



2024 annual meeting will focus on 40 years of NK Historical Society

2024 is the 40th anniversary of the New Knoxville Historical Society.

The evening, scheduled for April 18, begins with a buffet dinner at 6:00. A short business meeting and program begins at 7:00. Anyone who wishes to attend the program but not the meal is welcome to come at 7:00. The dinner and meeting is open to anyone.

MEAL

The meal, catered by Main Street Station, begins at 6:00 P.M. On the menu is beef, chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetables, roll and cake. Water, lemonade and coffee are available.

COST AND TICKETS

Tickets cost \$20.00 and can be purchased at the First National Bank and Johnna's in New Knoxville by April 15. Anyone from out of town who would like to come for the dinner may contact Janean Oberlander by phone at 419-753-2077 or by e-mail at joberlander@nktelco.net.

FOUNDERS

Forty years ago, former mayor Deloris Fischbach, Roger Henkener, and Lloyd Kuck began the New Knoxville Historical Society. It was officially incorporated on March 12, 1984, by the Ohio Secretary of State.

A public meeting was held March

29, 1984, to adopt the constitution and by-laws and to elect officers. Those first officers were LeRoy Kruse, president; Freda Kuck, vice-president; Karen Niemeyer, secretary; Larry Niemeyer, treasurer; and trustees JoAnn (Woody) Hoge, Lloyd (Red) Kuck, and Stanley Wietholter.

The object of the New Knoxville Historical Society, according to the constitution, is the discovery, collection, preservation, restoration, acquisition by purchase or by gift and ownership of historical objects and memorabilia



The Kattman barbershop, which was moved to the historical society grounds in 2022, was on display during the September open house.

relating to New Knoxville and Washington Township, including historical celebrations.

The purpose of the society is to be for the benefit of the inhabitants of the village and vicinity, both present and future.

LeRoy Kruse served as president from 1984-1987. Evelyn Grimes was secretary, Larry Niemeyer, treasurer, and JoAnn Hoge, Stan Wietholter, and Lloyd Kuck were trustees. Audrey Wietholter, who served as vice president, took over for Kruse from 1987-1989. JoAnn (Woody) Hoge became president from 1989-90.

The following were president for one year: Tom Fledderjohann (1990-91). Adrian Settlage (1991-92), Curtis Kruse (1992-93), William Meckstroth (1993-94), Madeline Rodeheffer (1994-95) and Robert Kuck II (1995-96).

Then in 1996 Myron Fledderjohann became president until 1998 and again took the reins from 2001-2005. Lloyd "Red" Kuck served as president between Myron's terms from 1998-2001.

Kirk Stienecker was president from 2005-2012. Janean Oberlander was president from 2012-2017. Allen Schroer was president from 2017-2020. Todd Spieles became president in 2020 and is still today.

Information taken from *Our Times*, edited by Deloris R. Fischbach, and JoAnn (Woody) Hoge.

September open house dedicates barbershop, brings art to the village

The open house in September brought many people to the New Knoxville Historical Society as the barbershop that was moved in 2022 was dedicated, Pat Wietholter's art was on display along with Christmas cards that depicted several historic buildings and homes in the village.



The barbershop was dedicated to Lloyd "Red" Kuck by his wife Annett Kuck who was honored at the open house.



The New Knoxville band played at the open house held in September.



Pat Wietholter and Bruce Elsass display pictures of First Church and the Methodist Church, both historic buildings in the village. Bruce told about their project at an historical society meeting.



The photo above shows the artwork that was on display inside the barbershop at the September open house. In addition Wietholter painted several historic buildings and homes in the village that were then turned into Christmas cards by Sara Paper of Minster. The floor was refinished by Henschen Hardwoods.



All of the buildings were open for the September open house, and tents and tables and chairs were provided. A food truck from Grandma's German Kitchen was out front so people could eat and enjoy the festivities of the day.

