

# Randolph Times...

*"Uniting the Past with the Future"*

Visit our website: [www.rths.org](http://www.rths.org)

Quarterly Newsletter of Randolph Township Historical Society, Inc., 114 Valleyview Drive, Englewood, OH 45322  
 Dedicated to Preserving the History of Clayton, Englewood, Union, and the Surrounding Areas.

### Officers

*President:* Ivan Clark  
*Vice-Pres:* Doug Allen  
*Recording Sec'y:* Kay Dawson  
*Corres. Sec'y:* Wilma Schroeder  
*Treasurer:* Robin Perkins

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 (2017 & 2018)  
 Barbara Eller (2017 & 2018)  
 William Gothard (2017 & 2018)  
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 Cleva Collar (2018 & 2019)  
 Glynn Marsh (2018 & 2019)  
 Doris West (2018 & 2019)  
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**Thank you!**

**We list our valued sponsors  
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Office Phone: 937-832-8538  
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[www.rths.org](http://www.rths.org)

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Ivan Clark

It has been a busy year for our History Center. We have recently seen more money leave our bank account than enter. Sudden expenses continue to pop up. As many of you know, we needed to replace our two furnaces and air conditioner. After extensive research and several meetings with qualified "HVAC" contractors, we finally agreed on the best company for an honest price (slightly less than \$15,000.00 after a discount). One of our members came forward with a gift of \$10,000.00, along with a challenge to the rest of us to give whatever we can to meet the almost \$5,000.00 deficit. So, as our members and friends begin to think about year-end taxes, please consider a donation to our Furnace Fund. Remember, we are a 501(c)(3) organization and as such, your gift is tax deductible. On page 6 is a handy form for your use.

However, if your finances will not allow the donation you would like to make, there are other ways to donate—your time, for example. We have a great organization and a beautiful facility serving our three communities, but keeping it running is quite a task for just a few dedicated folks. But it is said that many hands, each doing just a little work, lightens the load for everyone. Volunteer suggestions are on page 6. Please consider where you might fit in and volunteer a few hours each month.

Let me close by thanking all those who donated their time and finances this year to help us keep history alive. A heartfelt THANK YOU!

## UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

*All functions are at the History Center unless otherwise noted.*

### Meetings on 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays

Oct. 10/business meeting, presentation of slate of officers/  
 miniprogram: TBD

Nov. 14/business meeting—nomination of slate of officers for  
 2019/miniprogram: TBD

Dec. 12/business meeting—Election of 2019  
 officers/miniprogram: TBD

### Special Event:

Nov. 14: Holiday Carry-in, 6-7 p.m., at History Center (see P. 8)

*(Ed: This issue is late so that the slate of officers could be mailed with it.)*

## **QUARTERLY SUMMARY**

**JULY 2018:** Despite 2.9 inches of rain falling on July 3, only a little water collected at the foot of the stairs. Some came into the kitchen, and Bill Gothard has dug a small trench to divert future rains back to the ravine. He also has repainted the front stair landing. The RTHS received an invoice for \$15,104.00 for the installation of the furnaces and air conditioner, with a discount of \$302.08 for payment within 10 days. The RTHS has received a \$10,000.00 anonymous donation. The rest has been paid from the checking account. Members agreed to set up a display of old toys. The mulberry tree has been removed. Jack Honeycutt has donated Randolph Twp. fire department records, but they need sorting. Kay Dawson read a paper prepared from a phone interview with Clifford Humphrey, a former Englewood resident who had lived in Englewood from 1936 to 1957.

**AUGUST 2018:** Ethan Jones, an 8th-grader from Northmont, shadowed Ivan Clark at the History Center on Aug. 1 and Aug. 5. In addition to learning about the History Center, he indicated an interest in starting a history club at the school. Only about 20 people, all of them members, attended the Tri-Event on July 15. Cleva Collar suggested sending a form letter to various assisted living facilities inviting them to bring residents to the Center. Final plans for the RTHS tent at the Englewood Festival and for the garage sale Doris was planning Aug. 22, 23, and 24 to benefit the RTHS could not be announced because Doris West's broken ankle kept her from the meeting. The City of Englewood has offered the RTHS the lot in front of the Center and north of History Lane, valued at \$20,000 to \$30,000, at no charge. This is part of Englewood's green space plans and would ensure that nothing would be built there. Members asked Robin Perkins and Ivan to research to make certain the increase in assets would not affect other fees such as our tax-exempt classification.

