

THE HISTORICALOG

Volume 64 ~ No. 1

A Publication of the Warren County Historical Society

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By Victoria Van Harlingen

Your Tax Return Can Make History

It's tax season again, and this is just a reminder that the voluntary tax "check-off" for the Ohio Historical Society that you'll find on your Ohio individual income tax return benefits history- and preservation-related organizations throughout the state, including the Warren County Historical Society.

When you opt to donate a portion of your state income tax refund to the Ohio Historical Society, your donation goes to support the History Fund, which makes grants to organizations for local history- and preservation-related projects in communities across Ohio. It *does not* support Ohio Historical Society-owned properties, but small and medium sized private non-profits. That's an important distinction for organizations like the Warren County Historical Society which is a private non-profit.

In 2013, the History Fund received only \$137,153 in donations from 15,890 Ohioans who contributed a portion of their state income tax refund. Most donations are small, averaging \$8.63 in 2013, but the impact is big for those who receive History Fund grants. The matching grants are awarded on a competitive basis.

This year we have applied for funds for some much needed renovations at Glendower and hope to hear in February that we have won the grant.

This special fund must attract at least \$250,000 this year to remain an option for Ohio's non-profits. Please consider donating a portion of your tax refund to the Ohio Historical Society for the History Fund when you complete your state income tax return this year.

January Flea Market Succeeds Despite Weather

The "Polar Vortex" came to town, but deal-seekers still ventured to the WCHS Flea Market at the Old Post Office. Due to the snow and frigid temperatures, the flea market was extended an extra weekend.

A special "thank you" to Mary Klei, our vendors, volunteers, and especially the donors and shoppers who made the winter flea market a success. The Warren County Historical Society's mission will benefit from the net proceeds of \$534.25.

The next flea market will be April 4th and 5th. Vendor booths are available, and, as always, donations of items to sell are greatly appreciated.

**Oh shoot!
My taxes
are due!**

You can't help Annie Oakley with her taxes, but your tax return can help save history.

Donate to Ohio History on your Ohio tax return and fund history projects in local communities.



CARROLL WIDDOES: WARREN COUNTY'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE GLORY DAYS OF OHIO STATE FOOTBALL

By John J. Zimkus, Historian & Education Director

Urban Meyer during his first two seasons as the head football coach of The Ohio State University has achieved the highest winning percentage in the school's history at .923. Jim Tressel is third in the annals of OSU football with .810 over his ten years as coach. As accomplished as these coaches are, their personal stories are rather pale when compared to the life of the coach who is second on that list with an impressive .889 percentage. He is the all-but-forgotten Carroll Widdoes. A man of deep conviction, skilled leadership, and talent, he was an individual whose life was filled with personal drama and adventure, and a person who had strong ties to Warren County, Ohio.

His parents were the Rev. and Mrs. Howard W. Widdoes of Lecompton, Kansas. They were missionaries in the Evangelical United Brethren Church. Howard Widdoes married Alice Mabel Steele on October 31, 1901. Their first child, Margaret, was born 10 ½ months later on September 19, 1902 in Arkansas City, Kansas. On October 17, 1903, two days before Margaret's 1st birthday, the three of them arrived in Manila, capital of the Philippine Islands. They stayed in that city for four months. It was there, on December 3, 1903, that Carroll Curtis Widdoes was born.

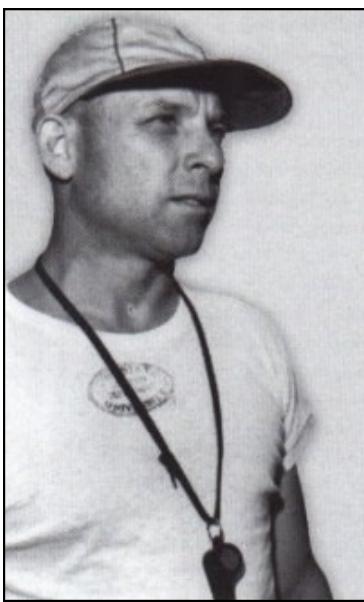
The Widdoes family, now numbering four, headed to the outer provinces of the Philippines on February 18, 1904 to spread the word of God. Over the next forty years the Rev. and Mrs. Widdoes would divide their time between two continents, and between their Filipino congregational flock and their flock of six children, four of which were born in the Philippines, but who were mostly raised in America.

