Mt. Healthy Historical Society

July 2025

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Around the Society...

We will be selling cookies, ice cream, and root beer floats at the July 3rd celebration in the city park again this year. Find us at the entrance to the community room from 6 to 9:30.







The museum will be open that evening, as well. This year marks the 200th anniversary of the Free Meeting House, and we're celebrating! Please stop in and see our latest displays. See the next page for more on the history of the Meeting House.



We have changed the schedule for when dues should be renewed. We always used to collect dues in the summer, but are now shifting to align with the calendar year. We'll be collecting dues in November and December, with memberships valid January 1 through December 31.

Our museum is open Saturday mornings from 10 to 12, as well as by appointment, <u>except</u> for January and February, when we will be closed to the public.

Happy 200th Birthday!

On August 6, 1825, Samuel Hill and his wife Mary sold a piece of land to the trustees of the Mount Pleasant Union Meeting House Association for \$25. The original agreement read: "The Meetinghouse shall be free for all Preachers of the Gospel that are in good standing and character, giving no preference to any name or sect whatsoever." An article published in 1900 related that construction was undertaken by "Presbyterians, United Brethren, Universalists, Methodists, Restorationists, Old School Baptists, Swedenborgians, and Mormons." Use of the building was open to any religious group. In the coming decades the various religious denominations of the village erected their own buildings, and the meeting house would eventually be used in other capacities, including as the town hall and as a jail.

By the 1960s the building had fallen into disuse and disrepair, and the village council considered demolishing it. Instead, a group of residents began a campaign to raise the funds to save it, move it, and turn it into a museum. This was the start of the Mt. Healthy Historical Society.



By this time Mt. Healthy had grown up around the Meeting House, which sat at the corner of Perry and Compton next to the Methodist Church. When the funds had been raised the building was lifted, put on a large trailer, and driven down the block and around the corner to its current location on McMakin Ave.





















As part of the move, a basement was dug under at the new location to offer more space.

Left: founding members of the Historical Society attend the cornerstone laying for the new museum, May 30, 1966.



We need volunteers.

We have fabulous members who volunteer their time helping to keep Mt. Healthy history alive, but we have lost some very dedicated and valuable members in the past year.

If you have time and/or skills, we could use your help. Do you have carpentry or other handyman skills? Are you someone who enjoys organizing? Do you love working with children? Could you help out when we sell cookies or do other community events? None of the above? We'll find something for you to do.

If you're interested, please send us an email at mt.healthyhistory@yahoo.com and let us know.

We lost another longtime member in March. Penny Huber had been a member since the Historical Society's start; her parents, Frank and Polly Stout, were founding members and donated a huge number of items to our collection.

Penny had been our president for so long that when she stepped down two years ago she didn't recall when she had begun in that role.

We feel her absence at every meeting and event.



Tom's Barbershop

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Free Meeting House behind the fire station, exact date unknown, but the street light means that it was after 1894 and the boys' clothing indicates that it was prior to about 1940. Best guess: around 1900 – 1920.





Cincinnati, OH 45231

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