

# THE VILLAGE PIONEER



*Journal of the Sheffield Village Historical Society*

## *Holiday Greetings*



*Sheffield Founders Monument in Bicentennial Park, Sheffield Village, Ohio.*

## *A Letter of Fond Farewell to the Members & Friends of the Sheffield Village Historical Society*

As Ricki and I step down from the positions of Treasurer and President of the Society, respectively, we want to say what an honor and a privilege it has been to serve the members in these capacities for the past ten years. We have watched the Society grow from a handful of members in 2005 to this year when we welcomed our 656<sup>th</sup> member. Sadly we have lost a number of our early members, but their contributions to the growth of the Society are noteworthy. We believe we have achieved many of the goals we set for the first decade—now it is time for others to plan the future of the Society. To the new leadership of the Sheffield Village Historical Society, our best wishes for continued success.

I have also greatly enjoyed my role as Editor of the Society's quarterly journal, *The Village Pioneer* from 2006 through 2015 (Volumes 1 through 10). The journal has been well received by our members and earned an excellence award from the Ohio Association of Historical Societies & Museums at the Ohio Historical Center in Columbus. I am gratified by the many kind words that our members have expressed about the journal. I cannot take credit for the superb appearance of the journal—Ricki's talents as a layout designer are what really make it work!

Over the years there have been so many members and friends of the Society that need to be thanked for their hard work, donations, and encouragement. To do this individually it would fill up this

issue, so let me just say that without your help and support we would have perished long ago. The many hours working at our annual Mother's Day Yard Sale, delivering journals, managing the parking lots at our events, contributing items for the journal and archive files, and simply participating at Society functions is greatly appreciated.

Of course, 2015 has been our most spectacular year—the Bicentennial Celebration of the Founding of Sheffield. This year has been filled with events commemorating our 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. **From** heritage lectures and tours to street parades, **from** dedication of our new Brookside School to the crowning of Miss Sheffield, **from** publishing *Sheffield Through Time* and *Bicentennial History of Sheffield* to booths at Sheffield Lake's Community Day, Sheffield Township's Night Out, and Sheffield Village's Family ArtsFest, **from** holding a family history workshop to conducting an archaeological excavation, and **from** hosting the Burrell August picnic/reunion to unveiling the Founders Monument in our new Bicentennial Park—all in all it has been a most memorable year. Serving as chairman of the Sheffield Bicentennial Commission has truly been a privilege and gratifying experience. I wish express my sincere thanks to the community officials of Sheffield Lake, Sheffield Township, and Sheffield Village for allowing me this opportunity.

With warmest regards I bid you a fond farewell,

*Eddie Herdendorf*

Charles E. Herdendorf, Ph.D.

President, Sheffield Village Historical Society



*Cascade Falls, Elyria, Ohio (2009).*



*Milton Garfield House, built 1839 (2010).*

## Historical Society's First Ten Years

The *Sheffield Village Historical Society* is celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The years have flown by with so many fascinating events and service projects. The formation meeting for the Society took place in October 2005 at the Jabez Burrell Homestead on East River Road. With a dozen enthusiasts of the concept to creating a historical organization in attendance, Dr. Herdendorf convened the meeting and outlined a proposal to establish a historical society for Sheffield Village. Those assembled supported the plan and the Sheffield Village Historical Society began to take form. The Sheffield Village mayor and council supported the plan, granted us a charter, and pledged \$1,000 to get the organization started.

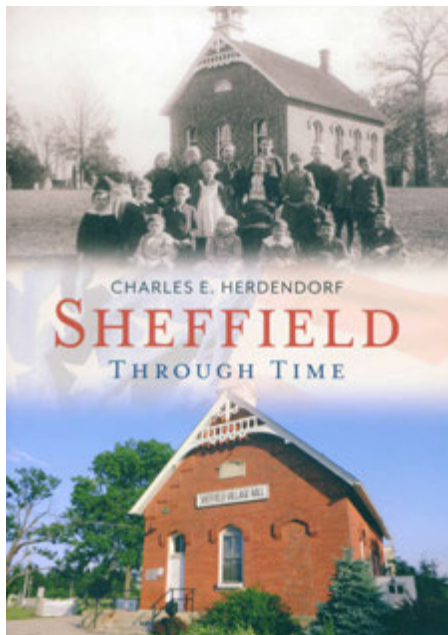
The new organization was established with the name—Sheffield Village Historical Society & Cultural Center—and with the mission—to discover, archive, preserve, and interpret documents and other materials, which further establish and illustrate the history of Sheffield and its environs. The Society's goals were to promote the heritage of Sheffield Village by (1) making historic information available for research and general interest, (2) providing educational opportunities, and (3) encouraging the preservation of historical structures, artifacts, and monuments. The Society recognized that these goals could best be achieved by developing cooperative programs and projects with other civic, educational, recreational, and historic organizations, and by engaging in diverse fund-raising activities to fulfill its mission.

Getting the Society established was a daunting task that was made possible by the mentorship of other area historical organizations, including the Lorain County Historical Society, Avon Historical Society, Black River Historical Society, Oberlin Heritage Center, Amherst Historical Society, and Lorain County Metro Parks. Without the help and guidance of these organizations we would not have survived.