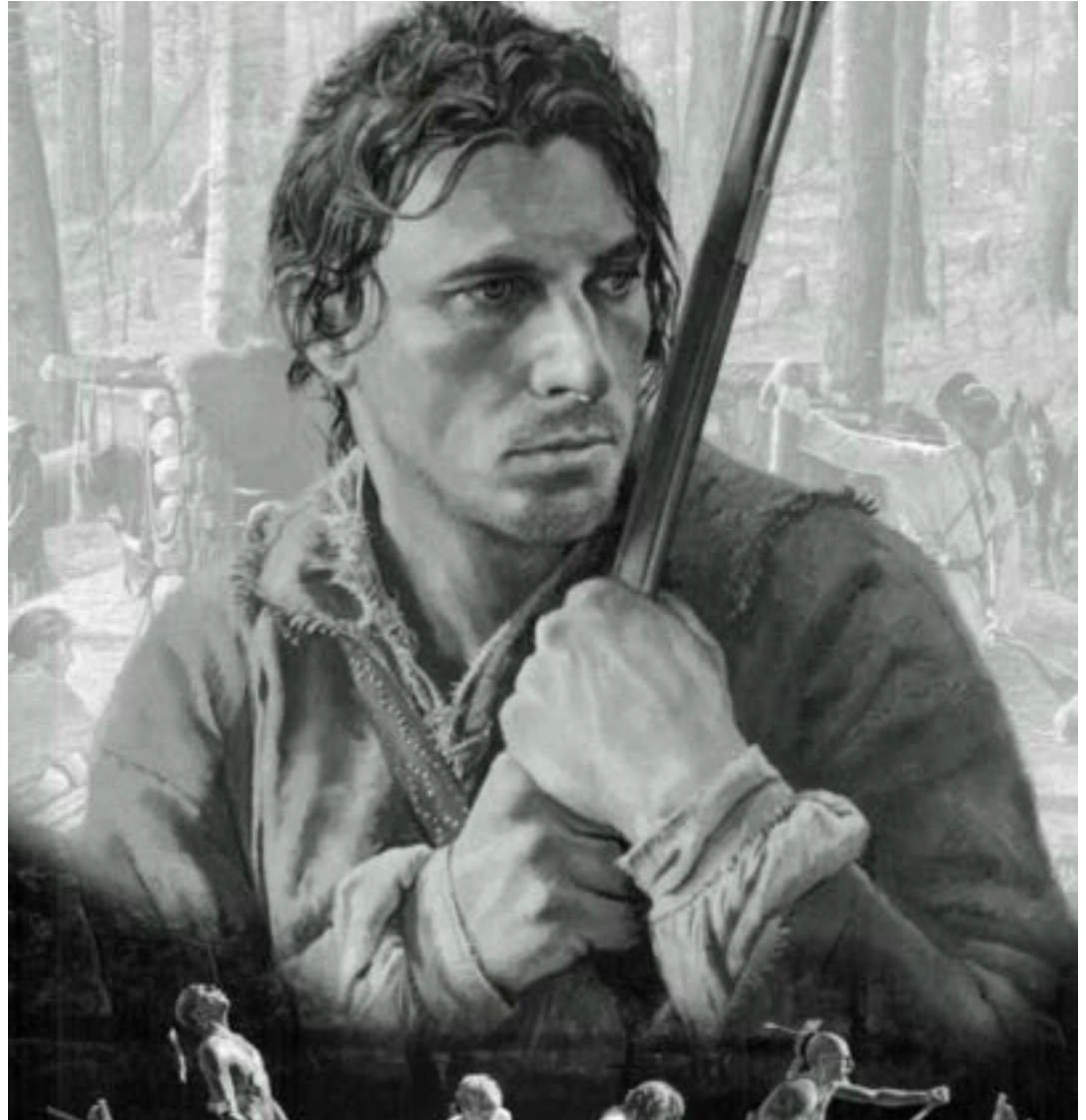
New book offered by former NK resident

We are pleased to announce the addition of a new book to the collection we offer for sale in our museum store. New Knoxville native Bob Kuck II has graciously donated copies of his book entitled *Blood and Honor, The Life and Times of Fur Trader Pierre Louis de Lorimier*.

This book paints a picture of our region of the country before the massive immigration of Europeans, when it was a wilderness, home only to the Native American Indians and the wildlife.