On October 15, 1912, the Shakers at Union Village in Warren County, Ohio, four miles west of the village of Lebanon, agreed to sell their 4,005 acres to the Evangelical United Brethren Church. The land was officially turned over to the Church on March 5, 1913, 22 days short of the 108th anniversary of the conversion

of Malcolm Worley, the first Warren Countian to embrace Shakerism.

The Evangelical United Brethren Church's initial plans for Otterbein Home, the name the Church gave the old Shaker village, were "to provide a free home for old people, a free home for old ministers and their wives, a free children's home, a free home for children of missionaries." Interestingly, it seems the only missionary family to take advantage of the last stated purpose was the Widdoes. Four of the six Widdoes children, Margaret, 14; Carroll, 13; and younger brothers Harold, 10, and Emmor, 9; came in 1916 to live at Otterbein Home, near Lebanon, Ohio.

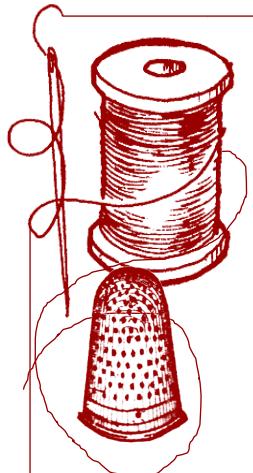
Carroll Widdoes initially attended school at Otterbein but transferred to Lebanon High School for his freshman year. In 1918, LHS was moved from the 1893 "Red Brick Building" on Pleasant Street to the empty University Hall of the closed



Carroll Widdoes

Lebanon University, the former National Normal University, on East Street next to the Lebanon Presbyterian Church. At Lebanon High, Carroll was a star member of the basketball, baseball and track teams. Ironically, although Carroll Widdoes would be best known as a football coach, Lebanon High School at this time did not field a football team. Called "Wid" by his friends, Carroll's LHS classmates included Mark Fred, Sam Kaufman and Merwin "Chiny" Coyne, with Carl Stiles and Russel Wright being in the class ahead of him. Carroll returned to Otterbein Home for his senior year of high school and graduated in 1922.

Carroll then attended Otterbein College in Westerville, Ohio. He majored in math and had minors in Spanish and French. It was here that Carroll Widdoes played in his very first organized football game. Besides football, he also excelled in
(continued on page 4)



Lebanon Quilt & Fabric Arts Show

March 7, 8, & 9, 2014

Vendors from
Around
the Country

FRI & SAT 10-5
SUN 11-4

SPECIAL EXHIBIT
Jennifer Chiaverini's
Elm Creek Quilts

Quilts, Quilting & Craft Supplies,
Patterns, Fabrics, and More

Admission: \$5

At the Warren County History Center



WARREN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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(continued from page 2)

baseball and track. Playing on the Otterbein College Basketball Team Carroll received All-Ohio recognition. He graduated in 1926 with a Bachelor of Arts degree.

After graduation Carroll accepted a job teaching and coaching football at Longfellow Junior High School in Massillon, Ohio. In 1928, 25-year-old Carroll Curtis Widdoes married Viola Marie Peden, 21, from Johnstown, Pennsylvania. Together they would have three sons, Richard, James and Thomas.

In 1934, Carroll became director of physical education for the Massillon School System as well as the assistant football coach of the Washington High School Tigers in Massillon. The head football coach was an alumnus of Washington High and a stand-out quarterback at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. Five years younger than Carroll, he, with Carroll's assistance, guided Massillon's high school to six consecutive Ohio High School Championships and a 35-game winning streak. The head coach of the Tigers was a young man by the name of Paul Brown who would become one of the great innovators in the sport of football, the coach of the Cleveland Browns, a team that was actually named after him, and the owner and first coach of the Cincinnati Bengals.