A new slate of officers and trustees will soon be in heading up Society and developing new and exciting programs for the membership and community at large. The Transition Committee is busily planning for the next ten years of the Society. Thus, as the Society begins its second decade, the Editor thought it would be fun for the members and instructive for our new leaders to look back over what has been accomplished in our first ten years. To this end, this issue of *The Village Pioneer* is dedicated.

### PUBLICATIONS

In keeping with our mission to promote historic appreciation, over the last ten years the Historical Society has published a number of works documenting the heritage of Sheffield and its environs. Most of these have taken the form of printed documents, but a few are only available in an electronic format. The following is a listing of these documents, all of which are available for review at the Sheffield History Center, except for a few which are online at *SheffieldBicentennial.org*.



All back issues of *The Village Pioneer* are online at *SheffieldVillage.com*.

- 2005—*Proposal to Establish a North Ridge Scenic Byway for Lorain County, Ohio*. 175 pp.
- 2006—*Inventory of Official Records Archived at Sheffield Village Hall, Sheffield Village, Ohio*. 17 pp.
- 2006—*Historic Garfield Cemetery 1817–2006: Historical Analysis, Description, Maps, & Database*. 196 pp.
- 2006–2015—*The Village Pioneer*—Quarterly Journal of the Sheffield Village Historical Society. 602 pp.
- 2007—*Sheffield Village Historical Society*. Tri-fold Brochure.
- 2007—*Garfield Cemetery Addendum 2006-2007: Update of Cemetery Database and Maps*. 28 pp.
- 2007—*Review of Lake Erie's Physical Processes: How Lake Erie Works*. 16 pp.
- 2007, 2012, 2014—*Sheffield Trivia (Trivia No. 1, 2007; Trivia No. 2, 2012; Trivia No. 3, 2014)*. 2 pp.
- 2008—*The Amherst Sandstone Story: A Geologic Perspective*. 13 pp.
- 2008—*Proposed Ordinance to Establish a North Ridge Historic Preservation District*. 6 pp.
- 2008—*Proposed Regional Retention Basin on Sugar Creek to Reduce Flooding in Sheffield Village*. 25 pp.
- 2008—*Revised Inventory of Official Records Archived at Sheffield Village Hall, Sheffield, Ohio*. 20 pp.
- 2009—*Avon Isle, Avon, Ohio Nomination for National Register of Historic Places*. 57 pp.
- 2009—*Historic St. Teresa Cemetery 1853–2009: Historical Analysis and Information Database*. 61 pp.
- 2009—*Natural Vegetation of Sheffield, Ohio and the Factors Contributing to its Development*.
- 2010—*Guide to the North Ridge Scenic Byway, Lorain County, Ohio*. 284 pp.
- 2010—*Welcome to the North Ridge Scenic Byway, Lorain, County, Ohio*. Tri-fold Brochure.



- 2010—*Ferguson Farmstead Nomination to the Ohio Historic Inventory*. 7 pp.
- 2011—*Historic Garfield Cemetery Addendum 2006–2011: Update of Cemetery Database and Maps*. 41 pp.
- 2011—*Historic St. Teresa Cemetery 1853–2011 Update: Cemetery Database and Maps*. 60 pp.
- 2011—*Images of America: Sheffield Village—Acadia Publishing*. 128 pp.
- 2011—*William Augustus Day House Nomination for Lorain County Historic Landmark*. 12 pp.
- 2012—*Cultural Resources & Wetlands Survey for Brookside High School Site, Sheffield Village*. 4 pp.
- 2012—*Understanding the Human History of the Burrell Homestead: Archaeological Investigations*. 10 pp.
- 2012—*Who's Who in Pioneer Cemetery, Sheffield Village*. 3 pp.
- 2013—*Application for Certified Local Government, City of Avon, Ohio*. 25 pp.
- 2013—*Captain Aaron Root—Pioneer Great Lakes Mariner*. 24 pp.
- 2014—*Sheffield Bicentennial Announcement "Coming in 2015—Celebrate our Heritage" Tri-fold Brochure*.
- 2014—*North Ridge Scenic Byway Management Plan*. 3 pp.
- 2014—*Historic Railroads & Trolley Lines: Unraveling the Mystery of Sheffield's Rail Transportation*. 52 pp.
- 2014—*Sheffield Bicentennial Website—www.SheffieldBicentennial.org (Pioneer Biographies)*

- 2015—*Sheffield Bicentennial Historic Timeline & Milestones* Issued via [SheffieldBicentennial.org](http://SheffieldBicentennial.org). 96 pp.
- 2015—*Sheffield Through Time*—Fonthill Media LLC. 96 pp.
- 2015—*Sheffield Bicentennial Bulletins No. 1–No. 53*—Issued Weekly via [SheffieldBicentennial.org](http://SheffieldBicentennial.org). 106 pp.
- 2015—*Bicentennial History of Sheffield, Ohio—1815-2015*. 440 pp.