It is the story of the life of Louis Lorimier, who established a trading post at nearby Fort Loramie, and was located on the Natives' route of travel from the Gulf of Mexico to Lake Erie.

All of our books are available for purchase at our May through October open houses, by contacting one of our directors, or by ordering from our website.



Please consider a membership

The New Knoxville Historical Society is looking for new members. This newsletter is mailed to all members, but maybe you know someone who would be interested in becoming a member or you are receiving a complimentary copy.

A membership helps to support an organization that strives to preserve our community's heritage. Your membership also allows you to have a say in how this organization spends its money and how we celebrate our heritage.

Because we have an aging membership, we have raised our prices to \$100 for a single lifetime membership. Couples can join for \$150. Yearly memberships are \$25. One of the best ways to promote interest in our heritage is with a student membership—just \$25 for a child of any age. That membership is good until the child graduates from high school.

Joining is simple.

Checks may be mailed to **Janean Oberlander at P.O. Box 372**
New Knoxville, OH 45871 or go to the website at nkhistory.org

Did You Know?

In 1890 Marvin Kuhns, who was later convicted as a horse thief and murderer, went on a terrifying shooting rampage in New Knoxville. Read more about his escapades beginning on page 100 of the 1936 New Knoxville Centennial book (available for purchase from our museum store) and in an interview with Mrs. Mary Knierim Kuck on our website at www.nkhistory.org

See our new website at nkhhistory.org

A year ago, under the direction of our website committee of Todd Spieles, Larry Niemeyer, and Doug Hoelscher and with Jack Gilberg as our webmaster, we launched a new website. The website is divided into categories of History, Heritage Center, Newsletter, Museum Store, and, of course, we offer the opportunity to join our organization and/or donate toward the support of the New Knoxville Historical Society online. We also offer items from our museum store such as books, cards, and collectibles that can be purchased online.

The bulk of the information on the website is contained in the History portion. This portion features many newspaper articles from the past, stories about the founding and development of New Knoxville, and many biographical sketches that were published in the 1923 History of Auglaize County, which was edited by Wm. J. McClain. There are more than 25 interviews, many of which were published in the Evening Leader in 1949 and 1950, and were written by Rev. Edwin Andrew Katterheinrich

under the pen name of Andrew Kay. Most of the subjects of these interviews were elderly at the time and were born as early as 1864. He also interviewed two New Knoxville veterans, Homer Kuck and Zelotes Eschmeyer, who were POWs in Germany during World War II. More information about these veterans and those who were killed or missing in action can be found on our website, including Zelotes Eschmeyer's diary of his days as a prisoner of war.

In 1962 Mr. Edwin Richard "E. R." Kuck wrote an extensive document concerning the early settlement of our area and about the early development of the religious and social life of New Knoxville. Also included in his writing is a three-part biography of his great-grandfather, the Rev. F. H. W. Kuckherman, who was possibly the most influential German immigrant to settle in our community. These documents are available to read on our website.

A few stories found on our website have been submitted by members of our community. We welcome stories about old family

businesses, early farm life, unusual experiences, etc. If you have a story to tell and feel that your writing skills are a bit rusty, we can help with that. We also welcome family pictures from older generations, especially if the people in the picture can be identified. We would like to find more pictures from the 1936 Centennial celebration, especially pictures of the midway and the parade entries. Pictures of old farm machinery such as buckrakes, steam traction engines, threshing machines, etc. would be useful. Pictures of old frame or brick one-room schoolhouses are welcome. We have not found any pictures of the old frame Methodist church building. All pictures not donated will be scanned and returned to the owner. Please check out our website and contact us if you feel you have something to contribute.

Monetary contributions for the maintenance and security of our website are always welcome. A \$100 contribution keeps our site functioning for a month. We are a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, and all donations are tax-deductible.

Tree planted to honor 175 years of Auglaize County

A tree honoring the 175th anniversary of the county was planted in the yard of the historical society.

A swamp white oak was planted by trustees Craig Fledderjohann and Ron Weaver and president Todd Spieles last fall.

It replaces the old oak tree that was taken down two years ago because of its size and falling branches.

Behind the tree planters is the Kattman barbershop with the pole painted by vice president Allen Schroer.