In the 1930s, high school football in Massillon, Ohio was so popular and successful that only Ohio State's team grew a larger attendance crowd for football games in the state. Today the Tigers of Washington High School in Massillon are the 2nd winningest team in U.S. high school football history.

Then, in January 1941, it was announced that Paul Brown, this legendary high school football coach that the press had nicknamed the "Miracle Man of Massillon," was going to be the new head coach of The Ohio State University Buckeyes. A few weeks later, Brown let it be known that he was taking his longtime assistant coach Carroll Widdoes, 41, with him to OSU. The appointment made front-page news in *The Western Star* newspaper in Lebanon, Ohio on February 13, 1941.

In 1942, under Paul Brown, assisted by Carroll Widdoes who was credited with perfecting the "fleet backfields featured [in] Brown's teams," Ohio State won its first consensus national championship with a record of 9-1. The University's only loss that season was at the hands of Wisconsin led by the legendary and elusive running back Elroy "Crazy Legs" Hirsch. Ohio State Football historians have dubbed this contest "The Bad Water Game." It seems that half of the OSU team came down with intestinal disorders after drinking from an unsanitary drinking fountain at the Madison, Wisconsin train station. On the morning of November 28, 1942, the date of the last day of the football season for most schools, OSU was ranked #3 nationally. Fortune would have it, however, that #1 ranked Boston College lost to unranked Holy Cross, 55-12, that day, while #2 Georgia Tech lost to #5 Georgia, 34-0.

By this time, World War II was nearly a year old.

For the first couple of years of the war Paul Brown, in his early 30s, had been granted a Selective Service deferment at Ohio State's request on the grounds that his service was essential to the campus physical education program. In February 1944, Paul Brown was reclassified as 1-A by the

Massillon, Ohio draft board. A short time earlier he had told them to "treat my case like anyone else's" and disregard any request from OSU for a deferment for him.

In April 1944, Brown was drafted into the Navy. His request for a commission was granted and he was sent to the Great Lakes Naval Training Station north of Chicago with the rank of lieutenant (jg). His job at the naval station was to coach football.

Before Coach Brown entered the Navy, he handpicked an "interim" head coach to lead the Ohio State Football Team while he was away. Brown would be deemed the OSU "coach in absentia," as he was expected to return to Columbus after the war and continue coaching the Buckeyes. The "interim" OSU



Les Horvath

head coach Brown wanted was Carroll Widdoes. The headline of *The Western Star* on April 20, 1944 read, “Local Grid Fans Laud Brown’s Selection of Widdoes as Coach.”

Under Widdoes’ leadership in 1944, Ohio State had its first player to be awarded the Heisman Trophy, quarterback Les Horvath. The odd thing about this selection when reviewed today was that Horvath had already graduated from Ohio State after the 1942 season and had moved on to graduate school. Back then college athletes only had 3 years of eligibility instead of the four years they have now. Because of the manpower shortage caused by World War II the college football rules at the time permitted a fourth year of eligibility beyond graduation. So, while enrolled in The Ohio State University’s College of Dentistry, Les Horvath was asked by Head Coach Carroll Widdoes to come back to the team for the 1944 season.

Les Horvath liked the soft spoken Widdoes. “I think Carroll Widdoes was a very unusual person” Horvath said. “He was not like Paul Brown; he was not a demanding person. He was pretty strict about a lot of things and he was a fundamentalist but he was sort of a shy individual. He expected you to do things, but he never embarrassed you by correcting you in front of others. I think he did a fantastic job of coaching our team.”

On October 12, 1944, the eyes of football fans from all over Ohio, as well as the nation, were focused on Ohio Stadium. On that day, Paul Brown returned to Columbus in his new role as coach of the Great Lakes Naval Station’s team, the Bluejackets, for their game against the Ohio State Buckeyes. The game was broadcast nationally by both NBC and CBS radio. A crowd of 73,477 witnessed the duel of mentor versus student and, in this case, the student, Widdoes, won 26-6. (It has been pointed out that since Paul Brown was the head coach of Great Lakes Bluejackets and the “coach in absentia” of the Ohio State Buckeyes, he was technically in charge of both teams!)