### LECTURES SERIES

In addition to publications, the Historical Society has developed a lecture series to promote a better understanding of the cultural and natural history of our region and beyond. During the past ten years Society members have made fascinating oral and poster presentations at various venues throughout northern Ohio. The following is a list of these illustrated lectures and poster session presentations:

- Adventures in Bird Photography from Coast to Coast*
- Amherst Sandstone Story: A Geologic Perspective*
- Around the World by Private Jet*
- Australia: Explorations Down Under*
- Captain Cook's Exploration of the Pacific Ocean*
- Exploring Crimea and the Black Sea*
- Exploring Iceland & Greenland*
- Exploring Tahiti, Bora Bora & French Polynesia*
- Exploring the Gulf Coast & Rio Grand Valley*
- Following the California Trail*
- Formation of Presque Isle and the Building of Commodore Perry's Fleet*
- Geology & Fossils of the Great Lakes Region*
- Great Lakes Estuaries—How they were Created*
- Great Lakes Freighter Trip*
- Historic Preservation in Sheffield Lake, Sheffield Township, & Sheffield Village*
- History of Lake Erie Navigation—From Canoe to Sail to Steam to 1,000 Footers*
- History of Sheffield's Schools—200 Years of Educational Pursuits*
- How Lake Erie Works—Review of Physical, Chemical & Biological Processes*
- Lake Erie Water Quality Trends—1920s to Today*
- Military History of Sheffield—Sheffield's Contribution to the Nation's Defense*
- New Theories on the Formation of Lake Erie—Was Lake Erie once a Shallow Salt Lake?*
- North Ridge Scenic Byway—Avon & Sheffield*
- Old & New Indian Ridge Museums*
- Origin and Evolution of the Lake Erie Shoreline—12,000 Years of Coastal Change*
- Preservation of the Historic Jabez Burrell Homestead*
- Preservation of the Historic Milton Garfield House*
- Scenic Byways Tour of Northeastern Lorain County—Avon, Avon Lake, Sheffield Lake, & Sheffield Village*



*Bicentennial Lecture Series—Joyce Hanks Community Center, Sheffield Lake (2015).*

*Sheffield and the California Gold Rush—Part 1: The Buckeye Company Heads West*

*Sheffield and the California Gold Rush—Part 2: Recovery of the Gold Rush Steamer SS Central America*

*Sheffield Before People—From Volcanoes to Glaciers: 3 Billion Years of Sheffield in the Making*

*Sheffield Then & Now—The Changing Scene*

*Sheffield Through Time—The Story of Sheffield's First 200 Years*

*Sheffield's First People—Native Americans Cultures & their Settlements*

*Sheffield's Heroes and Adventurers—Part 1: 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries*

*Sheffield's Heroes and Adventurers—Part 2: 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries*

*Sheffield's Pioneers—How Sheffield was Originally Settled*

*Sheffield's Railroads and Interurban Trolleys—History of Railways in Sheffield*

*Shipwreck Archaeology in Lake Erie—Diving on the Wrecks of the Adventure, Hanna, & Prince*

*Subsistence Practices by the Pioneers—Game and Livestock Resources in the 1800s*

*The Underground Railroad—Sheffield's Involvement in the Abolitionist Movement*

*Treasures of a Lost Voyage—Sinking & Recovery of a Gold Rush Steamer*

*Victorian Christmas—Origin & Customs*

*Vikings in Newfoundland*

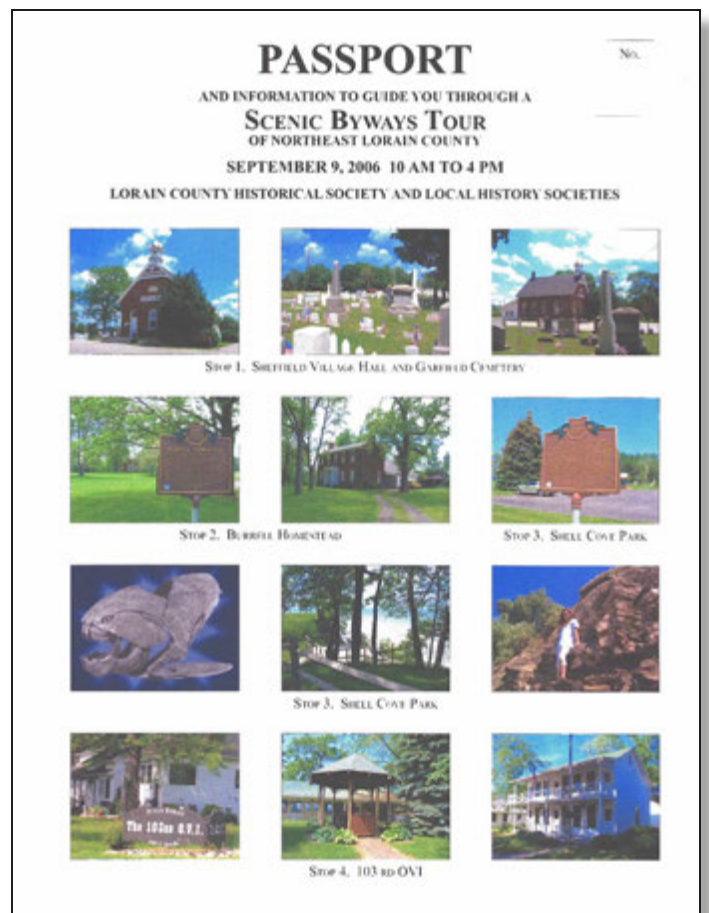
*War of 1812 on the Great Lakes*

### **TOURS, WORKSHOPS, FESTIVALS, & CELEBRATIONS**

In addition to above initiatives of the Society, more active participation by members and guests was encouraged through a number of (1) tours of historical interest, (2) workshops designed to promote historic preservation and family genealogy, and (3) festivals in the form of reunions, picnics, and special celebration events.



