

Heritage Reserve News

Stow Historical Society

Volume 46, Issue 2

www.stowhistory.org

May 2024

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Heritage Reserve News

Deadlines:

July 1 for Aug. Oct. 1 for Nov

Jan. 1 for Feb. Apr. 1 for May

Joshua Stow Festival

1796: Joshua Stow, a commissary for the Connecticut Land Company purchased a 5 mile piece of land in the Western Reserve.

1802: William Walker set out with his young family to settle in Hudson Township. He mistakenly built his cabin over the boundary line.

1804: William Wetmore traveled with an expedition of 19 others by covered wagons to settle his cousin Joshua's new purchase in the Western Reserve. William Walker then

purchased the land on which he had built his cabin.



The Walkers, Wetmores, Starrs, Powers, Rices, Campbells, Grahams, Wyat's, Gaylords, and Butlers were some of the first families to settle on parcels of land in the early 1800's in Stow Township!

They established schools, the first one in the Walker cabin. A place for worship in Deacon Butler's home, then the First Church of Christ, now First Christian Church.

The settlers became community leaders, working together to meet the needs of the families in Stow Township.

Farming remained Stow's main industry, however other opportunities became available for its settlers.

Please join us at the Stow Historical Society's Joshua Stow Festival to learn more about the history of Stow!

Family friendly activities

Arts and Crafts Vendors

Music

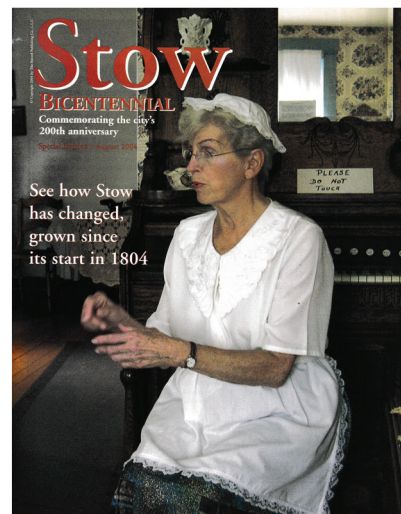
Food

Live animals

Saturday June 22nd 2024 from 10:00-4:00

Heritage Reserve in Silver Springs

5120 Young Rd. Stow 44224



Photos used with permission of Record Publishing Company:
April Helms, John S Harvey, Lauren Kubica

Spring Projects

Hello everyone,
This Spring the Stow Historical Society members are working on many projects. Here is what is happening.

By the time this newsletter is published, old man winter will have given way to Spring weather. With Spring comes flowers and an abundance of weeds which seem to outnumber the flowers. Many hands make light work in maintaining the landscape around the Museums. If you would like to help, please call or email one of our Board members and we will add your contact to the ground crew that spends an hour or two on a chosen Saturday to keep our grounds looking great.

The Heritage House restoration project is slowly making progress. Negotiations with city officials on architectural plans, estimates, contractor bids, and the approval of City Council will pave the way for a complete restoration of our museum. Thank you for all the support from the community in helping us raise the funds that will go toward our restoration project. These donations as well as our future fundraising efforts will help in maintain this important museum for future generations.

Open houses of the Museums started in April on the 2nd Sunday of the month from 2-4 pm. During our April 14th open house, we had a nice steady crowd including two City Council members. Bring the whole family for a personal tour from one of our volunteers.

Our 3rd grade tours will occur in May. Since the Heritage House Museum is closed for reconstruction, we will be utilizing the Stewart School House and the Mary Starr House for the students. Our volunteers are excited to share Stow's history with our younger generations.

Our monthly meeting programs are continuing. On June 13th at 4 pm we will meet at the former Hanson Farm on Call Road, home of Mark and Jackie Ashworth. Continue to check our web site for further information and updates.

On Saturday June 22nd from 2-4 pm at the Heritage Reserve Park, the Society will bring back the Joshua Stow Festival. Bring your family and friends to celebrate our City's founder Joshua Stow for a day of demonstrations, vendors, food and fun.

Mark your calendars for August 12th at 6 pm for our annual Society picnic at the Heri-

tage Barn. The Society will provide the main dish and drinks. Please bring a dish or dessert to share. Families and new members are welcome.

On September 28-29th from 10-4 pm we will hold our annual Stow Harvest Festival. This Festival continues to grow every year with increased vendors and demonstrations. With the growth comes the need for more volunteers. Please email shsfestival@gmail.com on how you would like to help.

We welcome new members and guests that have an interest in history or being part of a growing organization that provides programs for our community. Consider attending our meetings or events and contacting any one of our Board members on how to become involved.

Thank you for your continued support.

Bryan Menke ♦



Darrow Street Grange, March 26th 2024 marks the 150th Anniversary of The Darrow Street Grange No. 751. The Grange meets monthly, provides local scholarships, outreach, and service to the community. You may see the Grange members at the City of Stow Bunny Hop, Stow Farmers Market, and also the Historical Society Open Houses and festivals!



Darrowville, plotted in 1800 by Joseph Darrow, was a progressively minded farming center. It was natural that the villagers would be interested in something as new and promising as the Grange. On March 26, 1874 a group of 31 men and women met in Dewey Hall and organized Darrow Street Grange No. 751.

Calendar

**Times, dates, and locations may change due to the Oct. 15th fire.
Please check the website (stowhistory.org) for up-to-date information.**

May 5, 2024

Sunday, 12:00-2:00

Spring grounds clean-up
Open house at the Heritage Reserve
Water will be provided!

July 14, 2024

Sunday, 2:00-4:00

Open House at the Heritage Reserve
Stop by to hear about SHS Historic
Markers project at the School House.
Brief presentations beginning at 2:15!