Paul Brown was upset and very disappointed with his team’s loss, but praised Widdoes and the Buckeyes for their outstanding play. Later that



Paul Brown

evening, the two coaches had dinner with Ohio State’s Athletic Director Lynn W. St. John.

Not only did Carroll Widdoes’ Buckeyes defeat Paul Brown’s team on that October day, they won every game they played that year, completing the season undefeated.

They ended the year ranked #2 in the nation

behind Army. That year, Carroll Widdoes, the “interim” head coach of OSU, the man who was supposed to keep Paul Brown’s “seat warm for him” until he came back from the Navy, was named the 1944 Coach of the Year by the American Football Coaches Association!

Few people were aware at the time that added to the pressure of being a first-time head football coach at a major university; the pressure of replacing the legendary Paul Brown as the coach of Ohio State; and the pressure of facing that same Paul Brown, his mentor and friend, in a game with tens of thousands watching in the stadium and hundreds of thousands listening to it over the radio was the fact that Carroll Widdoes knew, for the entire season, that his parents had been captured by the Japanese in the Philippines. What he didn’t know was whether or not his parents were still alive.

Howard and Alice Widdoes were first reported captured on November 20, 1942. It is now known that they were taken to a civilian prisoner of war camp situated in the Trinidad Valley about 134 miles north of Manila. This POW camp was formerly known as Camp Holmes and had once been a Philippine Constabulary training camp. It was a large facility, with three large barracks, numerous isolated cottages and some shop buildings. The Japanese took over two of the cottages for their own use, while the internees used the largest

one for a hospital. The camp was finally was liberated by U.S. paratroopers on February 4, 1945 and Rev. and Mrs. Widdoes were found to be in relatively good health.

Around the same time Carroll's parents were freed, Paul Brown, to the shock and dismay of The Ohio State University, decided he was not coming back to coach the Buckeyes. On February 8, 1945, while on leave from the Navy, Brown accepted an offer to coach professional football after the war in the newly formed All-America Football Conference. He signed a contract to be the head coach of a team that would, when they finally started to play in 1946, be named after him despite his objections - the Cleveland Browns. On February 23, 1945, because of Brown's decision not to return to Columbus, Carroll Widdoes became the official, and no longer the "interim," head coach of OSU football.

In 1945, the Buckeyes under Widdoes had a 7-2 season, losing only to Purdue, 35-13, and Michigan, 7-3. At the end of the season Coach Carroll Widdoes approached Ohio State Athletic Director Lynn W. St. John with a rather bizarre request. Being a very quiet and religious person, he did not enjoy being in the spotlight that was always shinning on the Buckeye's head football coach. He preferred spending time with his family rather than speaking to alumni groups around the country. Carroll felt he was really much happier when he was an assistant coach. Adding to Carroll's discomfort was his belief that Brown, or at least people working on his behalf, was "tampering" with OSU's football players and trying to get them to join him in Cleveland. Many of them were returning servicemen who, like Paul Brown, had promised to come back to Ohio State after the war. One in particular was a player from Martins Ferry, Ohio who, after his freshman year with the Buckeyes, enlisted in the Army in 1943 and fought in the South Pacific. He would make quite a name for himself as a place kicker for the Cleveland Browns. His name was Lou Groza.

So, on January 2, 1946, in one of most unusual coaching moves in college football history took place, Carroll Widdoes resigned as the head football coach of The Ohio State University and changed jobs with the Buckeye's Offensive Coordinator Paul Bixler. He was stepping down after only two years as OSU's head coach after achieving an impressive 16-2 record, and going back to being an assistant coach for the same team.

Paul Bixler was the Buckeye's head coach for only one season, 1946, before being replaced by former OSU All-American and Big Ten MVP Wes Fesler. Carroll Widdoes stayed on as an Ohio State assistant coach until 1948.

In 1949, Carroll Widdoes apparently overcame his dislike for being a head football coach and accepted an offer to coach at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio. He guided the OU Bobcats Football Team until 1957, winning the Mid-American Conference title in 1953. Carroll served as Ohio University's Athletic Director from 1962 to 1969 and, in 1968, was installed in the Ohio University Athletics Hall of Fame.

Carroll and his wife Viola retired to Lantana, Florida in 1970. On September 22, 1971, Carroll Curtis Widdoes, arguably the most successful "interim" head coaches in the history of college football, died of a heart attack in Lake Worth, Florida at the age of 67.

Historic Camera Donated to WCHS

One of the newest acquisitions of the WCHS is a circa 1893 Rochester Optical Company Premo D model camera. It was donated to WCHS by Helen A. Jones of Dayton, Ohio.

Following in the footsteps of Eastman Kodak Company, the Rochester Optical Company introduced its version of a self-casing camera in 1892. Their most successful innovation was the "Premo" line which was introduced in 1893.

Our "new" camera has a polished wood interior, red leather bellows, brass hardware, and a black leather covered body that protects all components when closed. The company was able to build and sell this, and other high-quality cameras, at a significantly lower price than its competition.

In 1903 the Rochester Optical Company were acquired by George Eastman for \$330,000. In 1907 it became the Rochester Optical Division of the Eastman Kodak Company, and later the Rochester Optical Department. In 1921 the name was finally abandoned.



The camera is on display in the Daguerrean Gallery on the Village Green

Upcoming Events at Fort Ancient

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE FREE EVENTS, HELD FROM 10:30 A.M.—12:00 P.M.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2014

At the Heart of Fort Ancient: Excavating the Moorehead Circle

Robert Riordan is an archaeologist with Wright State University, where he is Professor of Anthropology and Chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. He was educated at Colgate University and Southern Illinois University Carbondale, from which he received the Ph.D. in anthropology. He has spent several decades in seeking to understand the earthwork enclosures of the Hopewell culture of southern Ohio, having conducted major excavation programs at the Pollock Works in Greene County and, since 2006, the Moorehead Circle complex inside the Fort Ancient earthwork.



Historic Picture of Moorehead Circle

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2014

The Ohio Hopewell Culture: an Explosion of Art, Architecture and Ceremony

Bradley T. Lepper is the Curator of Archaeology for the Ohio Historical Society in Columbus, Ohio. In addition, he is an occasional visiting professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Denison University in Granville and an instructor at the Ohio State University's Newark Campus. He writes a column on archaeology for *The Columbus Dispatch* and he is the author of *Ohio Archaeology: an illustrated chronicle of Ohio's ancient American Indian cultures*, published in 2005 by Orange Frazer Press, Wilmington, Ohio. This book received the Society for American Archaeology's Public Audience Book Award in 2007. The Ohio Archaeological Council presented Dr. Lepper with its Public Awareness Award in 2008 in recognition of his efforts to promote the archaeology of the state.

Our Volunteers are the Best! We thank you!

CHRISTMAS AT GLENOWER VOLUNTEERS

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Fred Compton
Karen Devanny
Mark Howard

Kyle Montgomery
Cathy Scraucevs
Sue Watts
Philly Watts
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Fred Compton	Rosemary Schatzel
Reena Das	Janis Scraucevs
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Liz Grauwelman	Gene Slorp
Bill Jameson	Sue Watts
Rebecca	Philly Watts
McLaughlin	
Tom Miller	
Paula Miller	

Treasures from The Vault

**WARREN COUNTY NATIVE SURVIVES
AFTER HUSBAND IS EXECUTED ALONGSIDE HIS MISTRESS**

By Lynley Dunham, Archivist & Assistant Curator

Far away from the clear creeks and picturesque farmland of Warren County, in the thick bayou of southern Louisiana, something unexpected bobbed near the surface of Lake Palourde in the summer of 1927. With its ascent through the murky water came a nasty secret that would shatter the world of a woman who once appeared to have it all.