*Burrell Home Victorian Christmas—Society Volunteers (2011).*



*A Walk Through Garfield Cemetery*

*A Walk Through Saint Teresa Cemetery*

*Archaeological Excavations & Reconnaissance Surveys of Sheffield Historic & Prehistoric Sites*

*Burrell Homestead—A Victorian Christmas*

*Dedication of New Brookside High & Middle School and Tour of Original Brookside School*

*Educational Projects for Schools & Scout Groups—Career Days, Writing Workshop, & Field Trips*

*Jabez Burrell Home—Life in a Pioneer Homestead*

*Lorain County Historical Intersociety Events & Presentations*

*Preservation Workshop—Is Your House Historic or Just Old?*

*Scenic Byway Tour—Avon, Avon Lake, Sheffield Lake, & Sheffield Village*

*Sheffield August Picnics/Reunions at the Burrell Homestead*

*Sheffield Bicentennial Celebrations—Dedication of Bicentennial Park & Founders Monument*

*Sheffield Family History Workshop*

*Sheffield History Center—Grand Opening & Open Houses*

*Sheffield Lake Community Days—Carnival, Parade, Miss Sheffield, & Fireworks*

*Sheffield Pride Day Events—Detroit Road, Garfield Cemetery & Village Hall Clean-ups,*

*Sheffield Township's Night Out—Exhibits, Police, Fire & EMS, Life Flight Helicopter, & Refreshments*

*Sheffield Village Hall—1883 District Schoolhouse*

*TrueNorth ArtsFest—Family Fun, 5K Run, Music, Exhibits, Food, Contests, Auctions, & Brookside Band*

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROJECTS

The third mission of the Historical Society is to encourage the preservation of historical structures, artifacts, and monuments in our region. The Sheffield Village Historical Society is an active member of the Lorain County Preservation Network, coordinated by the Lorain County Historical Society. During the last decade, this organization has worked to promote an appreciation of historic buildings throughout the county. The specific projects for which the Sheffield Historical Society has taken the lead include:



*North Ridge Scenic Byway (Established 2007).*

*Daniel Garfield Barn Preservation Project (reconstructed, French Creek Road, Avon)*

*Designation of Route 254 (North Ridge) as an Ohio Scenic Byway (Ohio Department of Transportation)*

*Establishment of North Ridge Historic District for Detroit Road, Sheffield Village*

*Garfield Cemetery Grave Marker Restoration & Cleaning Project*

*Kinney-Root House Restoration Project (East River Road, Sheffield Village)*

*Lorain County Preservation Network Exhibits (Elyria, Lorain, Avon, & Oberlin)*

*Milton Garfield House Preservation Project (Detroit Road, Sheffield Village)*

*Replacement Bell for Cupola, Sheffield Village Hall*

*Sheffield History Center in conjunction with the Garfield Farms Landmark Foundation (Detroit Road)*

*Sheffield Village 1946 Chevrolet/Bean Fire Truck Restoration Project*

The Sheffield Village Historical Society has also been instrumental in developing successful nominations for structures in Sheffield and Avon for listing on the National Register, Ohio Historic Inventory, & Lorain County Landmarks. These include:

*Avon Isle Dance Pavilion, Detroit Road, Avon (National Register—granted)*

*Ferguson House, East River Road, Sheffield Village (Ohio Historic Inventory—granted)*

*Milton Garfield Farm, Detroit Road, Sheffield Village (Lorain County Landmark—granted)*

*William Augustus Day House, East River Road, Sheffield Village (Lorain County Landmark—granted)*

## SHEFFIELD HISTORY CENTER

The Sheffield History Center is located on North Ridge at 4944 Detroit Road. The building serves as the headquarters for the Sheffield Village Historical Society and houses the Society's archives and artifacts collections as well as serving as a meeting facility for the Board of Trustees and other Society functions. The current Colonial Revival-style house had its beginning as a Vernacular-style farmhouse built by George Root on his grandfather's original homestead—Milton Garfield. In 1937 the house was acquired by Walter McAllister, son of Sheffield Village's first mayor—Clyde McAllister, who enlarged the building in all directions to accommodate his family. In 2007, the building was purchased by the Herdendorf family and leased to the Society for its History Center. In addition to the functions mentioned above, annually the Society holds a Mother's Day Weekend Yard Sale at the Center to raise funds to support the maintenance of the building. The following collections are housed at the Sheffield History Center and are available for members and guests to review and study. The Center is currently open on Tuesdays from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm and Thursdays from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.



*Sheffield History Center.*

### Archives

*Document Files on Sheffield Archaeology*

*Document Files on Sheffield Businesses & Organizations*

*Document Files on Sheffield Cemeteries*

*Document Files on Sheffield Churches*

*Document Files on Sheffield Events*

*Document Files on Sheffield Families*

*Document Files on Sheffield Government*

*Document Files on Sheffield Historic Buildings*

*Document Files on Sheffield Military History*

*Document Files on Sheffield Natural History*

*Document Files on Sheffield Obituaries*

*Document Files on Sheffield Schools (incl. Brookside Yearbooks)*

*Map File on Sheffield, Ohio & United States History*

*Maps & Document Files on Lake Erie Navigation & Shipwrecks*

*Photograph & Image Files on Sheffield Personalities, Structures, Events, & Nature*

## Physical Collections



Sheffield Village Historical Society—Brookside High School Yearbooks.

