

Auglaize Township Historical Society

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

P.O. Box 3

Harrod, OH 45850

PRESERVE THE PAST

PROTECT THE PRESENT

ENVISION THE FUTURE

Dear Friends,

We are once again preparing for the annual ***PORK RIND HERITAGE FESTIVAL***. The 2017 Festival will mark the 20th anniversary of the Harrod Veterans Memorial Park and we are going to make it a memorable event. We are planning to have as many patriotic and military displays as possible and are hoping to have some of the equipment that was here 20 years ago to again participate at the 20th anniversary event.

Our lineup includes *American Huey 369* that will be available for membership flights in a true vintage Vietnam Veteran Huey! You can learn more about them on their website <http://americanhuey369.org/location.html> or just type in American Huey 369 on your search engine.

We have been very busy the past couple of years! The engine and caboose have been completely refurbished at the Railroad Park and we are quite proud of the results. They look great! We have added motion sensor security lights at the Railroad Park also. The tank and cannon were repainted last year at the Veterans Park. The helicopter is currently undergoing a complete refurbishing which will be completed soon and we are all looking forward to seeing it up at the park again. The anchor is also expected to get a new paint job and anticipate that work will be completed before the June festival.

Our Polar Express Christmas Extravaganza with Santa was once again a huge success this past year with over 100 visitors. We plan on continuing and expanding this program in the years to come. If at all possible, try to attend the event which will take place sometime in early December. You can bring your children, grandchildren, or just come and join us for hot chocolate and cookies. It is worth the trip to watch the little ones and see what the fun is all about.

Our 2016 scholarship was awarded to Dakota Clark. Congratulations Dakota! Applications are available for the 2017 scholarship at this time on our website.

The A.T.H.S. is dedicated to the welfare and improvement of our community while remembering and honoring our past. Our motto, "Preserve the past, protect the present, and envision the future" reflects our goals and commitment. We have donated substantially to the construction of a shelter house on the former site of Parker's Confectionary and it is being used often. We continue to support our local fire departments and other needs of the community.

The *Auglaize Township Historical Society* members and the *Pork Rind Heritage Festival Committee* members are all volunteers and have worked very hard to plan an event that is **ENTERTAINING, AFFORDABLE, AND FUN FOR ALL**, with a variety of activities, music, and enjoyment for all ages. Rudolph Foods continues to be instrumental in making this event successful. If you have not attended the Pork Rind Heritage Festival recently please try to do so. We think you will be pleased with the Festival, the many activities, entertainment, and will enjoy the weekend. Best of all, it will cost you absolutely nothing. (Until you smell the food!)

The Auglaize Township Historical Society would like to thank everyone for their support shown in past years and we would like to extend an invitation to one and all to become involved with our organization and our efforts to keep our community *moving forward while honoring the past*. We sincerely believe that the continued existence of communities like ours is based on the pride and participation of people that are a part of these communities. Please participate, if you are able, with the Historical Society, Festival Committee, Fire and Rescue Squads', or other committees in our community. We are all in need of help.

For our 2017 raffles we are offering a **BRAND NEW 2017 FORD FUSION OR \$16,000.00 CASH**. We also have a 50/50 drawing and a 3 gun raffle. Last years 50/50 winner received \$1430.00. Please contact Blake's Garage in Harrod or any Auglaize Township Historical Society member for tickets. If you would like, you may also purchase tickets from members of the Harrod or Westminster fire and rescue units and a portion of the proceeds will benefit them respectively also.

The raffle drawings will be held on **June 10th, 2017** at approximately 6:00 – 7:00 P.M. in conjunction with the annual ***PORK RIND HERITAGE FESTIVAL*** which takes place **Friday, June 9th, and Saturday, June 10th, 2017 in Harrod, Ohio**. We will be starting the Festival early on Friday this year so that people wishing to enjoy membership flights on ***American Huey 369*** are able to do so. Flights will be available from approximately 1:00 – 5:00 p.m Friday and 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturday. We frequently book all available flights early so please do not wait until the last minute to sign up.

Please join us at the festival, support your community, enjoy your parks and the many festivities taking place.

Auglaize Township Historical Society
Steve Kerchenfaut, Treasurer