Gertrude Crone was born in April of 1876 to John and Rosaline (Wellman) Crone. John was a carpenter and Rosaline taught school. The family suffered the untimely deaths of eldest daughter Mary in 1886 followed by John in 1889. Afterwards, Rosaline supported the family by teaching and saw to it that her surviving children were well educated. Both of the Crone girls attended Lebanon's National Normal School, where Ruth studied medicine, and youngest daughter, Gertrude, received her teacher training. It is likely here that the sisters met fellow classmate T.E. Dreher. Thomas Eldon Dreher was born in Clinton, Louisiana in 1872 to Eldon and Martha (Lipscomb) Dreher. Thomas was one of eight children, only four survived childhood. He studied at NNU before attending the Tulane University of Medicine in 1897. How the love story between Thomas Dreher and Gertrude Crone began is unknown, but in 1901, the two were married in Ohio, and Gertrude left her mother and teaching career behind to start a new life as the wife of a Southern doctor in Louisiana.

Life trudged on for Dr. and Mrs. Dreher in Morgan City, Louisiana. "Doc" and Gertrude had three children: Dorothy was born in 1904, Ted in 1908 and Polly in 1913. In addition to his medical practice,



Dr. Thomas Dreher

the family owned the local pharmacy. They lived comfortably and enjoyed the respect of the community. Both were active members of social and civic organizations, and Doc was particularly active in the local Masonic Lodge and Ku Klux Klan. But after 25 years of marriage, Doctor Dreher's unconventional house calls to local housewife, Ada LeBoeuf, brought their "American Dream" to a screeching halt. When Jim LeBoeuf, the superintendent of Morgan City Light & Power Company called on his good friend Doc Dreher to help treat his wife's migraine headaches, he could not have imagined that it would result in an illicit affair, murder and a double hanging.

Ada Bonner LeBoeuf was a 36 year-old homemaker and mother of four. At some point after Dr. Dreher started treating Ada for her headaches their relationship turned adulterous.



Polly and Dorothy Dreher

Morgan City is located along the Atchafalaya River, in southern Louisiana, roughly midway between New Orleans and Lafayette. With only a few thousand residents, gossip spread quickly in this quaint town, and word of the affair got back to both Ada and Doc's spouses. It is said that an anonymous letter was sent to Gertrude reporting the affair, and that she took the letter to Jim LeBoeuf. Despite denials from Ada and Doc, Jim was furious and allegedly threatened the doctor's life on more than one occasion. Local lore tells that one night while in a jealous rage, Jim LeBoeuf drove around town disguised as Ada, dressed in her clothing and toting a gun, in an attempt to trick Dr. Dreher into soliciting "Ada's" affections, and providing him with a reason to kill the doctor. Needless to say, tensions were high within this love triangle. On July 1, 1927, Ada lured Jim out to Lake Palourde for a late night boat ride. Whether Ada's true intention was to reconcile as the defense claimed, or to murder Jim as the prosecutors accused, only four people ever knew what really

happened that night on Lake Palourde. When another pirogue boat appeared in the moonlight revealing Dr. Dreher and his handyman, James Beadle, a known enemy of Jim LeBoeuf, the confrontation turned to gunfire and Jim LeBoeuf was soon shot dead. His body was cut open to release gasses and prevent floating, and sent to the lake's bottom weighed down with railroad angle irons.

Experts said that if the body had been dumped only a few feet away, and if the lake had not recently flooded, Jim would almost certainly have never been found. But as luck would have it, his body was discovered on July 6 by "frog giggers."* Ada spent the previous week explaining his absence to neighbors, claiming that her husband was away on business, and telling the children their father was away cooling off, all the while hoping that the truth would never come out. Dr. Dreher too went about his life as though nothing out of the ordinary had occurred.

It did not take long for the authorities to put the pieces together and to get Ada, Dreher and Beadle to tell their sides of the story. All stated that an angry Jim LeBouef was the first to fire. Ada and Dreher maintained that Beadle pulled the trigger, and Beadle claimed that it was Dreher. The trial was held in nearby Franklin, and by all accounts was a media circus. The courtroom was filled beyond capacity each day with reporters and curious onlookers. Within a month of the body surfacing, all three were found guilty of murder, Ada and Dreher were sentenced to death and Beadle life in prison. Many expected that Ada's sentence would be commuted to a life sentence, but Governor Huey Long refused to do so, making LeBoeuf the first white woman executed in Louisiana's history. On February 1, 1929, Ada LaBoeuf and Thomas Dreher were hanged side by side. Beadle was released from prison in 1939 and died in 1955. It was reported that just prior to the hangings, Beadle tried to confess to firing the fatal shot but was denied the opportunity.