*Historic Farm & Work Equipment*  
*Historic Furniture & Household Items*  
*Historic Publications (books & catalogs)*  
*Historic Newspapers & Illustrations*  
*Historic Musical Instruments*  
*Historic Clothing & Uniforms*  
*Historic Children's Play Items*  
*Historic School & Sports Items*



Sheffield Village Historical Society Accession—Isaac Burrell Dishware.



Sheffield Village Historical Society—Fire Truck Restoration Crew.

## SOCIETY ADMINISTRATION

The Sheffield Village Historical Society is a 501(c)3 Tax Exempt Organization established through the U.S. Internal Revenue Service and the Office of the Ohio Attorney General. Our formal name— Sheffield Village Historical Society & Cultural Center—is registered with the Office of the Ohio Secretary of State. Business of the Society is conducted by the Officers and a Board of Trustees in accordance with the Constitution and Byway Laws of the organization (these can be viewed at SheffieldVillage.com under the Historical Society heading).

### Duties & Function of the Officers & Board Of Trustees

#### Officers

Officers of the Society include President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and immediate Past President. All officers serve a term of two (2) years, being elected from and by the Board of Trustees. A vacancy in the officer ranks shall be filled from among the remaining Board members.

#### President

The duties of the President are to serve as Director of the Society, to preside at all meetings of the Society and the Board of Trustees, and to manage the affairs of the Society. The President, in consultation with other Board members, shall develop a Strategic Plan for the Society.

In addition to the above duties specified in the Constitution and Bylaws, over time the Office of President has encompassed several additional functions: (1) Editor of the Society's quarterly journal, *The Village Pioneer*, (2) distribution of *The Village Pioneer*, (3) maintain a listing of members and send letters of recognition with membership cards to new and renewing members, (4) oversee the Sheffield History Center and maintain historic archives therein (5) serve on the Planning Committee of the Village of Sheffield's annual Family ArtsFest, (6) serve on the Village of Sheffield's Records Retention Committee, (7) serve as Coordinator of the North Ridge Scenic Byway and submit management reports to Ohio Department of Transportation, and (8) review Sheffield Village construction and demolition projects for historic context.

#### Vice President

The duties of the Vice-President are to discharge the duties of the President in the event of absence or disability of the President, and to assist the President in executive duties.

#### Past President

The duties of the Past President are to provide continuity from one administration to the next and to preside over meetings in the event the President and Vice President cannot attend a meeting.

#### Secretary

The duties of the Secretary are to keep a record of the proceedings of the Board of Trustees and meetings of the Society, and to maintain a file of the business correspondence and other official documents of the Society.

#### Treasurer

The Treasurer will serve as Business Manager of the Society and keep an account of all monies, credits, accounts, and property of the

Society. In addition to the above duties specified in the Constitution and Bylaws, over time the Office of Treasurer has encompassed several additional functions: (1) prepare page layout and graphic design for the Society's quarterly journal, *The Village Pioneer*, and email announcements, (2) coordinate the printing of *The Village Pioneer* and packaging the journal for delivery, (3) maintain list of active members and prepare dues notices, (4) prepare laminated membership cards and certificates for business/organizational members, (5) submit required fiscal statements to the Internal Revenue Service and Ohio Attorney General's Office, (6) maintain an inventory (excel list and photographs) of the Society's historic artifacts and other property, (7) prepare numbered identification cards for the Society's artifacts and other property, and (8) grounds maintenance at Sheffield History Center.

### **Member, Board of Trustees**

The responsibilities of the Board of Trustees are to govern, operate, and guide the direction of the Society, consistent with the Constitution, Bylaws, and terms of any other agreement into which the Society may enter. The Board of Trustees consists of at least nine (9), but not more than fifteen (15) members, who are active members of the Society. Three Board members shall represent specific aspects of the Village of Sheffield and the remaining members shall be elected at large. The designated members shall be (1) a representative of the Village of Sheffield nominated by the Mayor, (2) a representative of the Lorain County Historical Society nominated by its Executive Director, and (3) a representative of Lorain County Metropolitan Park District nominated by its Director.



*Board of Trustees Meeting (2007).*

All elected members of the Board of Trustees serve a term of three (3) years. The immediate past president is an ex-officio member of the Board. All Committee Chairs, who are not regular members of the Board, are ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees. Any vacancy on the Board of Trustees caused by death, resignation, or removal is filled by appointment from the Society membership by the Director with the concurrence of the Board of Trustees.

A quorum for a Board of Trustees meeting consists of five (5) members of the Board. The Board of Trustees meets at least quarterly. The Board of Trustees manages the affairs of the Society and administers the policies of the Society in accordance with Civil Law, and the Society's Constitution and Bylaws. The Board of Trustees designates those persons authorized to conduct

financial transactions for the Society. The Board of Trustees makes recommendations to the members at regular and special meetings concerning matters requiring decision of the membership. Board members are responsible for attending board meetings, financial support of the Society, and serving on at least one committee. Without Board of Trustee approval, no Society member shall contract anything on behalf of the Society. A Board member may be removed from office, for a demonstrated cause, with a two-thirds vote of the Board of Trustees.