**SEPTEMBER 2018:** The furnace installation passed the City of Englewood inspection, and the fire extinguishers passed their annual inspection. Roxanne Farrier, property administrator of the Englewood Conservancy District, told Ivan, in response to his question, that she saw no problem with the RTHS accepting artifacts found on Conservancy land as long as no extensive digging or property destruction occurs. There has been no success finding a contractor to put down a base for the statue that used to stand in front of the Te-Co building. The board of directors agreed to meet on Oct. 10 to discuss acceptance of the lot offered by the City of Englewood. Members were pleased that the basement had only a little water in it after several inches of rain on the night of Sept. 7-8. With Doris still recuperating, Ivan appealed for members to learn to enter items in the PastPerfect database. Plans for a book and Christmas items sale will have to wait until Doris can be consulted. Ivan reported the geocache is again attracting visitors after being relocated when the mulberry tree was removed.



### **AREA NEWS AND NOTES**

#### **No-Bake Bake Sale**

The RTHS used to hold Christmas bake sales. Eventually, we decided it was somewhat ridiculous for one member to bring in baked goods to sell to other members who in turn bought from other members. Besides, none of us needs the calories or the sugar!

So once again the Society will hold the "No-Bake" Bake Sale that Sue Cummings developed. Instead of baking (or buying) sweets to be sold, members are invited to donate the amount we would normally spend on baking and eating. This also allows our geographically distant members to participate.

Anyone who would like to donate can use the form on page 6 or 7. On page 7, list it as an "Extra Donation" and indicate its purpose. The RTHS finances and minutes of board meetings are available at the History Center for examination by anyone.

And don't forget that memberships expire at the end of the year. If you don't have a lifetime membership, you can use the form on page 7 to renew. The top line of the mailing label shows if your membership needs to be renewed. The RTHS is very lucky to have such good support from its members. We have survived for 20 years in large part due to this generosity.

## THE FAMILY TREE

by Kay Dawson

“Come heres”



One of the few festivals not cancelled by the rain on Sept. 7, 8, and 9 was the Lewisburg Bicentennial. As one visitor said, “You only get one bicentennial. It’s not like you can come back next year.”

The re-enactors’ camping in Community Park had to leave when Twin Creek overflowed and flooded the entire park, and the grounds around the Community Center and the Lewisburg Historical Society were soggy and muddy.

But officials provided tables for eating in the community center and moved as many talks and demonstrations as possible into the entertainment tent and the historical society’s depot. Rubber boots sometimes looked odd under 19th-century costumes. But everyone seemed to have a good time.

At Friday’s opening ceremonies, local historian Seth Schlotterbeck described the appearance of the wilderness as the early settlers arrived and noted, “It seems to be human nature to want to go to new places and experience new things.”

He continued, “Just yesterday, someone said to me, ‘Oh, I just moved here,’ as though she had no claim in Lewisburg’s history. But, at some point, we were all ‘come heres,’ as Pastor Dave [*an earlier speaker*] calls us, because someone, if not specifically ourself, moved here. And, Lewisburg’s history is a composite of the history of each and every one of us, no matter how long we or our families have been here.

“History gives us a sense of self, a sense of belonging, a realization that we all prosper together. And it helps inform us as we work together, we create the future of Lewisburg, which after all, becomes our history.”

His words are no less true for this area.

If you were a “come here” in the 1950s or 1960s or later, you have seen a lot of changes. At that time, the area was rapidly changing from a farm community to a suburb as new neighborhoods were built. In 1954, my brother was one of 12 students who graduated from the eighth grade at Clayton School; in the fall of 1956, I entered first grade there as one of 35 students.

Let us hear some of your memories. What was it like to move into one of the first homes in a new

subdivision? What stores did you shop at when you were young? Do you remember the day actor Richard Chamberlin, in Dayton for a performance at the Kenley Players, came to Englewood to get his haircut? Were you on the championship Little League team in Clayton? Did you swim at Miller’s Grove, the Northmoor Swim Club, or the pool on Pleasant Plain Road? How much did it cost when you took your date bowling at Thunderbowl?

What did you do during the blizzard of 1978? For that matter, were you one of the people who ran extension cords across the street to help a neighbor without power after the windstorm of 2008?

Did you skip school on that wonderful day in the 1960s when civilization, in the form of McDonald’s Restaurant, came to the area? What was it like to attend school in double sessions during the energy crisis of the 1970s? What was the last day of school like when Clayton and Phillipsburg elementaries closed? (Or, more recently, when O. R. Edgington closed?) Were you one of the first classes in the MVCTC, then called the JVS?

The RTHS would love to preserve photos or memories of the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s. We can tape-record your memories, either at the Center or at another location, or you can write them down or record them yourself. We can copy photos.

