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# Heritage Reserve News

# Stow Historical Society

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## *Note from the President*

### OSH Rumors – Rumors – Rumors

Dear Members,

It is true what you may have heard about “OSH”. OSH stands for Stow Historical’s Old Schoolhouse Project. The story goes like this. Once there was a one room Stow school house named Stewart Corners School. It was built on the corner of Call and Young roads in between 1870 and 1885. It was an active all grades school until 1906 when all classes were transferred to Stow Consolidated school at Stow and Graham roads. After closing the OSH was used for various social functions and revival meetings, and then by Fred Hanson as a farm tool storage building. In 1956 or 1957 the building was leased by Green Valley New Baptist church and remodeled. In 1966 the Fox Den golf course was built and the building moved to 5090 Young road. In 2011 the Green Valley church was dissolved, and the property put up for sale. In 2012 the Summit Metro Parks purchased the one acre site next to the Bike Trail. They intend to make it in to a stopping point and parking facility for Trail users.

In February 2012, the City was contacted by Metro Parks, asking if Stow Historical was interested in the building, and then provided an inspection tour of the building. At that time Metro Parks offered the building to Stow Historical free of charge, we just have to move it. In March a SHS Old Schoolhouse committee began studying the feasibility of moving it and the associated costs. Based on the Committee reports, the SHS Board voted in June to proceed with the OSH project and the project funding. Our plans will be formally presented to the City, and with this Newsletter to our membership and other Societies on our mailing list. Our Project Time Line reflects doing fund raising through November 2012. In November the SHS will decide if the available funds will allow the move and restoration of the OSH. We are committed to Metro Parks to give them a go or no-go by December 2012.

We think the addition of an original Stow School house to our Heritage Park Reserve area of Silver Springs Park will be great, and of much interest to all residents of Stow. Please spread the word to friends and neighbors, as we view this as a community effort that we are coordinating.

Bob Flower – SHS President  
- Old Schoolhouse Project Committee Chair

## 2012 Spring Meetings & Events Recap



Featured speaker at the March 25th meeting was local resident and President of the William Wetmore Chapter Daughters of 1812, Sharon Myers. Sharon spoke on Summit County's Role in the War of 1812. She discussed many of Stow's local veterans, and presented a video on Oliver Hazard Perry and the Battle of Lake Erie.



Our April 23rd speaker was Dr. Kelly D. Selby, assistant professor at Walsh University. Dr. Selby's presentation was a fascinating look at the role of Ohio Women on the Civil War Home Front. Ohio women made a vital contribution to the war effort, including through their activities in Soldiers Aid Societies and the Sanitary Fairs held in Cleveland and Cincinnati.

The most recent program, held June 25th at Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library, was presented by Local History Librarian Beth Daugherty. Beth discussed the library's archives holdings and gave members a tour of the collection. The library's Local History collection includes all issues of the Stoanno (Stow High School yearbook), oral history interviews, city directories, group and individual collections, and much more. To learn more about the collection, please go to [www.smfpl.org](http://www.smfpl.org) —> Adults —> Local History.



The Stow Historical Society participated in this year's Community Showcase, sponsored by the Stow-Munroe Falls Chamber of Commerce held March 31st and April 1st. New brochures have been created and were handed out at the Showcase by a dedicated group of volunteers. A drawing was held for new members for a copy of *Images of America Stow and Munroe Falls*. Winner of the drawing, held at the April 23rd meeting, was Marilyn Lown.

School tours—thank you to Karen DePalo and John Duckworth for again organizing this year's third grade school tours held April 30th to May 21st. A big thank you to the many volunteers who provided tours and made history come to life for the children.

## Upcoming Programs and Events

Our next member meeting will be held at the farm of Charles and Jean Call at 6:00 p.m. Monday, August 27th. Please bring a covered dish to share. Meat and drinks will be provided. Come and enjoy good company in an "old fashioned" setting.

Our September 24th meeting will feature a slide presentation by local historian Mary McClure, who will discuss the role that the High Bridge Glens and Caves park, which operated in Cuyahoga Falls in the late 1800s, played in the growth and development of Silver Lake Park. High Bridge Glens was once one of the leading tourist destinations in the state of Ohio and is rumored to have had one of the first roller coasters in this section of the country. Mary has written a book about the history of the Glens that will be available for purchase and signing after the presentation. Denny "The Traveler" Reiser will be speaking on "Presidents of the Civil War, Hayes and McKinley to Antietam" at the October 22nd meeting. Our November 26th members meeting will be "election night" to vote on Board members. Bring a dessert to share. The December 1st meeting will be the annual Installation Luncheon at a location to be announced. Please join us!

## Annual Harvest Festival



Stow Historical Society's annual Harvest Festival will be held Saturday, October 5th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday, October 6th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This is our major fund raiser of the year. We are looking forward to a great event featuring good food, vendors, activities, and entertainment. To volunteer for this fun and worthwhile event, please call President Bob Flower at 330-688-5888.



OLD SCHOOLHOUSE  
IS OFFERED TO  
STOW HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
BY  
METRO-PARKS SERVING SUMMIT COUNTY



A nineteenth century building that served as a school house for pupils living in the north-east section of Stow Township has been offered to Stow Historical Society by Akron Metro Parks serving Summit County.

The former school house is located at 5090 Young Road adjacent to Metro Parks hike and bike trail, and situated on a plat of land recently purchased by the parks for a parking lot .

Stow Historical Society president Bob Flower has appointed a special committee to evaluate the feasibility of moving the building to nearby Heritage Park where the Society currently maintain three historic houses and interprets Stow history to the public.

The former schoolhouse building most recently housed Green Valley Church, an affiliate of the Tri-State Zion Association of United Baptists. Previous to its present location, the church building stood on the north side of Call Road across from the golf course. When known to early scholars as Stow Township District School House, the building stood at its original site on the southwest corner at Call Road and Young Road.

A fundraiser by Stow Historical Society to acquire funds to move the building the short distance to nearby Heritage Park is now underway. Donations can be sent to Old School House Fund, Stow Historical Society, P. O. Box 1425, Stow, Ohio 44224. Please address questions to Stow Historical Society president Bob Flower at (330) 688-5888.

Marilyn Lown, Old School House Committee

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The Current Resident or

**In This Issue...**

Letter from the President, Calendar and Meeting Information.

**2012 Stow Historical Society Meeting Calendar**

Monday, August 27	6:00 p.m.—picnic at Call's Farm
Monday, September 24	7:00 p.m. at Stow Safety Building
Saturday, October 6 Sunday, October 7	10:00-4:00—Harvest Festival
Monday, October 22	7:00 p.m. at Stow Safety Building
Monday, November 26	7:00 p.m. at Stow Safety Building
Saturday, December 1	12:00 Noon—Installation luncheon—location to be determined

Board meetings are held the second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the second floor conference room at Stow City Hall

There are no member meetings in May or July