

# Huron

## Historical Society

Winter 2013-2014

### HHS Hires Archivist



Jessica Maiberger (pictured with Bill Scott, HHS Board member), who received her master's degree in American History from Villanova University, Pennsylvania, and also works at the Rutherford Hayes Presidential Library in Fremont, began working this

summer to organize the Huron Historical Society's archives and collections. Over the years we have accumulated quite a few photos, documents and collections from Huron residents, businesses and organizations. Once everything is organized, we would like to make our archives more accessible to researchers and others interested in Huron's history. An open house for members will be held in the future, as well as one for the public.

Jessica has completed processing the following:

- Marks Lodge Free Masons: Membership lists, meeting minutes, financial records and other documents.

- Minutes, programs and scrapbooks of various Huron Clubs dating as far back as the early 1900s including: Study Club, History Club, Garden Club, Current Review Club, Civic Club, Parliamentary Club, Junior Women's League and others.
- Early records from the Village of Huron including town ordinances dating from 1874-1938 and Village Clerk's records dating from 1932-1981.
- Dickhaut Collection containing WWII letters and other documents pertaining to Huron.
- Rhinemiller slides of Huron dating from 1950s-1980s.
- Aerial photographs taken of Huron from 1956-2005.
- Lucy Winthrop Collection of photographs (early 19th century)
- Glass negatives containing images of early pier, lighthouse, and ore dock construction, as well as other images of early 19th century Huron.

Board members Bill Scott and Alyson Wilson are sorting photographs and Kathy Muehlhauser is organizing the vertical files. If you have some time to spare and would like to help, please call Kathy at 419-602-1464.

### Historical Society Exhibits in Library Display Cases

We are planning to display several exhibits in the Huron Library's display cases, which are located at both entrances, in the coming months. Stop by and take a look!

- November: Memorabilia from Past Huron Businesses (both display cases) Huron Historical Society Books, DVDs, Prints for Sale
- January: Urban Renewal Photos (one display case)
- March: Marks Lodge of Masons (both display cases)
- May: WWII (both display cases)
- July: Paintings of Huron (Gallery)



### Past Issues of the Huron/Erie County Reporter Newspapers Can Be Accessed on the Internet

Issues of the Huron/Erie County Reporter newspapers from 1880 to 1994 have been digitized and are now available on the internet at [huron.advantage-preservation.com](http://huron.advantage-preservation.com). The Huron Historical Society, which received a grant from an area foundation, and the Huron Public Library collaborated on the project to make Huron's former newspaper available to anyone who has access to the internet. Previously, the newspapers were available only on microfilm at the library. We hope to digitize additional Huron records in the future.



## Huron Fallen Heroes Memorial Dedicated

The Huron Fallen Heroes Memorial was dedicated October 24 at Huron Memorial Stadium. The granite memorial is engraved with the names of the 61 Huron men so far identified who were killed in action on battlefields dating from

the Civil War. Paul Ward, a Huron native, and Judy Ryan, a board member of the Huron Historical Society have worked together on the project to make the list as accurate as possible.

The Fallen Heroes Committee is still in need of donations to fund the project. If you would like to make a contribution please go to the group's website at <http://huronfallenheroes.org>

## HHS Seeks Funding for New Projects

The Huron Historical Society, in collaboration with the City of Huron, is considering two new projects: a historical marker describing the Lake Shore Electric to be placed at the east entrance of the new bike path, which at one time was a track for the now defunct electric railway; and a series of markers located on the former ConAgra site depicting the history of the Huron ore, coal and grain docks. Plans for both projects are in the initial stages. If you or your organization is interested in donating funds or would like more information please contact Kathy at 419-602-1464.

# Bits of Huron History

## The Interurban and Lake Shore Electric Railway

Interurban railroads were electrically-powered trains designed to connect communities together. A quick and cheap alternative to regular railroads, canals, or horses, the interurban became a popular mode of travel at the beginning of the 20th century. While the interurban railroads primarily transported people from one location to another, they also carried farmers' crops and commercial goods.

The interurban railroad first reached Huron when the Sandusky and Inter-Urban Railway constructed a line to Huron that opened November 4, 1899. The line extended from the end of the Sandusky Street Railway at the Soldiers and Sailors Home in Perkins Township, south on Milan Road to Hull Road and Camp Road, where an overpass over the New York Central railroad line was built. From there, the line followed Cleveland Road through Rye Beach and along the lake shore. The line used Superior Street and South Street to reach downtown Huron where it turned south on North Main Street. The line then turned east at Berlin Road where it crossed the Huron River. The rickety Berlin Road bridge (at that time, the main road out of Huron going east) could barely support the interurban cars in addition to road traffic, and the S&I would go no further east.

