



# The Peninsula Record

The Newsletter of the Peninsula Valley Historic & Education Foundation

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**FOUNDATION BOARD HIRES NEW PRESIDENT**

By: Rebecca Urban

On November 22, 2011, the Board of Directors accepted Rebecca C. Huddle's resignation and unanimously approved the appointment of Mr. Larry Sulzer as the Foundation's new president.

Mr. Sulzer has a degree in architecture from Ohio State University and has been collaborating on projects that celebrate cultural heritage since 1978. Over the span of his career, he has utilized his entrepreneurial skills, creativity, and passion for the built environment to work on art & architecture, historic preservation, traditional timber frame construction, fundraising for historic development,



and sustainable design for planning projects.

He is a founding trustee and board member of Friends of Ohio Barns, a nonprofit organization that is committed to the stewardship and conservation of agricultural structures. He was also the founding president of the Boston

Township Hall Committee, a nonprofit development corporation that was responsible for the \$1.2 million restoration of the Boston Township Schoolhouse for the Boston Township Trustees.

The Foundation Board of Directors and staff would like to thank Rebecca C. Huddle for all of her hard work as president. After the death of our founder and president Robert L. Huncker, she led the Foundation through the transition period that transferred all of Mr. Huncker's bequeathed properties into the Foundation. Ms. Huddle remains vice chair of the Board of Directors and continues to volunteer her time to the Foundation.

**CHRISTMAS IN PENINSULA EVENTS**

By: Lois Unger

With the aid of our invaluable friends, docents and volunteers, the Foundation has decorated the G.A.R. Hall & Bronson Church. It is a particularly beautiful time to visit as well as to reserve one of our facilities for a small family or group gathering. Call us any time to arrange.

Be sure to enjoy the returning **Bronson Church "petite concerts"** on December 11th & 18th between 1:00 and 4:00pm. Organ music by Hazel Broughton with flute by Debora Roznovsky will complement sing-a-longs, cookies and tea. This FREE event is perfect for all ages and features costumed holiday hosts.

The Foundation will also participate in two Peninsula Chamber sponsored

events. On Thursday, December 1st from 5:00 till 9:00pm, there will be a **Candlelight Walk** through the village where shops and museums will be open. At the G.A.R. Hall, Carol Haramis of Heritage Farm will conduct an informal talk at 7:00pm on the Waterman family Christmas traditions that began Heritage Farms. There will also be Irish fiddle music by Hilary at the G.A.R. Hall at 6:00pm and 7:45pm.

Come to Peninsula for the North Pole shopping experience all day long on December 10th! From 10:00am-4:00pm, the Foundation will be hosting **"Handcrafted for the Holidays,"** a special event where local vendors of food, craft and art will feature one of a kind, handcrafted items perfect for gift giving.

Residents and visitors alike can participate in shopping or strolling in Christmas character costumes provided by the National Park. If you would like to volunteer in costume, please call our office at 330-657-2528 for details; these outfits are available on 12/10 between the hours of 12:00 and 4:00pm.



The Hall is decked for the holidays!

## NEW EXHIBIT COMING TO G.A.R. HALL

By: Rebecca Urban

The Peninsula Valley Historic & Education Foundation is proud to announce we will be hosting the Ohio Historical Society's new traveling exhibit, *Ohio & the Civil War: 150 Years Later* in March 2012 to commemorate the anniversary of the Civil War.

The Ohio Historical Society, in partnership with the Ohio Humanities Council and

American Electric Power, sponsored development of *Ohio & the Civil War: 150 Years Later*, a special panel exhibit produced for the 150th commemoration of the Civil War.

The traveling exhibit explores Ohio's participation in the war and focuses especially on individuals' choices that impacted local communities and the course of the war. Three themes - Democracy,

Transformations and Memory - are used to reveal Civil War stories that impacted Ohio in the 19th century to the present day. Through the lens of these themes, the exhibit explores topics such as civil rights, political dissent, pacifism, religion and popular culture and reveals patterns in our country's response to such topics throughout history.

This FREE exhibit will be at the G.A.R. Hall from March 14th through April 1st. Public hours will be published on the Foundation's website in early 2012.



Images of the exhibit

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN PENINSULA

### December:

- 12/1: Peninsula Candlelight Walk, 5-9pm
- 12/10: Handcrafted for the Holidays Boutique at the G.A.R. Hall, 10am-4pm
- 12/11: Holiday Concert & Sing-a-Long at Bronson Church, 1-4pm
- 12/14: Cuyahoga Valley Civil War Roundtable—Peninsula Library, 7:30pm  
- *The Atlanta Arsenal*
- 12/18: Holiday Concert & Sing-a-Long at Bronson Church, 1-4pm

### January:

- 1/11: Cuyahoga Valley Civil War Roundtable—Peninsula Library, 7:30pm  
- *Robert Pinn, Medal of Honor Winner, 5th U.S. Colored Troops*

### February:

- 2/8: Cuyahoga Valley Civil War Roundtable—Peninsula Library, 7:30pm  
- *Abraham Lincoln*

See [www.peninsulahistory.org](http://www.peninsulahistory.org) for more info on these events!

