



The Historian

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Preserving the past, present, and future of the Oakwood Community • December 2025



HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

at the Oakwood Historical Society

COOKIES . CIDER . CRAFTS
LIVE MUSIC . HOMESTEAD TOURS

SUNDAY, DEC 7 | 2-5 PM

Join the Christmas festivities at the Historical Society!
All are welcome.

Please RSVP at OakwoodHistory.org
or by calling (937) 299-3793



*Parking is limited. Please park off site, walk, or bike-in.
Accessible parking/drop-off will be available.*

\$5-10 OPTIONAL DONATION APPRECIATED

1947 Far Hills Ave | Oakwood OH 45419



OAKWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2025 Officers and Board of Trustees

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Jeremiah Jenkins, President
(Open) Vice President
Debra Schenk, Treasurer
Karen Bartley, Secretary
Linda Pearson, Business Manager

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Jill Brooks,
HHT Coordinator
Tonya Dickie,
Homestead Interior Coordinator
Ann Febus,
Membership Coordinator
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Graphic Designer
Jonathan Pearson,
Website Administrator
Donna Rosenbaum,
Far Hills Speaker Series

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Debra Edwards
David Schmidt

BOARD MEETINGS

Fourth Monday of each Month
7 PM

**Dear Members And Friends
Of The Oakwood
Historical Society,**



I have been energized by leading the Historical Society for two years.

Preserving our community's rich history is at the heart of everything we do.

Your unique talents and interests are invaluable in moving our mission forward. Please consider lending your support as we foster deeper connections to our community's rich history.

With warm regards,

Jeremiah Jenkins

The Oakwood Historical Society



ANNUAL MEETING

Our annual meeting was held on November 17 at the Homestead. Our living room and dining room were filled with loyal and engaged members. The activities of the year were reviewed with a supporting slideshow. Elections were held and our slate of 2026 officers and board are:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| <i>President</i> | Ann Febus |
| <i>Vice President</i> | Andy Lloyd |
| <i>Secretary</i> | Karen Bartley |
| <i>Treasurer</i> | Tonya Dickie |
| <i>Business Manager</i> | Linda Pearson |
| <i>HHT Coordinator</i> | Jill Brooks |

Members and officers enjoyed a delightful reception, featuring a spread of cookies, cheeses, fruit, and mini cream puffs, along with wine.

Best wishes to our officers and ALL of YOU for a prosperous 2026 year.

REHABILITATING 100 PLUS YEAR-OLD WINDOWS!

This past summer and fall some of the most distressed windows at the house museum, which we are calling Triage Windows, have been rehabilitated. They needed repairs due to weathering over the years. In some cases, the glass was loose and had lost some of the glazing. Several windows had cracked glass panes. In other cases, some of the wood was beginning to rot. Most of the windows were on the oldest side of the house, at least 160 years old. A few were from the 1920's addition -- youngsters at only 100 years old!

In the upstairs back bedroom which we think was an addition around 1900, two long time TOHS members, Judy and Tom Thompson, donated money to pay for the restoration of the two windows. They are hoping their actions will encourage others to donate for additional window restoration. Those two windows would be about 120 years old, and have different hardware for opening and closing them. We learn fascinating things about construction over the centuries!

For each window, the sashes were removed and taken to a workshop for needed repairs. In one case some of the wood had to be replaced, using wood from another old window. One needed to use old wood to pair with the existing old wood sections. (Our contractor actually saves old, salvaged windows for this very purpose!)

After removing the glass at the shop, the window frames were sanded, primed, and repainted. Despite the cracks, the restorer realized the glass was unique and worth saving. So rather than replace the cracked panes, they were mended with lead the same way that a stained glass window would be. When you visit, ask to see the leaded repairs.

In addition to the actual sashes, restoration was needed on some of the small wood trim pieces that surround the sashes and help hold them in place. For this, specially cut new lumber pieces were used. (Architectural Reclamation personnel are amazing.)

We are now evaluating where the greatest need is, to determine which ones are our next priority. We have been fortunate to find skilled crafts people to do this work. Few craftsmen know this skill, as most people now have a contractor pop out the old windows and insert new already assembled units. By doing the restoration procedures we are able to maintain our existing windows. According to people who know about old windows, the wood and techniques used years ago can with care and rehabilitation outlast some of the modern windows on the market today. See how long ours have lasted! But restoration has to be budgeted for.





