

Auld Lang Syne: Museums & Memories

Scotland's Robert Burns's three simple words from 1788 come to mind as 2021 draws to a close while 2022 looms on the horizon. Loosely translated, "auld lang syne" means long, long ago or days gone by. Burns took the words to mean "for the sake of old times." One may wonder what this popular year end saying has to do with local lore and history.



909- William Theron Weed & FRIENDS - with one of President James GARFIELD'S HORSES -

It seems that during many conversations someone who knows me asks "I suppose you were a history teacher or a lover of all things local history past or present." Well, actually no. In my case it is a journey that began in earnest just over two decades ago. Like many of you, I drove past local historic sites or museums daily, weekly, or unknowingly. However, one day in May 1995 I stopped at Fairport Harbor's local maritime museum and lighthouse. There a local

volunteer John Fedak shared some local history in my our or so visit. A dizzying inventory of facts, images and experiences swirled through my mind's eye. I was left with a unique experience and related memories. With time memories fade but portions of that visit become part of you. I returned to the lighthouse and within two years became a dedicated volunteer, continuing to this day.



In the next few years, Garfield's home, the Lake County History Center at Shadybrook on Little Mountain, a Temple in Kirtland and The Indian Museum at Lake Erie College became new local spots to see. Each future visit left me with a two-tiered memory: the building itself and the site's contents, the museum's soul. A Third Order Fresnel Lens, the Interurban Room, Native American displays produced new memories of a Lake County that I never knew existed. The Mentor Recreation Park (now Eleanor

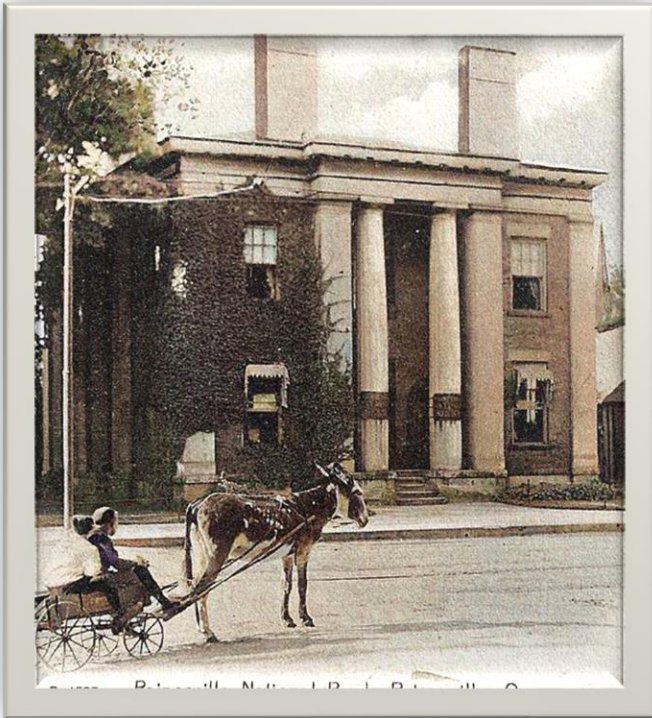


Garfield Park) of my childhood was actually a Garfield Family home, and the lower area structure the carriage house. A Center Street cupcake shop was Mentor's first library. Millionaire's Row had origins in Wickliffe. I was very naive about my hometown and Lake County in general.



In the years following that first lighthouse visit, I have stopped by many county heritage sites over and over. I have hiked the Underground Railroad sites at Liberty Hollow, viewed historic burial mounds at Lake Metroparks Indian Point, toured the Casement House, Vineyard House and visited each of Lake County's 27 Ohio Historical Markers.

In 2016, I was honored to be given the keys to Concord Township's remarkable Stone Schoolhouse which dates to 1841. 2022 is a memorable year in Concord as the township celebrates its bicentennial year. Stop by the Stone School or even schedule a private tour!



(Inst. Adv.)

VOTE FOR MRS. ORA M. SPINK FOR SHERIFF

(SHE IS A REPUBLICAN)

THE PAST record of Ora M. Spink as sheriff of Lake County with Art M. Spink as Deputy gave Lake County's people the greatest co-operation in the enforcement of all laws of any sheriff's administration in the history of Lake county.

If Art M. Spink is Lake county's choice for sheriff, the office will be under the same management with Ora M. Spink as Chief Deputy.

Voters—have not the Spinks, proven us true to Republican party principals as any candidates in the field?

Have they not promised as well as proven they will co-operate with the people of Lake county in the enforcement of prohibition laws?

Consider: from National to County Candidates and the principles they represent. Do not vote for and against the same principles and expect to accomplish the desired results.

Consider first the candidates promise then their past record—judge by the inner man. Let your better judgment rule.

Do not take the attitude that it makes no difference, it does.

Vote for the "Spinks", by voting for Art M. Spink, on the Independent ticket, November 6th.



ART M. SPINK

Knowing a little more about Lake County's rich history, and all the people and places that made its story, makes me (and hopefully all of us) care more about its present. For today is so much richer when we understand and honor the past. To the many local authors and historical societies, thank you for all you do to connect present and future generations with their past. To the volunteers who

on any given day pay it forward -- thank you! As the three simple words Auld Lang Syne recall - the good old times, those days gone by, are never done. There never seems to be enough time to take in all of our county's history; but spending some time in 2022 in a local museum or walking outside experiencing the richness of our county



landscape is a resolution you will find easy to keep. In 2022, give yourself the gift of time and visit these county gems. Our non-profit museums and the memories you will take home with you will be mutually beneficial.

Happy holidays! May 2022 be your best year ever.

***Remember Lake County –
Where History Never Grows Old!***

Submitted by Dan Maxson

Local Lore by Max (2010-2016), News-Herald Community Media
Lab - Trustee, Curator - FHHS / Fairport Harbor Lighthouse & Marine
Museum - Curator / Docent - Old Stone School, Concord Township



Photos: Western Reserve Map; Garfield estate; Fairport Harbor Lighthouse; downtown Willoughby; Lathrop Elementary School; Lake County National Bank, Painesville; Casement House; Willowick's Robert Manry, 1965; Spink Sheriff Campaign ad, 1924; Shadybrook House (Baldwin estate, Kirtland); Painesville street fair, 1897.