*gigging is a method of hunting for frogs with a multi-pronged spear



Sisters Gertrude Crone Dreher and Ruth Crone Barnes

Gertrude avoided her husband's trial because she did not want the media attention or to be photographed. As the town around her was engulfed in a media frenzy that played out like a soap opera throughout the state's

newspapers, Mrs. Dreher retreated until the storm passed. However a letter written in 1935 and later donated to the Warren County Historical Society, provides us Gertrude Crone Dreher's personal account of the event.

I first came across the letter, addressed to Mrs. Homer Hollcroft of Lebanon, two years ago when filing family papers donated to the library. With no mention of the backstory, and having never heard of the murder case that rocked Louisiana eight decades ago, it appeared to be like any other letter from one cousin to another. It included current pictures of the family and recent happenings. However, a few words, "Ku Klux" and "tried and convicted," jumped off of the page and got my

attention. After researching the names and discovering the details of the story, it became clear that this letter was penned by a disgraced widow trying to reconnect with her family and explain her side of a tragedy.

Morgan City, LA—Oct. 8, 1935

Dear Cousin Mattie,

When your dear encouraging letter came in the midst of our trouble, I fully intended writing you that I appreciated it beyond words—but I was so torn with sorrow and disgrace that it was months and months before I could overcome that feeling, and when I felt better I procrastinated.

The newspapers gave such sensational, unreliable statements and made the affair so sordid, that I was too humiliated to see or write anyone except those who knew the whole facts. Doctor was tried, convicted and sentenced by the newspapers before the trial. It was a case of a prominent man caught in the meshes of the law, and the newspapers made the most of it. He was a Mason & had been head of the Ku Klux, all of which was against him, by

the majority, in Southern Louisiana. We learned too late, that one of our out of town lawyers at that time was head of the Knights of Columbus for the state of La! Morgan City was always loyal to Doctor, and few, if any, believe he was guilty—merely the tool of two unscrupulous persons who felt he was worth holding on to. Of course Doctor was always a philanderer, for that was his nature, but it was only after the loss of his eye in 1922 that he was the prey of one special woman. The loss of his eye was a peculiar case—he suffered a stroke, but instead of the clot affecting the brain, it lodged in the blood vessel which fed the optic nerve of his right eye, thus causing blindness in that eye. In time, his mind was affected in this way: it was clear as a whistle concerning medicine, but he fancied his old friends and family and especially me, were all against him, and did not care for him. In this he was encouraged by the woman, who never had been recognized by his friends or family—she was of an extremely common family—she was glad to take advantage of his diseased mind—no one was able to free him of that obsession, and neither did anyone realize this sudden peculiarity was a form of insanity, until it was too late...

Gertrude Crone Dreher defended her husband six years after his hanging, despite the toll that his actions had on her and her children. She details the financial burden left by the trial, and describes how each of her children were affected. She does not complain about her life, and seems to make the most out of a less than desirable situation. It is clear that she takes great pride in her children, and that they are all devoted to one another. Little if anything has been written about the survivors of the LeBoeuf murder scandal. Jim and Ada LeBoeuf's children were left orphaned. At the brink of the Great Depression, Mrs. Beadle was left with the sole responsibility of raising seven children. Gertrude inherited her late husband's legal fees, which she estimated at \$80,000, and was forced to find her own financial security for the remaining twenty years of her life. But perhaps her greatest hardship came with guiding her children, though nearly grown, to adapt to a life without a father or the financial security they had always known, and to do so while sharing the last name of a notorious killer.

Lunch & Learn

Join us each month for a catered lunch and lecture.

**11:30 A.M. — 1 P.M.
\$20, PAID RESERVATION REQUIRED.**

February 12 CINCINNATI AND SOUP: FACTS, FOOD AND FUN

Cheri Brinkman, cookbook author, presents 1960s recipes, nostalgia, and an agri-history of Cincinnati.

