parking is available.

## August

**10** - Buckeye Lake Residents Appreciation Day 3:00 – 6:00 pm Free Queen of the Lake rides to Buckeye Lake Residents with refreshments at the shelter house.



## May

**04** - First day of Public Queen Tours. 2:00 pm Buckeye Lake State Park North Shore. Public tours every Saturday & Sunday 2:00 pm, no reservations needed, \$10.00 per person for 1 hour guided shoreline tour.

**25** - Open House at the Museum. Admission is free, refreshments provided. Oral History taping from 1:00–4:00 pm. Anyone is welcome to share their memories about Buckeye Lake.

**26** - Historical Society 15 Year Anniversary Celebration at Buckeye Lake. Program begins at



**Memberships Keep Our Museum Doors Open...Please Renew Yours Today!**

# **Membership Application**

## **Greater Buckeye Lake Historical Society**

- 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](http://www.buckeyelakehistory.org)**



The Museum  
4729 Walnut Road  
P.O. Box 1  
Buckeye Lake, OH 43008

PRSR1 STD  
U. S. Postage  
PAID  
Buckeye Lake, OH  
Permit No. 9

RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED