

The Zoar Star

A Publication of the Zoar Community Association

FALL 2014

www.historiczooarvillage.com

The ZCA Mission

To preserve, interpret, and celebrate the culture and heritage of the Society of Separatists and historic Zoar Village through education, activities, and events that promote both the legacy of the Society and the present Zoar community.

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Artifact of the Month

This artifact was hidden away in the Zoar Store attic! Can you guess what it is? The first person to email zoarinfo@historiczooarvillage.com with a correct answer will win two free tickets for the 6:30pm ghost tour on Saturday, November 1.



Chair Making Class in Zoar Wagon Shop Oct. 25



Amateur woodcrafters are invited to participate in Historic Zoar Village's chair making class on Saturday, Oct. 25 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Instructor David Whitling will demonstrate how to make a plank chair with a removable back, based on a common Zoar design. Participants will learn how to use a coping saw, hand plane, back saw, chisel, brace and bit, and cabinet scraper. Each participant takes home a complete chair ready for staining and finishing.

Limited spaces are available, and required reservations can be made by calling 330-874-3011. The cost of the class is \$200 and includes all instruction, materials, and the unfinished chair. Morning refreshments and lunch are also included in the price of the class.

Annual Meeting Scheduled for November 18

Members of the Zoar Community Association are invited to attend the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, November 18, 2014. Cocktails and complimentary appetizers provided by Canal Tavern of Tavern of Zoar will be served at 6pm. The business meeting will immediately follow. ZCA members should watch their mailbox for an invitation at the end of October. Please use this notice to save the date.

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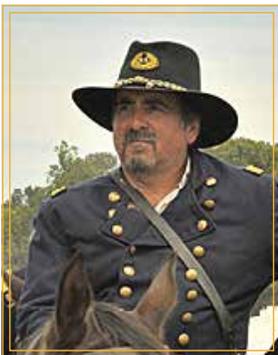
Site Hours for Tours:

January-March: Closed
April & May: Sat. 11-4; Sun. 12-4
June-September: Wed. - Sat. 11-4; Sun. 12-4
October: Sat. 11-4, Sun. 12-4
November & December: Closed

Zoar Store Retail Hours:

January & February: Closed
March: Fri., Sat. 10-5; Sun. 12-5
April-December: Wed. - Sat. 10-5; Sun. 12-5

Meet the Board: Darrell Markijohn



Brig. Gen. Darrell N. Markijohn has been a living historian for 20 years. He first joined the 6th Ohio Cavalry as a mounted trooper in 1994. He served in the ranks for 8 years and in 2002, rose to the rank of 1st sergeant and Unit Adjutant. In 2000, Markijohn was named to the Ohio Bicentennial Commission, Civil War Committee where he created and coordinated the State's Morgan's Raid Reenactment first held in 2003. Markijohn portrayed

Confederate Gen. John Hunt Morgan and lead 170 horsemen on a grueling 60 mile ride along the actual route of the Raid through Southeastern Ohio in 2003 and then again in 2006. In 2004, he was elected to the position of United States Volunteer (USV) Cavalry Commander. Over the last decade, Markijohn has been the Federal Cavalry Commander at numerous Reenactments, including the 150th Anniversary Bull Run event held in 2011. In May of 2012,

he assumed the position of USV Brigade Commander. Brig. Gen. Markijohn served as the overall commander of Federal Troops at the 150th Anniversary of 2nd Bull Run, 150th Anniversary of Antietam, 150th Anniversary of Chancellorsville and has been asked to command at the upcoming 150th Anniversary event of the Wilderness and Spotsylvania Courthouse. Gen. Markijohn resides in Canton, Ohio with his wife Hillary, two children, and two step children. He spends his leisure time training horses on his historic farm.

Markijohn has been a Board Member since 2000. He has practiced law for 29 years representing management in employment disputes and work place injury claims. He went to Walsh University and graduated with a degree in History and Accounting and then went to The Ohio State College of Law graduating in 1985.

LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT WRITES HISTORY OF ZOAR: Part II



Paige Hamsher lives in Canton, Ohio and is a sophomore at Glenoak High School. She is 15 years old. Her favorite things include reading, watching movies, and learning new things. She learned more about Zoar by attending the Speaker Series and soon realized that the Zoarites' story demonstrated this years Ohio History Day theme which is Rights and Responsibilities in

history. Paige is grateful to all of those who contributed information and sources that helped her write her paper.

National History Day (NHD) is a highly regarded academic program for elementary and secondary school students.

Each year, more than half a million students, encouraged by thousands of teachers nationwide participate in the NHD contest. Students choose historical topics related to a theme and conduct extensive primary and secondary research through libraries, archives, museums, oral history interviews and historic sites. After analyzing and interpreting their sources and drawing conclusions about their topics' significance in history, students present their work in original papers, websites, exhibits, performances and documentaries. These products are entered into competitions in the spring at local, state and national levels where they are evaluated by professional historians and educators. The program culminates in the Kenneth E. Behring National Contest each June held at the University of Maryland at College Park.

Paige received honorable mention at the Ohio History Day competition. In the next two issues of the Zoar Star, you'll find Paige's paper about Zoar continued.

Food was incredibly scarce in the winter of 1818-1819. The Zoarites (changed from Separatists) had unsuccessfully tried to plant crops earlier in the year. The situation became so dire that some of the group had to go work on neighboring farms to try and earn food or money for the community. Before this, no one had ever even considered the possibility of forming a Communal society. Each member was expected to pay what he owed for his land. But the Zoarites realized that there were people of all different ages, physical abilities, and experience (Randall 7). Also, there were almost two times more women than men. There weren't enough people who could work to provide for the community. "Finally the pressure of their financial obligations forced the community to seek a different economy" ("Zoar: An Ohio Experiment in Communalism" 17).

In April of 1819, the people of Zoar decided to create the Articles of Association for their community. Johannes Breymaier rallied for a different type of government. "He advocated a form of communism for the small and intimate village group" (18). Bimeler initially disagreed with him, only because he felt that the members would not want to give up their individual belongings, such as houses. He accepted, though, that the community desired this form of economy. "After considerable deliberation, it was decided that they would form a communistic society, and accordingly they formed an association, consisting in all of fifty three men and boys and one hundred and four women and girls ("Stark County Democrat" 2). In these articles each member renounced "all and every right of ownership of...property" in favor of the society. They agreed to "render due and faithful obedience to the others and regulations" of the officers elected by the society (Nixon 29). The Articles of Association also stated rules for the community. Amendatory articles were added in 1824, and they followed this until a constitution was created in 1833. This constitution would create a new government system for the Zoarites. "According to the constitution, the government of the society was vested in a board of three trustees, a standing committee of five, an agent general, and a cashier, elected for terms of varying length" ("Zoar: An Ohio Experiment in Communalism" 20). The trustees had jurisdiction over property, enterprise, maintenance of peace and order, assigning daily tasks, and the distribution of food, clothing and shelter. The standing committee "served as a check upon the trustees." The cashier tended to the finances and business dealings of the community. The agent general communicated with the outside world to buy and sell for the society. Each elected official took their responsibilities seriously. Joseph Bimeler served as the cashier and agent general until his death in 1853 (Randall 12). The community trusted him to hold these two positions.

One of the most unique things about Zoar was the numbered houses. Each house had a number that was used for distribution of the peoples' basic necessities. On each day of the week the women would go to the Magazine and pick up what was being distributed. There would be baskets filled with goods, each bearing a number. The women would take the number that corresponded with the house they lived in. The amount that was in each basket depended on the amount and age of the people living there. On Tuesdays and Fridays meat was given, on Mondays flour, and so on. They had to complete their responsibilities in order to get their foods and goods (Morhart 58).

continued from page 3

Each day, every member was assigned a job. They would usually do what they were best at. For instance there were wagon makers, tin smiths, bakers, farmers, and countless other jobs. Scott Gordon, a descendant of the Zoarites, has ancestors that performed an array of jobs. He says, “Godfried Kappel was a weaver and was responsible for operating the woolen mill...two of their sons also worked in the woolen mill. Carl was a dyer and made the beautiful blue dye that Zoar was famous for...John worked in the fields when young, then became a canal boat driver for a short time and then worked in the wagon makers shop for 38 years. Jacob, his son, was the Zoar railroad station agent and telegraph operator all his life” (Gordon). He also made it a point to say, “Everyone had a job - there was no unemployment” (Gordon).

One could argue that the people of Zoar didn't have to give much up and didn't have major responsibilities under the new system. This idea is untrue because people had to give up everything that specifically belonged to them. They still lived in their houses, but they no longer owned them. They didn't make money, but instead received all necessities in return for the work they did. They had a responsibility to complete their assigned task each day so the community could continue to function. When asked about how agreeable the people were to complete their duties, the current Assistant Site Manager at Zoar, Becka Lash, said, “Yes the people of the community carried out their responsibilities because they understood how the communal system worked. The motto for the community was Eine Gute Gemeinschaft which meant ‘for the good of all’” (Lash).

To be continued in the Winter newsletter.

Zoar Descendants' Day August 3, 2014

Thanks to all the descendants who visited Zoar during the Harvest Festival – everyone had a great time! There were 28 people who attended the descendants' meeting on Sunday representing 11 different Zoarite families. The families included Beuter, Breil, Buehler, Dischinger, Grotzinger, Kappel, Notter, Ruof, Sturm, Sylvan, and Wiandt.

A special thanks to Curt Ruof for bringing several of this unique handmade wooden bowls, and to Janet Edwards (Notter) for sharing her great photo album of numerous old Zoar pictures. Chuck Knaack also brought several recently acquired old Zoar pictures, one of which showed the Zoar music band with all the members identified. Information was provided on the upcoming bus trip being planned on October 24-26 to visit the historic German settlement in New Harmony, Indiana, and the possibility of another trip to Germany in 2015. Also mentioned was the possibility of a future opportunity for descendants to purchase an engraved brick in the new Village sidewalk along the Zoar garden block.

The weather was great and everyone enjoyed the refreshments including hot pretzels. A pledge was made by several attendees that next year we will have real homemade Zoar pretzels – start practicing your baking skills now!

Scott and Marilyn Gordon, Hosts

NEW FACE IN THE ZOAR STORE



Raya Williamson grew up in Tuscarawas County and attended Tuscarawas Valley High School. Currently, she is a sophomore at Kent State University at Tuscarawas studying Marketing. In 2009, Raya volunteered for the September Civil War Weekend and has been with Zoar ever since. Raya became a staff member in 2012 when she was hired to work in the historic bakery. Earlier this year, she began her work in the Zoar Store. Raya wears many hats for the Zoar Community Association; she handles our Schoolhouse rentals and Garden weddings, social media, memberships, and retail sales in the Zoar Store. Raya has also been very instrumental in implementing new programs. Raya is in the final stages of scripting and staging a new experiential tour: “Eine Nacht in Zoar” Progressive Dinner & Living History Program. When she is not at work or school, Raya enjoys walking, biking, and playing with her younger brother Ben, who has also been wrangled into volunteering with Zoar.

Welcome to Our New Members and Donors

NEW MEMBERS

Betty Adams
 Melinda Adkins
 Pam Chesar
 Bonnie Fraser
 Eileen Hackett
 Sharon James
 Linda Rieker Lochbaum
 Cindy Martin
 Linda Matulek
 Joel W. & Alayne Meskin
 B. Palsa
 John & Zoe Paxson
 Monica Smith
 Terry Thomas
 Jonathan W.J. Ward
 Lisa Wharton

Frances Killian
 Willis & Ginny Digman
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 Marion Mills
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 Barbara Spear
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 Bette & Ron Hushour
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 Jack and Mary Ruth Gintz
 Joanne Limbach
 Mary Ann E. Pancheri
 Jon & Cindy Elsasser
 Peggy L. Cox-Regan
 Diane G. Saxton

Donato Steps Down as Site Manager



Jenny Donato retired as site manager August 1, 2014. Jenny brought Historic Zoar Village through the transition from Ohio Historical Society management to Zoar Community Association management. Under her leadership, Historic Zoar Village saw growth in site visitation, retail sales, and improvements to the historic buildings and gardens. Jenny will be missed by everyone in the Historic Zoar Village Community. Assistant Site Manager, Becka Lash, will serve as acting site manager until a new site manager is hired.

Yes! WE WANT TO SPONSOR & PROTECT HISTORIC ZOAR VILLAGE

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS:

- \$50 \$100 \$150 \$200
 \$250 \$500 \$1000 Other: \$ _____

- My donation and information are enclosed.
 Please consider this a pledge and bill me at this date ___/___/2013.