## **Society Committees**

### **Membership & Development Committee**

The committee consists of 5 or more members, each being an active member of the Society. The objective of the committee is to attract new members to the Society, in all categories (individual, family, business, and organization) and recommend membership policies and strategies to the Board of Trustees. The committee maintains a roster of all active members and committee assignments. The committee, from time to time, recommend awards or other recognitions to members or other worthy individuals or organizations for outstanding service to the Society or for other significant contributions which further the mission of the Society. The committee is also charged with developing methods of raising funds to support Society activities. The committee shall implement fund-raising activities for the Society in consultation with the Board of Trustees.

### **Meetings & Program Committee**

The committee consists of 5 or more members, each being an active member of the Society. The objective of the committee is to schedule and plan membership meetings, develop educational or informational programs for the membership meetings, and formulate public lectures, seminars, workshops, youth/school programs, exhibits, and other educational activities for the Society. The committee is responsible for the promotion of programs and projects by various means of publicity. The committee contributes to the preparation of the Society's journal and helps attract new members to the Society in conjunction with the Membership & Development Committee. The committee explores and recommends special projects to the Board of Trustees to be undertaken by the Society.

### **Archives & Collections Committee**

The committee consists of 5 or more members, each being an active member of the Society. The objective of the committee is to enhance and maintain the historic collections in the possession of the Society. The committee actively solicits the donation or acquisition of historic artifacts for the Society. The committee shall develop archives and collections management policies and make recommendations to the Board of Trustees for items to be accessioned or de-accessioned. The committee oversees the Society's management practices for archives and collections, including the cleaning, restoration, and maintenance of artifacts. The committee maintains an inventory and descriptive catalog of items in the Society's collections. The committee develops a gift receipt and acknowledgment policy. The committee is responsible for investigating and recommending facilities to house the collections.





*Historical Society Open House (2008).*

### **Historic Documentation & Preservation Committee**

The committee consists of 5 or more members, each being an active member of the Society. The objective of the committee is to document the historic resources of Sheffield Village and its environs and to promote the preservation of these resources. The committee actively solicits the donation or acquisition of historic documents for the Society. The committee develops document-acquisition policies and cataloging procedures in conjunction with the Archives & Collections Committee. The committee maintains and periodically updates an electronic database of the Society's document holdings. The committee is responsible for the preparation of the Society's journal *The Village Pioneer*. The committee is responsible for placing pertinent historical information on the Village of Sheffield website. The committee initiates projects to document and preserve historic resources and to produce publications presenting and interpreting the results of these projects.

### **Ad Hoc Committees**

These committees are formed from within the membership to accomplish specific, short-term objectives. The President appoints a chairperson, and that person appoints other committee members. The committees report their progress at quarterly meetings. An ad hoc **Nominating Committee**, consisting of the Society officers and committee chairs, convenes as needed to prepare a slate of candidates for election to the Board of Trustees and for election of Society officers. The Nominating Committee is also responsible for orientating new trustees to the Society. An ad hoc **Finance Committee** consists of 5 members, each being an active member of the Society with at least 3 of whom are members of the Board of Trustees. The committee is charged with the responsibility of annually reviewing the Society's financial records and fiscal policies and reporting to the Board of Trustees. The committee also develops an annual budget in conjunction with the Society officers for submission to the Board of Trustees for consideration.

### **SOCIETY OFFICERS & BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS**

During the first ten years of the Society, 28 members have participated in the leadership of the organization as officers and/or members of the Board of Trustees. With pleasure and sincere thanks these members are herein recognized:

*Jean Ackerman, Trustee*  
*Jeannine Barnes, Trustee*  
*Matthew Bliss, Trustee*  
*Denny Bryden, Trustee*  
*Carl Cunningham, Trustee*  
*Annette Corrao, Trustee*  
*Ron Forster, Vice President & Trustee*  
*Don Hammer, Trustee*  
*Eddie Herdendorf, President & Trustee*  
*Ricki Herdendorf, Treasurer & Trustee*  
*Jack Hoag, Vice President & Trustee*  
*Patsy Hoag, Secretary & Trustee*  
*Tom Hoerrle, Trustee*  
*Christine Huffman, Trustee*  
*Kathy Keefer, Secretary & Trustee*  
*Dawn Klingshirn, Trustee*  
*Ray Klingshirn, Trustee*  
*Matt Kocsis, Trustee*  
*Roy Kudrin, Trustee*  
*Andy Minda, Vice President & Trustee*  
*Carol Minda, Trustee*  
*Doug Ondercin, Trustee*  
*Cathy Price-Gentile, Trustee*  
*Barbara Sheets, Trustee*  
*Leo Sheets, Trustee (deceased)*  
*Lenny Smith, Trustee*  
*Natalie Wehner, Trustee*  
*Meredith Williams, Trustee*



*Archaeological Excavation—Burrell Orchard Site (2015).*



**SHEFFIELD  
BICENTENNIAL  
2015**

**Sheffield Village  
•  
Sheffield Lake  
•  
Sheffield Township**



You are Cordially Invited to a Presentation: **Tuesday, March 24, 2015  
7:00 PM**

**Bruce DiVaccaro**

Sheffield Village Municipal Complex  
4349 Colorado Avenue  
Sheffield Village, OH 44054

Presented as Part of the  
Bicentennial Lecture Series  
Celebrating the 200th Birthday  
of Sheffield, Ohio

**Adventures in Bird Photography From Coast to Coast**

Join Bruce DiVaccaro for a presentation of bird photographs that he has taken over the last ten years. From New Jersey to California, and from Wyoming to Texas, Bruce has assembled a vast collection of beautiful bird images. He will discuss what qualities he looks for and tries to use in his bird photography. He will also discuss how some of the photographs were created.



*Bicentennial Celebrations—Brookside Dedication, Family History Workshop, & SL Veterans Memorial Park Dedication*



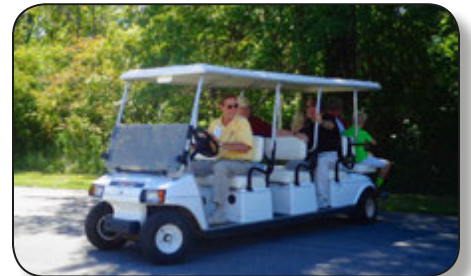
*Bicentennial Celebration—Community Days, Sheffield Lake—July 8-12, 2015*



*Bicentennial Celebration—National Night Out for Safety, Sheffield Township—August 4, 2015*



*Bicentennial Celebration—Family ArtsFest, Sheffield Village—August 22, 2015*



*Bicentennial Celebration—Burrell Picnic and Reunion—August 1, 2015*





*Bicentennial Celebration—Dedication Bicentennial Park and Founders Monument—August 2, 2015*



*Bicentennial Celebration—Vintage Baseball Game—August 2, 2015*



Photographs by Eddie & Ricki Herdendorf, John Edwards, and Joe Gee.

## *Frank Root's 1927 Ford Model T Truck Finds a New Home in a New Mexico Museum*

Frank Root (1914-2006), great grandson of Sheffield founder Milton Garfield, grew up on the Garfield Homestead on North Ridge in Sheffield where he and his father, Henry Garfield Root (1885-1971), farmed the land. As a young man, Frank married Jessie Mittelstead (1914-2010) and they acquired a farm of their own on North Ridge in Avon. At first, the sandy soil was adapted as a truck farm to serve the fruit and vegetable market of the Cleveland area. Then in the early 1950s Frank put two acres under glass and developed a thriving greenhouse to capture the winter tomato market. The couple had two sons, Frank Jr. (born 1939) and Jack Dallas (1943-2009). As Frank became more prosperous, he had some time to devote to his passions—restoring old farm equipment and vehicles.



*1927 Ford Model TT truck at the Henry Root Homestead on East River Road, Sheffield Village (c. 1970s).*

In 1965 Frank acquired a dilapidated 1927 Ford Model T truck for \$25 from John Putre of Avon Lake. Ford Model Ts (commonly called *Tin Lizzies*) are one of most well-known and influential group of vehicles in automotive history. A total of 16.5 million Model Ts were produced from 1908 to 1927. The chassis was the only constant for the Model T—buyers could select the features they wanted, including the type of cab be it a coupe or truck. Frank's Model T originally sold for \$385 and had larger wheels than the coupes and smaller trucks, indicating it was a one-ton truck, designated as Model TT.

In 1917, Ford Motor Company began producing for commercial use a one-ton truck chassis, with the buyer providing the body. An 8-foot platform bed was introduced at the end of 1924 and in 1925 a fully enclosed cab was available. In 1927, over 70,000 one-ton TT trucks were built

with varying cab/body combinations. The TT truck was replaced in 1928 with a 1.5-ton Model A.

When Frank got his TT home and began cleaning it up he found gasoline ration cards from World War II that allowed the previous owner to deliver fruits and vegetables using the truck for up to 6,800 miles per year. For years Frank had driven the restored truck in parades and around the countryside, but as he grew older his driving days were past. In the meantime, Frank's youngest son, Jack, had married Helen North and they purchased a farm on the Animas River in the Four-Corners area about ten miles north of Aztec, New Mexico. Jack and Helen had always admired the truck, so in 2001 Frank gave it to them; but Jack would have to find a way to get it to New Mexico. No problem—enthusiastically Jack and Helen bought a large trailer and soon the old Model TT was safely in their new barn on the Animas River.

Years went by and Jack cherished the historic farm truck, even more so when his father passed away in 2006. That year, Jack and Helen had the truck professionally painted and they exhibited it at the annual Antique Truck Show in Aztec. Then tragedy struck, Jack himself was killed in a skiing accident near Durango, Colorado in 2009. Thus, for the past six years the truck sat in the barn covered with a protective shroud, not visible for anyone to enjoy.



*Frank Root (right) and Edward Herdendorf (left) with 1927 Ford Model TT at the Henry Root Homestead on East River Road, Sheffield Village (c. 1970s).*

On Saturday, September 19, 2015, all of that changed when Helen drove the truck down Main Street in Aztec's Founders' Day Parade. Wink Meador—a local car collector, tuned up the truck and gave Helen some refresher pointers on how to drive it.