Christmas in the Village enjoys another successful year

Christmas in the Village was another success thanks to the work of curator Rusty Elsass and trustee Paul Bambauer. Elsass decorated the barbershop, and Bambauer provided the work for all the children that came in to decorate ornaments for their trees.



The Kattman barbershop was the setting for Christmas in the Village. Curator Rusty Elsass had the barbershop decorated for the season.



Children and adults as well enjoyed putting stickers on the ornaments they took with them.



Above, curator Rusty Elsass focused on the Haberkamp Jewelry Store, which was located where the local post office is now. Below, he made an arrangement of trustee Doug Hoelscher's toys from his childhood.



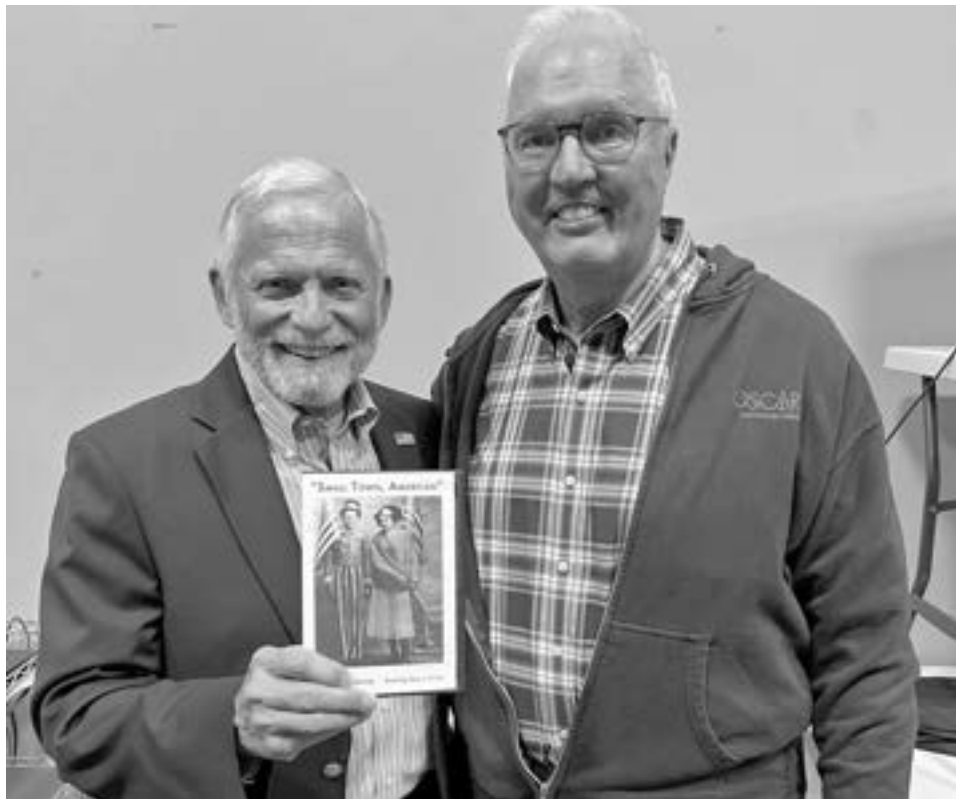
Annual meeting brings back NK grad

Randy Haberkamp, a 1975 graduate of New Knoxville and now living in Los Angeles, California, returned to the annual meeting to show outtakes from the film “Small Town, American,” which was shot in 1985 to coordinate with the Sesquicentennial celebration of the founding of New Knoxville.

The evening began with a self-serve dinner, served by Main Street Station to a capacity crowd at the First Church Ministry Center. After a short business meeting, the evening belonged to Randy.

While the early versions of “Small Town, American” were on VHS tapes, Haberkamp, who now is director of educational programs and special projects for the Academy Awards, made several discs available for purchase after the presentation.

John and Woody Hoge, former owners of Adolph’s Restaurant, were on hand to hear Haberkamp. He posed with them after his presentation. They held up photos of them taken at Adolph’s.