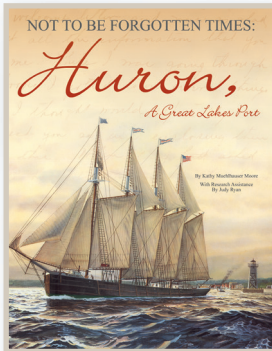
For many years Huron residents used the interurban railways to travel to neighboring towns and students relied on the trolley to take them to and from school. The electric railway also brought hundreds of tourists to lake shore

communities and Cedar Point. The increased popularity of the automobile combined with harsh economic times eventually led to the decline and demise of the railway. The LSE ceased operations on May 15, 1938, although trains continued to pass through Huron as the line was dismantled from Cleveland to Sandusky until late in 1939.

*See the Huron Historical Society website for more information about the LSE in Huron.*



**Books**

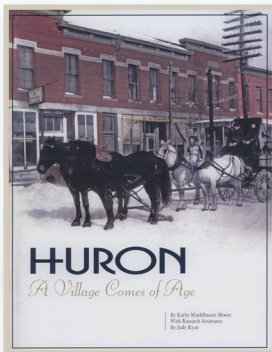


**Not To Be Forgotten Times: Huron, A Great Lakes Port Vol. 1**

This is the first in a series of books about the history of Huron, Ohio from the 1700s to 1880. The book depicts the area's early inhabitants, from prehistoric Indians to the white men and women who founded and settled Huron.

Minimum Donation: \$20.00

S/H: \$2.50



**Not to be Forgotten Times: Huron, A Village Comes of Age Vol. 2**

The second in a series of books about the history of Huron, Ohio from 1880 to 1929, this volume features the stories of the businesses that defined Huron and the people who lived, worked and died during these prosperous times.

Minimum Donation: \$20.00

S/H: \$2.50

*If purchasing both volumes, a donation of \$37.50 is requested.*

S/H: \$4.75

**Prints**



**Old Downtown Huron, Ohio 1957 by Huron Artist Owen Felton**

This is a numbered, limited edition print sized to fit a standard 16" x 20" mat and frame. The print depicts downtown Huron before urban renewal.

Minimum Donation: \$38.00

S/H: \$8.95



**The Golden Age by Mansfield, Ohio Artist Kinley Shogren**

The 13 1/2" x 18 1/4" prints are signed and numbered by the artist. The Golden Age was built by Valentine Fries in 1883 at Fries Landing on the Huron River near Milan, Ohio and launched in Huron. The schooner was 287 feet in length and at the time was the largest vessel built on the Great Lakes.

Minimum Donation: \$60.00

S/H: \$8.95

*Shipping and handling charges subject to change*

## { Prints (continued)



### Huron Ore Dock by Bruce Dickens

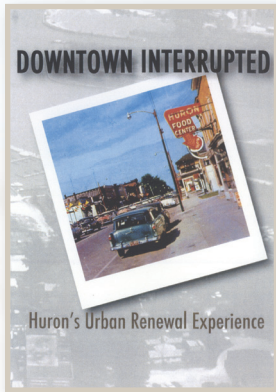
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This color copy was produced for the Nickel Plate Road Historical Society's convention held in Huron in 2009. Made from a Bruce Dickens print, it features the Fairbanks-Morse "Baby Trainmaster" switcher working at the Huron Dock.

Minimum Donation: \$5.00

S/H: \$4.50

## { DVDs



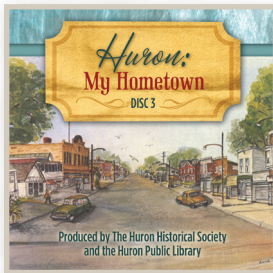
### Downtown Interrupted, Huron's Urban Renewal Experience

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This fascinating and informative documentary tells the story of Huron's controversial urban renewal project and the animosity it sparked between those who supported the program and those who did not. Includes extra photos of Huron during the urban renewal period.

Minimum Donation: \$15.00 members, \$20.00 non-members

S/H: \$5.95



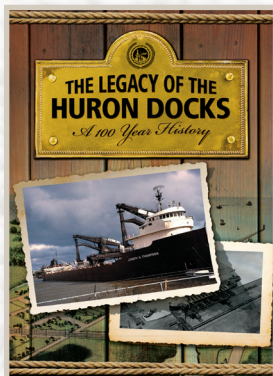
### Huron: My Hometown, a Series of Oral Histories

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In celebration of Huron's bicentennial in 2008 the Huron Historical Society and Huron Public Library produced a series of five DVDs featuring 19 interviews with local residents. You can learn the history of our area through the eyes of those who lived it.

Minimum Donation: \$30.00 members, \$35 non-members

S/H: \$5.95



### Legacy of the Huron Docks

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In 1882 Huron, Ohio became the Wheeling and Lake Erie Railroad's port on Lake Erie for the shipping of iron ore and coal. For the next 100 years the docks played an integral part in Huron's progress and economic growth. This documentary explores the impact of the docks on Huron and its residents.

Minimum Donation: \$20 members, \$25 non-members

S/H: \$5.95