## FOUNDATION'S NEW WEBSITE

By: Rebecca Urban

The Foundation recently redesigned its website, [PeninsulaHistory.org](http://PeninsulaHistory.org). The site was developed by Crooked River Creative, a local design firm. It has lots of new features, including a Preservation tab with information on all of the Foundation's historic properties. There is also an Events tab to help our supporters up to date on Foundation and Peninsula events.

The former G.A.R. Hall website ([GARHallMuseum.com](http://GARHallMuseum.com)) and Bronson Church website ([BronsonChurch.com](http://BronsonChurch.com)) have been integrated into [PeninsulaHistory.org](http://PeninsulaHistory.org). If you go to the old web addresses, they will redirect you to the new site.

Check out the new site and let us know how we can make it even better!

## MINI TREE RAFFLE AT THE LIBRARY

By: Lois Unger

Be sure to admire the annual mini trees on display the Peninsula Library through December 17th. The fund raiser benefits both the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce and the Peninsula Library children's programming.

Tickets are \$3.00 each or 5 for \$10.00. Almost 20 local residents and businesses, includ-

ing the Downtown Emporium, Peninsula Garden Club, Elements Gallery, the Log Cabin Gallery, and many more donate trees that are decorated in different themes. The Foundation's tree each year has a history theme.

Winners will be drawn on December 19th so that trees may be taken home in time to celebrate yet this season!



Many beautiful trees from last year's raffle



Come see the Foundation's beautiful old fashioned tree!

## JAY UNGAR & MOLLY MASON CONCERT A RESOUNDING SUCCESS

By: Lois Unger

September 29, 2011 was indeed a "Night to Remember" for the Foundation and the awesome audience that packed the G.A.R. Hall. The perfect marriage of our restored hall and the superior quality of traditional musicians met with huge appreciation of ticket holders and staff as well.

This sellout performance was an immediate bonding of 150 guests and the family of four musicians. Every piece appeared to be an audience favorite and singing filled the hall with emotion. Congenial chatting, shared hugs and sipping beverages

swept the intermission time right along and the second half found Jay Ungar offering innumerable compliments to our treasured hall, along with light humor and more favorite melodies from Jay, Molly Mason, Ruthy Ungar Merenda and Michael Merenda. Following the renown "Ashokan Farewell", a standing ovation and an encore, the performers stayed long into the night for conversation, handshakes, autographs and the purchase of cds.

Positive response from the audience was beyond expectation and we appear to have acquired a new widespread following wishing to attend

more of our events in the future. The Foundation offers huge thank yous to guests, volunteers, and the 26 generous sponsors of our most special traditional music event! Merci beaucoup!



The band performing a festive tune on the G.A.R. stage; Photo by Mattie Unger

### WOODRIDGE STUDENTS VISIT PENINSULA

By: Rebecca Urban

Two groups of students from the gifted program at Woodridge Middle School visited the G.A.R.



Students listen to a presentation about the G.A.R. Hall

Hall Museum and Bronson Church on November 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>.

They were given tours of the buildings, a history of the Grand Army of the Republic, and an introduction to historic preservation. The students thoughtfully pondered what Peninsula would be like if the historic buildings had been destroyed or moved.

The Foundation is looking forward to future projects and collaborations with the Woodridge School District in 2012!

### SAVE YOUR ACME RECEIPTS!

The Foundation is participating in the Acme Community Cash Back Program for 2011-12.

Bring in or mail to the office your Acme receipts dated 9/24/2011 to 2/11/2012 and the Foundation will receive cash back when you purchase Acme brand products (Acme Fresh Market, Academix, Domestix, Electrix, Food Club, Full Circle, Paws, TopCare, Valu-Time, and World Classics). Only the bottom of the receipt is needed with the date and Community Cashback amount.

All funds earned will go to Foundation programming. Thank you for your support!

### DOCENTS CORNER

- As the winter season is upon us, the G.A.R. Hall and Bronson Church will not open for tours on weekends from January to April. However, they are still a great place to visit for the holidays! Both buildings have been festively decorated by docents for our upcoming events. See the "Christmas in Peninsula" column on Page 1 or our website for a list of December events.
- If you are interested in becoming a docent for the 2012 season, contact Peggy Jo Whitman at 330-657-2607.
- Do you have any photos, letters, or other items of *local significance* that you would like to donate to the Foundation? Contact Rebecca Urban at 330-657-2528 or [peninsulahistory@windstream.net](mailto:peninsulahistory@windstream.net). All donations are tax deductible.



Docents decorated the hall before Thanksgiving so that it would be ready for the holidays!



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*Preserving Peninsula's past for the future.*

### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The Peninsula Valley Historic & Education Foundation is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) private operating foundation. It was established by Robert L. Hunker in 1997 for the purposes of preserving the historic architecture and character of Peninsula, Ohio and the surrounding area both within and proximate to the Cuyahoga Valley National Park; and to educate the public about the history of Peninsula and the Cuyahoga Valley with emphasis on economic and social development, architectural design and construction, decorative arts & crafts, landscape, gardens, and overall built environment.

The Peninsula Record is published quarterly for the Peninsula Valley Historic & Education Foundation

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## GO GREEN!

If you would like to receive

*The Peninsula Record*

via email, contact Rebecca at

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