March 19 A MUSICAL CENTER? OHIO SHAKERS AT THE HEART OF IT ALL

Carol Medlicott, professor and author, discusses the dramatic changes in Shaker music production.

April 16 DAYTON, OHIO'S FORGOTTEN INDUSTRY

William C. Gallagher, author and toy researcher, brings to light the role making toys played in the vivid history of Dayton.

May 21 IT CURES LIKE MAGIC: THE GOLDEN AGE OF PATENT MEDICINE QUACKERY

Dennis E. Dalton, author, displays and discusses the supposed curative properties of 19th century patent potions.

June 18 EXPLORING HISTORIC WARREN COUNTY

John Zimkus, WCHS historian, provides a look at the creation of Warren County and the historic contributions of its residents.

History Fund Grant Will Help Cincinnati-Area Shaker Village Open to the Public

Did you know that there was once a thriving Shaker community west of Cincinnati, near Harrison, Ohio? Formed in 1822, White Water is one of 24 communal villages in the U.S. founded by Shakers. Though the Shakers have been gone since 1916, it remains Ohio's most intact Shaker site and the only one that still has most of its original buildings — more than 20 in all.

Today they stand silent, but they have a fascinating story to tell. Hamilton County Park District and the non-profit Friends of White Water Shaker Village are eager to do just that. They've been working together on plans for preserving the village and work is underway to restore the 1827 meeting



Interior renovations in progress

house and other buildings.

"We believe that the village is an important part of America's cultural heritage and should be open for all to learn about Shaker communal history, their place in American architectural history and the importance of preserving examples of our past," said project director Rich Spence of Friends of Whitewater Shaker Village.

A \$15,000 grant from Ohio's History Fund is helping build up-to-date restrooms that meet accessibility requirements of the Americans With Disabilities Act, a key step toward opening White Water Shaker Village to visitors.

"In our vision are tours of these wonderful buildings, Shaker craft demonstrations and fairs, farm



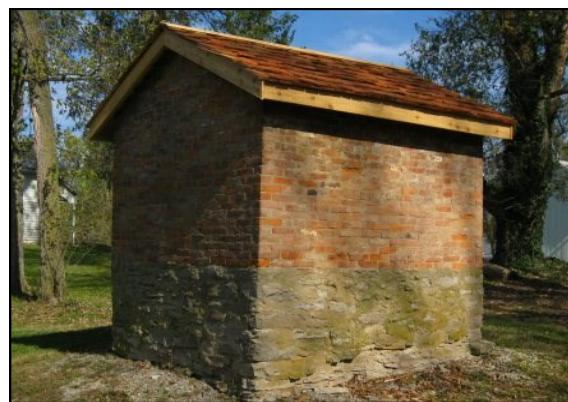
The trench is dug in front of the Meeting House to allow for plumbing and electric for the new restrooms

plots plowed by horses, a shop selling Shaker-style crafts and books, and, above all, opportunities for all to walk in this peaceful farm setting and reflect on the story of the Believers for whom this was once home," Spence said.

He knows that some of those things are still down the road, and that restoring the village will remain a work in progress, but also knows that support for those things will blossom once the village opens to the public.

Learn more about plans for White Water Shaker Village at www.whitewatervillage.org.

Learn more about how you can contribute to



The smokehouse

Ohio's History Fund, aiding projects like this throughout Ohio via your state income tax return, at www.ohiohistory.org/makehistory.



Warren County History Center
105 S. Broadway
Lebanon, OH 45036

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*A Murder
Mystery Evening*



Saturday, February 15, 2014, 6:30 pm

Join the guests of author Rosie Valentine for a sumptuous evening party to celebrate the sale of her novel to a movie mogul. But beware, after a heart-breaking discovery is made, you may be recruited to investigate, or possibly, be questioned as a suspect!

Catered Dinner Included

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Paid reservation required in advance by Wednesday, February 12th

Online at WCHSmuseum.org or call 513-932-1817

A joint fundraiser of the Lebanon Theatre Company and the Warren County Historical Society