All went well except when she had to pause for a while to let the boiling radiator cool down. Helen, a long-time member of the Sheffield Village Historical Society, admits the biggest challenge for her was backing the truck up two narrow ramps into its new home at the Aztec Museum and Pioneer Village. In memory of her late husband, Helen donated the Model TT to the museum and financed the construction of the new garage to house the truck on the museum grounds.



*New Garage for 1927 Ford Model TT truck being installed at the Aztec Museum and Pioneer Village in Aztec, New Mexico (September 2015).*



*Helen Root, donor, and Wink Meador, mechanic, with 1927 Ford Model TT truck at the Aztec Museum and Pioneer Village in Aztec, New Mexico (September 2015).*




*Dedication plaque mounted on 1927 Ford Model TT truck (September 2015).*

## Society Organization

The Sheffield Village Historical Society is a charitable nonprofit 501(c)(3) and educational organization dedicated to discovering, collecting, preserving, interpreting, and presenting Sheffield's rich heritage. Membership is open to anyone who wishes to support the Society's mission. For more information contact Eddie Herdendorf, President (440-934-1514 herdendorf@aol.com) or Patsy Hoag, Secretary (440-934-4624 phoag@me.com).

The collections of the Sheffield Village Historical Society are housed in the Sheffield History Center at 4944 Detroit Road. The Center is open to members and guests on Tuesdays 11:00 am-2:00 pm and Thursdays 6:00 -8:00 pm and by appointment—please call (440-934-1514 or email Kathy Yancer at kathyycancer@gmail.com).

Society journals can be found on the Village of Sheffield, Ohio official website: [www.SheffieldVillage.com](http://www.SheffieldVillage.com) (click on the Sheffield Village Historical Society decal , then Pioneer newsletters, and then download). Page Layout is by Ricki C. Herdendorf, EcoSphere Associates, Put-in-Bay, Ohio.

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## Note of Appreciation

On behalf of the Sheffield Bicentennial Commission, we are pleased to express our thanks to the hundreds of volunteers and participants in the numerous events that constituted the Celebration of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of our communities—Sheffield Lake, Sheffield Township, and Sheffield Village.

Without the enthusiastic dedication of the Bicentennial volunteers and the support of the administrators of the three communities, the celebrations to commemorate our heritage would not have been possible. Pages 10-14 of this issue of *The Village Pioneer* contain a small sampling of the 25 events that were held during the year to honor our founders and celebrate the accomplishments of those who followed. These events took place in the form of Bicentennial lectures each month, a Miss Sheffield contest, tours of our historic buildings and cemeteries, publication of books on our history, archaeological investigations, the dedication of a new Brookside High School and Middle School, a reunion picnic at the Burrell homestead, the dedication of the Sheffield Bicentennial Founders Monument and Park, a vintage baseball game, Community Days at Sheffield Lake, Night Out for Safety at Sheffield Township, Family ArtsFest at Sheffield Village, and the rededication of the Veterans Memorial Park at Sheffield Lake.

We believe the citizens of our communities can be proud of our heritage and the celebrations that have taken place this year to commemorate our history. Thanks to all who helped make the Sheffield Bicentennial a success!

*Steve Kovach, Sheffield Lake Bicentennial Commissioner*

*Chad Parsons, Sheffield Township Bicentennial Commissioner*

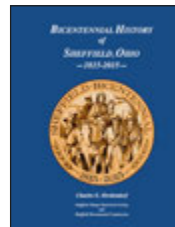
*Eddie Herdendorf, Sheffield Village Bicentennial Commissioner*

### ORDER FORM ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### ★ BICENTENNIAL HISTORY OF SHEFFIELD, OHIO—1815-2015 ★

The first printing of this full-color, 440-page history has sold out. The *Sheffield Bicentennial Commission* is planning a second printing. If you would like to order this book, please send your check for \$50, made out to the Sheffield Village Historical Society, before November 30, 2015 to:

Sheffield History Center  
4944 Detroit Road  
Sheffield Village, Ohio 44035



Include your name, address, phone no. & email address. You will be notified when the books have been delivered & ready for pick up—later part of October. Your payment is considered a charitable donation.

#### ★ PERSONALIZED PAVER BRICKS ★ SHEFFIELD FOUNDERS MONUMENT PLAZA SHEFFIELD BICENTENNIAL PARK Adjacent to Sheffield Village Hall at 4820 Detroit Road

Commemorative Paver Bricks, with your personalized message, are available from the *Sheffield Bicentennial Commission* in two sizes:

4x8" with 3 lines of text with up to 14 characters & spaces each line—\$35  
and

12x12" with 9 lines of text with up to 21 characters & spaces each line—\$100



Include your name, address, phone no. & email address. You will be notified when the bricks have been delivered & ready for placement in the plaza by the Village of Sheffield Service Department. Your payment is considered a charitable donation.

Orders can be placed by visiting:  
[SheffieldBicentennial.donationbricks.com](http://SheffieldBicentennial.donationbricks.com)

Please complete the form, print a copy & mail your payment by November 30, 2015 to:

Sheffield History Center  
4944 Detroit Road  
Sheffield Village, Ohio 44035