Zoar Community Association
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Thank you for your donation to Zoar Village and the Zoar Community Association. You will receive your receipt for tax purposes shortly after we receive your donation.

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Exp. Date _____ Code _____

Name On Card _____

Signature _____

Please Charge My Credit Card Immediately Monthly

Check For \$ _____ Enclosed
 (Payable To Zoar Community Association)

Upcoming Events

OCTOBER

Harvest Home School Day

Friday, October 17, 10a-4p

Experience the harvest in Zoar! Explore the cellars of Zoar where food and drink were stored for the winter. Try activities that help get the village ready for snowstorms and dark nights. 10a-4p. \$4/child(4-17) one adult FREE, additional adults (18+) \$6. Registration required.



Beginning Blacksmith Class

Saturday, October 25, 8a-5p – \$100

Learn the basics of blacksmithing as you forge a hook and a nail. This class features plenty of time at the anvil while you discover the history of smithing. Limited to four apprentices, reservations required.

Zoar Chair Class

Saturday, October 25, 8a-5p – \$200

Participants will build a plank chair with a removable back based on the model of a chair built in Zoar. Tools taught and used include coping saw, hand plane, back saw, chisel, brace and bit, and cabinet scraper. The final product will not be stained or finished. Cost of the class includes all instruction, materials, and unfinished chair. Registration required by calling 330-874-3011. Class limited to eight participants. Instructor for the class is Dave Whitling.

Ghost Tours

Friday, October 31, tours start at 6:30 every 15 minutes – \$15/adult, \$10/child

Stroll through the haunted village and buildings of Zoar. Costumed guides lead the tours and tell tales of spirits past and present. You may even encounter spirits from the past as you visit the buildings. Tours leave at 6:30, 6:45, 7:00, 7:15, 7:30. Reservations required by calling 330-874-3011.

NOVEMBER

Intermediate Blacksmith Class

Saturday, November 1, 8a-5p – \$125

Must have completed the Beginning Blacksmithing Class to register. Students will spend all day at the forge working on a project to take home. Project may include, leaf work, fullering, horseshoes, fire poker or rake, paper towel or bathroom tissue holder. Please bring a sack lunch. Reservations required by calling 330-874-3011.

FREE Speaker Series

Saturday, November 1, 1-2p – FREE

FREE. Meet at the School House. Nancy Ottman of the Ohio Chapter of Palatines to America will talk about “The 18th and 19th Century German Traveler.” Learn about travel conditions from diaries and letters. The Ohio Chapter of Palatines to America encourages research into German immigration and genealogy.

Ghost Tours

Saturday, November 1, tours start at 6:30 every 15 minutes – \$15/adult, \$10/child

Stroll through the haunted village and buildings of Zoar. Costumed guides lead the tours and tell tales of spirits past and present. You may even encounter spirits from the past as you visit the buildings. Tours leave at 6:30, 6:45, 7:00, 7:15, 7:30. Reservations required by calling 330-874-3011.

Knitting Class

Saturday, November 8, 15, 22, 10a-12p – \$40

Nov. 8, 15, 22: Learn to knit a pair of fingerless gloves! We will also learn the cable technique. Class meets from 10-12. Cost is \$40 for all instruction. Limit of 8 participants. Call 800-262-6195 to make your reservation.

DECEMBER

Christmas in Zoar

Saturday & Sunday, December 6-7

Spark the holiday magic with a visit to Christmas in Zoar! Musical entertainment in the Zoar Church, private home tours, and a candlelight service and treelighting highlight this holiday event. Shop the juried craft show for unique gifts, or visit Santa’s workshop to help your children make a unique item. Enjoy horse drawn wagon rides and a candlelight church service and tree lighting ceremony on Saturday. Food and drink can be found throughout the village. \$7/adult, children 12 and under FREE.

Saturday, 10-6, Sunday 12-5.