May 18, 2024

Saturday, 10:00-2:00

SHS booth at the SMFP Library
Founder's day celebration

June 9, 2024

Sunday 2:00-4:00

Open House at the Heritage Reserve

June 13, 2024

Thursday, 4:00

Former Hanson farm
home of Mark and Jackie Ashworth,
2832 Call Rd. Stow
Please park on the driveway!
Meeting

June 22, 2024

Saturday 10:00-4:00

Heritage Reserve Park
Stow Historical Society's
Joshua Stow Festival

August 12, 2024

Monday, 6:00 pm

Potluck Picnic, Heritage Barn
Please bring a side dish to share.
The Historical Society will provide
the meat and drinks.
Please join us for an after dinner
Nature stroll around the museums!



September 12, 2024

Thursday, 4:00

School House Program mtg.
"The History of the Marhofer
Auto business in Stow!"

September 28-29, 2024

Saturday & Sunday, 10-4

The Fall Harvest Festival
The Heritage Reserve Grounds

"History is who we are and why we are the way we are."

- David McCullough

Spotlight on Miss Workman

BY BETH DAUGHERTY



VELMA WORKMAN

Some of you may remember Workman High School, razed in 1989 to make room for the Marc's Plaza. But do you remember the revered teacher the school was named for? Miss Velma Workman began teaching at Stow High School in 1930 and retired in 1967. Originally from Bellaire, Ohio, Miss Workman made Stow her home and embraced her students and the community as she would family.

Miss Workman, born in 1895, was one of the first women to graduate from Mount Union College with a science degree. After earning her master's degree in education from the University of Akron in 1929, she began teaching at Stow. Over the years she taught social studies, business, and government. She became a class advisor and was involved in many of the extracurricular student activities. She also formed the first Future Teachers of America organization at Stow High School in 1953.



STOW HIGH SCHOOL

Besides her academic qualifications, Miss Workman was known for her interest in her students. During World War II, in particular, her dedication led to her corresponding with many of her former students who were serving in the military. She wrote to them daily and kept scrapbooks of every one of their letters, postcards, and photographs. These scrapbooks were donated to Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library, and many of the photos can be viewed on the library's website. Miss Workman was also a fan of Stow athletics, keeping a ceramic bulldog (Stow's mascot) and a doghouse on her desk. If the dog was outside of the doghouse, Stow was winning; but if he was hiding in the doghouse - the team was on the losing side!

The 1967 **Stoanno** yearbook was dedicated to Miss Workman with the following message:

After 37 years at Stow High School and 44 years as a teacher, Miss Velma Workman has retired. We of the class of 1967 would like to say that we feel privileged to have known this fine woman and to have learned from her. We cannot help but know that those coming after us will miss out on something that could have been a meaningful part of their education by not having Miss Workman. They will not know of her kindness when we were troubled, her genuine interest in us and in our lives, her generosity when we handed in a late paper, or got back late from Florida, her quiet voice in the classroom inspiring us to "stand tall," and to "never be afraid of change," and to always face the future with excitement and confidence.... They will miss a great deal of wisdom which she shared freely with all. It is to this good friend and gentle teacher that we, the seniors of Stow High School, dedicate our yearbook.

After Miss Workman retired in 1967, she learned that the school where she had spent so many years teaching was to be named for her. She recalled:
.... I thought they were kidding when they told me the name of the school. Even today (1978)



I can't believe it. All I've ever been is a teacher and a friend to students. They have been like my own kids, and my doors have always been open to them.

Miss Workman remained involved with Stow High School students after her retirement, and in 1977-'78 she served as advisor to the Stow-Aways, Memories of the Past project by the 1978 classes of Garnet Byrne, Workman School. Miss Workman passed away in 1986, three years before Workman High School was razed. She was



MISS WORKMAN AS GRAND MARSHALL OF STOW'S 1967 INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

a special teacher and friend, long remembered by her students. If you wish to read a little more about Velma Workman, her 1978 interview by high school students Barbara Binns, Judy Thompson, and Sherrie Walters is located in **Stow-Aways, Memories of the Past**. Photos taken during the interview but not published in the book can be seen on the Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library Local History page. ♦

Stow Historical Society Membership Application

Please accept my membership fee for the following type:

Individual - \$10 Family - \$20 Contributing - \$30 Sustaining - \$50
 Business - \$100 Lifetime - \$200

Membership Total Enclosed _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Volunteer Interests (circle)

Archives Building & Grounds Festival School Tours

Other _____

Date _____

Mail application and personal check to:

Stow Historical Society
 PO Box 1425
 Stow, Ohio 44224

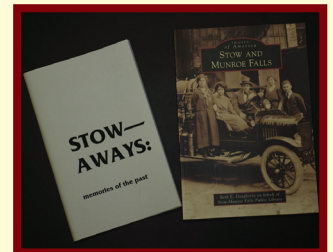
Heritage Reserve Store

Stow Historical Society offers products for sale with proceeds going toward the maintenance and preservation of the collection. Contact a Board Member if interested. Items include:

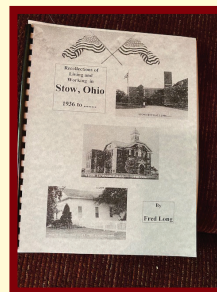
Heritage Plates: \$4 each



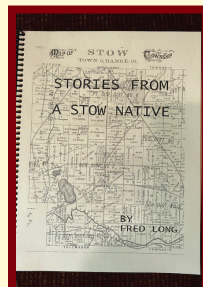
Images of America: Stow and Munroe Falls
by Beth E. Daugherty: \$22.
Stow-Aways: Memories of the Past
by Garnet Byrne: \$3.



*Recollections of Living and Working in Stow, Ohio
1936 to..."* by Fred Long: \$15.



Stories of a Stow Native
by Fred Long: \$25.



Note Cards: 6/\$5

