

**THE OAKWOOD  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



**ANNUAL REPORT  
2022**



## Archives and Acquisitions Committee

*Debra Edwards, Chair*

*The Archives/Acquisitions Committee is responsible for the collecting, preserving, recording and displaying of documents and other artifacts of importance to the history of Oakwood. It also maintains the Society's archives and resource library.*

It has been a busy and tremendous year for the Archives Committee, as we embarked on our two-year master plan of implementing more modern archival/preservation practices and improved organization of our archives—and much has been accomplished this past year through the countless hours of volunteer work and the generous donations of many.

We've also been the grateful recipient of many valuable artifacts that have been donated to the Society this past year, including a superb collection of vintage dresses, ranging from the 1880s to 1920s and originally belonging to one prominent Oakwood citizen, several historical photographs, documents, and a Runnymede Playhouse and 1906 Dayton Golf Club trophy. We have also received several items once belonging to the late Dorothy Carr.

Our hope is that our master plan will be completed during 2023 with a more conducive environment for both our treasures and researchers. We will also concentrate our efforts on pursuing grant opportunities that we enable us to further sustain and improve the archives and protect our varied collections for future generations.

## Education Committee

*Linda Pearson, Chair*

*The Education Committee is responsible for the development of educational programs for primary and secondary grades as well as for the general public. The programs include hands-on, interactive, lecture, and demonstration and are intended to teach listeners and participants about Oakwood history.*

We once again offered our **Children's Summer Garden Program** where elementary-age children learned to plant, care for, and harvest summer vegetables and herbs, just as residents from years past. The children also prepared and ate a snack from the garden at each session.

In the spring, we hosted four sessions of 3rd grade Oakwood Schools elementary students plus a session for home-schooled children, who visited us as part of the **Social Studies curriculum** on the Community.

Four **Scout Eagle projects** provided us with garden and grounds improvements, which made a big difference for us, and we greatly appreciate their several hundred hours of service.

Using our lovely grounds, we offered **Fall Photo Sessions** to the community at a reasonable price. The community support was much appreciated and raised funds for ongoing maintenance.

We offered sessions on the long-standing art of how to tap maple trees and harvest the sap for **maple syrup**, hosted at the Grays' home, The Farm.

Our popular **Far Hills Speakers Series** held six successful and well-attended presentations. This program, which we run in partnership with Wright Memorial Public Library, is essential to our continuing mission of sharing our history with the community.

## Donor Services

*Leigh Turben, Chair*

*Donor Services works with our members, sponsors and donors to ensure financial support for the Society and its activities.*

TOHS has partnered with The Dayton Foundation to offer an easy way to donate to your favorite non-profit organization. The Oakwood Historical Society currently has an Endowment Fund at The Dayton Foundation, and a link on our website (on the homepage) that will take you directly to their gifting service.

Using this link, we have participated in Giving Tuesday, and Year-End Giving campaigns, where funds are directly deposited into The Oakwood Historical Society's Endowment Fund. As a non-profit, 501(c)3 organization, we rely on the generosity of our members, sponsors and donors, and all donations are tax-deductible. Thank you for your ongoing support!

## **Maintenance Committee**

### ***Michele Oaks, Chair***

*The Maintenance Committee is responsible for the upkeep and repair of the Homestead buildings both inside and out, and any improvements/renovations to the buildings.*

We've made significant progress toward the restoration of The Homestead this year, including:

- Repair of front porch entry stairs
- Reconstruction and repair of Summer Kitchen Cupola
- Enlargement of footprint of Kitchen Garden and painting of the wood perimeter fence
- Trash Enclosure Construction: concrete pad and wood screen
- Removal of two dead trees and pruning dead limbs on multiple trees
- Application of opaque stain on wood, ADA ramp
- Survey of Interior and Exterior Emergency and pathway lighting

This spring we will commence painting of the historic house exterior.

The goal for the Maintenance Committee in 2023 is to develop and implement a business plan which would establish an operating budget and include a possible Capital Campaign. This business plan would identify and allocate the needed money for annual repairs and maintenance as well as establish a separate account for funding long-term restoration of the House Museum.

## **Membership Committee**

### ***Leigh Turben, Membership Chair & Barb Miller, CRM Chair***

*The Membership Committee is responsible for promoting membership in the Society, and for maintaining membership records, including our mail distribution list.*

The Society implemented a CRM (Customer Relationship Management) system three years ago called Little Green Light, and it has been a wonderful tool to help us manage our memberships, sponsors and donors. Today we have 317 patrons, of which 193 are active:

- Individual: 60
- Individual Senior 65+: 27
- Individual Military: 2
- Family: 70
- Family Senior 65+: 21
- Family Military, Active: 6
- Bronze (\$75): 4
- Silver (\$100): 17
- Gold (\$200): 11
- Diamond (>\$200): 3
- Lifetime (no longer offered): 43
- Business: 1
- Complimentary (public entities and other historical societies): 28
- Sponsor: 24

The CRM system not only tracks your memberships, but it also assists us by sending reminder letters or emails when your memberships are expiring. Recently we implemented email reminder notices, and the response hasn't been as successful. We will continue to use email notifications but will follow-up with a paper letter if we haven't received your renewal. Please help us go green and check your spam folder to see if our reminder notice ended there. Thank you!

## 2022 Annual Financial Report

*For the 12-month period ending December 31, 2022*

*Prepared by Treasurer Laura Bettinger*

### Revenue

Donations	\$9,037.
Membership Dues	4,870.
Special Events Profits	8,842.
Sponsorships	1,600.
Historical Markers*	2,511.
Merchandise Sales	<u>472.</u>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$27,332.</b>

### Expense

Utilities	\$5,973.
Property Maintenance	2,823.
Gardens and Grounds	4,551.
Newsletter, Postage, and Office	3,803.
Historical Markers*	3,245.
Insurance	4,520.
Professional Fees	<u>678.</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$25,593.</b>

**Net Income**            **\$1,739.**

### Capital Improvements

Front Steps	\$2,915.
Gutters and Roof	<u>1,010.</u>
<b>Total Capital</b>	<b>\$3,925.</b>

**Net Cash**                **-\$2,187.**

*\*Additional funds were donated in 2021 for 2022 Historical Markers.*