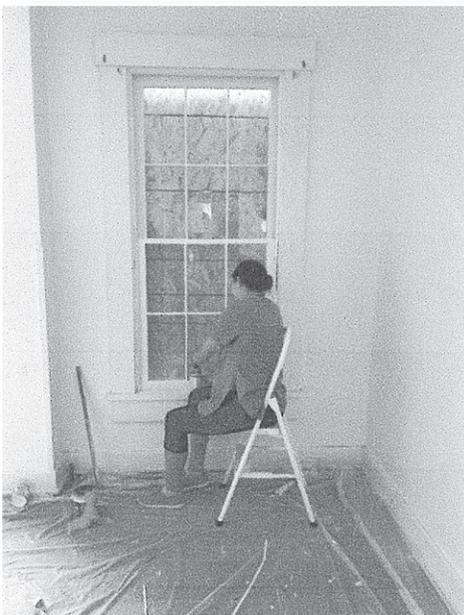


WINDOW RESTORATION SPONSORSHIP

In memory of Isabella Jamieson, who resided in this bedroom, c1927–1931.

Isabella was the sister of Tom Thompson's great grandmother,
Elizabeth Jamieson Thompson.

Sponsored by Tom and Judy Thompson.



ROTARY AWARDS GRANT

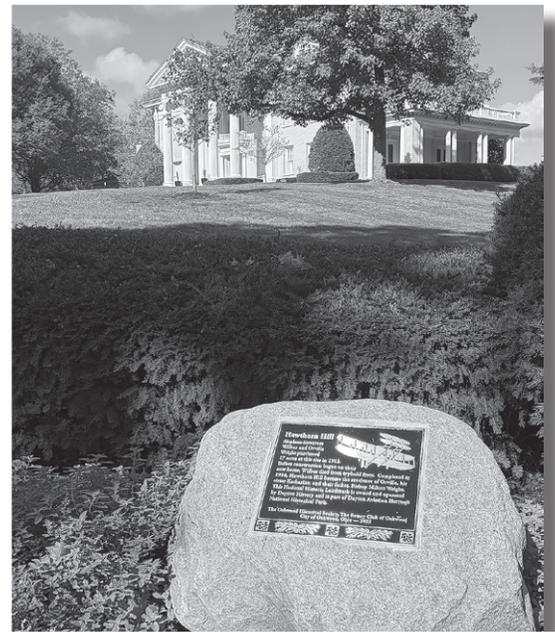


The House Museum consists of the main home, spring house, garage, carriage house, and the summer kitchen (one of the first structures possibly dating to the late 1850s).

Our summer kitchen has an open-hearth fireplace and a cast-iron cook-stove. This open-hearth fireplace, one of the largest still existing in this area, is in need of repairs. The Rotary Club of Oakwood, committed to supporting sustainable and legacy projects, awarded a grant to The Oakwood Historical Society for \$3,300 to be used toward the restoration of the fireplace lintel and additional repairs.



The Society has installed its sixth historical marker at Hawthorn Hill, longtime home of the world's first pilot, Orville Wright. Funding for this marker was generously provided



by The Rotary Club of Oakwood, with additional funding for the masonry work by the National Park Service. The Society partnered with Dayton History to bring this latest historical marker to completion.



Rotary has worked with us to install a butterfly garden and wren birdhouses — which shows their interest in sustainability.

YOUTH AT THE HOMESTEAD

This Fall, we welcomed a Scout Eagle project that focused on the 1920's kitchen.

Anna Guy from Oakwood Troop 5320 led a research of old print magazines to learn what foods and cooking were being promoted. Ultimately magazine pages and ads were framed and put up on the kitchen walls to enhance the educational experience of visitors to the Homestead. This interprets the time frame of a 1920's kitchen.



The Oakwood Historical Society Membership Form

Membership Categories (check one)

- Individual \$25
- Family \$35
- Business \$50
- Bronze \$75
- Silver \$100
- Gold \$200

\$5 Discount (check if applicable)

- Student
- Senior
- Active Military

Please make checks payable to:

The Oakwood Historical Society

Mail checks to:

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Learn more at oakwoodhistory.org

or scan the QR code



Date _____ Name _____

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THE OAKWOOD
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1947 Far Hills Avenue
Dayton, OH 45419

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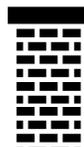
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