President Todd Spieles poses with speaker Randy Haberkamp and holds one of the videos that was for sale after the presentation. Haberkamp presented one of the videos to the New Knoxville Historical Society, and it is available for viewing at any of the open houses.

Visit us during our open houses in 2024.
They will be the fourth Sunday of the month, May through October
from 1:00 to 4:00 P.M.

Sunday, May 26
Sunday, August 25

Sunday, June 23
Sunday, September 22

Sunday, July 28
Sunday, October 27

Memorial Plaque honors members who died during the past year

The following names will appear on our
Memorial Plaque in our Heritage Museum.

Dale F. Grimes Jr.	November 27, 2022
Paul W. Kreher	January 6, 2023
Jackie Ramm Kuck	February 18, 2023
Lillian Schroer Wierwille	March 14, 2023
Irma Prueter Hoelscher	May 7, 2023
Carolyn Dawson Leighton	October 13, 2023
Roberta Schrolucke Kallas	October 21, 2023
Shirley Kuck Huckerie	November 21, 2023
Jean Fischbach Coffin	November 26, 2023
William Kossen	December 23, 2023

New Lifetime Members

Dean Tobens, Darlington, South Carolina
Janice Tobens, Darlington, South Carolina
John Settlege, St. Marys, Ohio
Laura A. Settlege, St. Marys, Ohio
John Vornholt, Sidney, Ohio
Karen Vornholt, Sidney, Ohio
Rena Kuck Gregg, East Greenwich, Rhode Island
Shirley Haberkamp Holland, New Knoxville, Ohio
Dave Bambauer, New Knoxville, Ohio
Judy Bambauer, New Knoxville, Ohio

Your Valuable Donations Make Our Historical Society an Active Museum

2024-2025 Partial List of Acquisitions

- * 1895 Allmendinger pump organ
- * early spinning wheel from Germany
- * early child's bed - 28" x 48"
- * child's high chair
- * early bentwood baby cradle
- * oil lamps
- * four 1930s post cards
- * school orchestra post cards
- * 1904 -1911 old funeral cards
- * old school photos
- * local photos and post cards
- * old church photos and post cards
- * many museum photos
- * Fall Festival photos
- * six photo scrap books/Kattheinrich family
- * large number of Valentine cards
- * school yearbooks
- * local advertising pieces
- * Coca Cola ad sign
- * 1940s basketball jerseys
- * old game boards and toys
- * old saxophone
- * eight-foot glass display case
- * 1895 certificate of Pilger Ruhe Cemetery

Did You Know?

Recycling is not a new concept. From the late 1920s through the 1940s and early 50s, recycling of old cars for use on the farm was a common practice in our area. Read more about "buckrakes" and see pictures of these machines in the Agricultural Heritage segment of our website at www.nkhistory.org

Recommended Slate of Officers

President	Todd Spieles
Vice president	Allen Schroer
Secretary	Angie Klosterman
Treasurer	Janean Oberlander
Trustees	Paul Bambauer
2024 -2027	Mike Neuman

Other Trustees not up for re-election

Doug Hoelscher
Craig Fledderjohann
Kirk Stienecker
Ron Weaver
Jude Holland, student trustee
Jett Roettger, student trustee

New Knoxville Historical Society

107 E. German Street

P.O. Box 372

New Knoxville, OH 45871

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Editor of Historian

Janean Oberlander

Photography

Larry Niemeyer

HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, April 18, 2024 First Church Ministry Center

Dinner: 6:00 P.M. Business meeting & Program: 7:00 P.M.

Forty Years of the NK Historical Society

AVAILABLE FROM THE NEW KNOXVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

COMMEMORATIVE AND MEMORIAL BRICKS

Bricks are available for \$50 each and provide financial and visual support from families and friends who desire to preserve our heritage.

Contact Janean Oberlander at 419-753-2077 or
P.O. Box 314, New Knoxville, OH 45871

BOOKS AND GIFTS

Books and gift items are available from our society. Visit the museum or see our website for all available items.

ADDRESS CHANGE

Notify Janean Oberlander of a change of address in one of the following ways:

P.O. Box 372, New Knoxville, OH 45871 or phone at 419-753-2077 or e-mail at joberlander@nktelco.net.