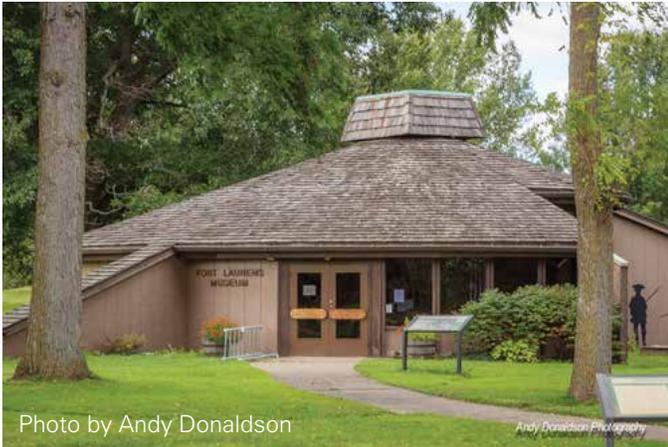
Holiday Tours

December 8-19

Learn the Christmas legends and traditions of Zoar including the broomstick tree and the clay horn story. See the historic buildings decorated for a nineteenth century Christmas and enjoy Christmas carols played on the organ in the original meeting house, now the Zoar United Church of Christ. \$8/adult, \$4/child, \$7/adult for groups of 10 or more. Call to make your reservations at 330-874-3011. You may want to add an authentic German lunch to your day and we can help you make your reservations.

Zoar Community Association to Manage Fort Laurens Starting October 1

Local partnership provides opportunities to expand Fort Laurens programs and integrate activities at both sites



The Ohio History Connection announced that the Zoar Community Association assumed management of Fort Laurens beginning October 1. Located in Bolivar, Ohio, Fort Laurens is the only Revolutionary War-era fort in Ohio and is connected to Zoar by a three-mile section of the Ohio & Erie Canalway Towpath Trail.

“The Bolivar-Zoar community is fortunate to be the home of two nationally significant historic sites,” said Jon Elsasser, president of the Zoar Community Association. “In the past few years, our members and staff have built up exceptional local capabilities for operating the Historic Zoar Village museum complex, hosting major events and presenting student and adult educational programs. It’s a natural next step to support our neighboring Fort Laurens site.”

Fort Laurens is currently operated by the Tuscarawas County Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) through an agreement with Ohio History Connection. Earlier this year, the three organizations made a collaborative decision to transition management duties to Zoar once the CVB’s agreement expired.

Dee Grossman, executive director of the Tuscarawas County CVB, says that it is an excellent time to transfer responsibilities.

“Since 2009, we have worked with Fort Laurens volunteers and the local community to make infrastructure improvements, maintain the grounds and increase the fort’s presence as a travel destination,” says Grossman. “All these original goals were achieved. We will continue to apply what we learned as we focus on attracting tourism and convention activities to Tuscarawas County.”

“We are pleased to have the Zoar Community Association partner with us to continue to make Fort Laurens accessible

to the public,” said Burt Logan, executive director and CEO of the Ohio History Connection. “Our partnership with local organizations to manage the day-to-day operations of our historic sites has drawn national recognition for its innovative approach to managing a statewide site system.”

Local Collaboration

Under the CVB’s management, Fort Laurens created several partnerships that will continue under Zoar’s oversight, including:

- Village of Bolivar – provides water and sewer to the museum building.
- Lawrence Township Trustees – offers grounds maintenance in exchange for the site being used as a public park.
- Tuscarawas County – provides water services for new restrooms at the site entrance.
- Friends of Fort Laurens – coordinates volunteer activities, contributes financially to pay utility costs, and raises funds to eventually rebuild the fort on its original footprint.

Zoar plans to use its existing knowledge and resources to increase volunteer engagement, attract memberships, and introduce new educational programs at Fort Laurens.

State Support

Historic Zoar Village and Fort Laurens remain part of the Ohio History Connection’s broader network of 50+ historical sites and memorials.

Through this partnership, Ohio History Connection provides services and programs related to collecting, preserving and interpreting Ohio’s history. This includes financial support for major capital improvements, which are paid for in part through state funding, and through admission fees, memberships, grants, donations and other forms of revenue.

“Preserving the past for future generations is a collaborative effort,” says Elsasser. “We look forward to building on the great work already done at Fort Laurens. We will work diligently to continue showcasing the historical significance of some of our state’s oldest American treasures.”



ZOAR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
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ZCA Remembers
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Sadly, Porter Gardner,
longtime Zoar resident
and ZCA member, and
Robert V. Beuter, Zoar
descendant and ZCA
member, both passed
away this summer. We
honor their memory and
thank their families for
their dedication to Zoar.

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