All you “come heres,” please “come here” to the RTHS with your memories.

### Membership Report by Wilma Schroeder

#### Memberships Processed July–September

**Family:** Gordon & Bonnie Harris (r), Melvin & Connie Porcher (r)

**Individual:** Larry Drusen (r)

**Sustaining:** Dane & Priscilla Mutter (r.)

The Society is fortunate to maintain a very high membership renewal rate. We continue to add new members each year, but lose some of our valued older members to death and relocation. We value each and every member and work hard to make the Society a valuable resource for history in the community.

Do you know someone who has left the area but remains interested in sharing memories of living here? Do you have an elderly relative who grew up here and likes to remember their youth? How about giving them a gift membership for Christmas?

*History . . . is human. It is about people, and they speak to us across the years.*

David McCullough, *The American Spirit*

## ACQUISITIONS

Since our office manager, Doris West, is still recuperating, new items are not getting entered in the database as promptly as we would like and have not been acknowledged as promptly as usual. We are trying to cope with this situation and will in the future be acknowledging donations even if they are not officially catalogued. We apologize for any inconvenience to those donating items.

### **From Shirley Banger:**

Northmont Jr. High Yearbooks: 1988, 1989;  
Randolph Bobcats Yearbooks: 1946–47, 1948,  
1949 (2), 1950, 1951, 1956;  
Photos from 1950 trip to Washington, D.C.;  
Photos from the late 1980s by Northmont Junior  
High staff;  
Randolph Shamrock school newsletter, Oct. 1951;  
Scrapbooks of sports-related newspaper clippings  
from the 1950s.

### **From John Clifford:**

Matchbooks from the Englewood area (from the  
estate of Edward Boshinski).

### **From Christina Eby:**

White Northmont Band polo shirt, part of the  
summer uniform.

### **From Paul Farrier:**

Photo of Charlie Sipe in the Sipe's Hardware on  
North Main Street in 1973.

### **From Jack Honeycutt:**

Twenty-four years of miscellaneous Randolph  
Township fire history items, including photographs  
and items from Fire Station #2.

### **From Bob McCarroll:**

Salesman's samples of fire marks for homes in the  
days of private fire insurance;  
"Hill Climber"/Clark Friction Tow Fire Truck, ca.  
1910.

### **From Ann Talafous**

Copy of Article about Union from DP&L public-  
ation;  
Keychain from Tom Keller's SOHIO station in  
Union.

### **From Marvin Witter:**

Item believed to be Native American stone pestle  
used for grinding corn, found near Centennial Park;  
Set of block and tackle (rope and pulleys) from an  
Amish Farm Auction near Hartsville, Ohio;  
Steelyard scale found in the Englewood Reserve.

**From Brandon Worman:** Lump of slag found  
near the location of the Sheets Rifle manufacturing  
site, probably discarded as part of manufacture of  
barrels.

## OTHER SOURCES

We don't have to send visitors away with unanswered questions involving areas other than Randolph Township. We can refer them to many other local organizations that may be able to help them.

The Brethren Heritage Center, 428 Wolf Creek St. #4, Brookville ([www.brethrenheritagecenter.org/](http://www.brethrenheritagecenter.org/), 937-833-5228), specializes in material relating to the Brethren churches, such as a collection of family Bibles, but also has material for genealogical research, including the records of the Civil War.

The Brookville Historical Society, 21 Hay St., Brookville ([www.dcoweb.org/brookville/](http://www.dcoweb.org/brookville/), 937-833-0285), has a research library with genealogy material, early phone and city directories, and old maps. The latter are especially interesting as street names changed over the years.

The Historical Society of Vandalia-Butler, 336 E Alkaline Springs Rd., Vandalia (937-898-5300, <http://www.historicalsocietyvandalia-butler.org/>) has exhibits, artifacts, and some books on things such as Tadmor, Vandalia, and the Vandalia-Butler Schools.

The Dayton Metro Library, 215 E. Third St., Dayton (937-463-2665, [www.daytonmetrolibrary.org/](http://www.daytonmetrolibrary.org/)), has made all of its research material except very rare delicate items openly available for researchers and curious browsers. Researchers can access many online photos and databases from home computers with a library card and a PIN number, although a few must be accessed from the library computers.

All issues of the *Lewisburg Leader* newspaper, from 1897 on, are available online through Brown Memorial Library in Lewisburg ([www.brownmemorial.lib.oh.us/content/microfilm-digitization-project](http://www.brownmemorial.lib.oh.us/content/microfilm-digitization-project)).

Many of these sites also have email addresses to receive questions.

So even if we don't have the answer to a researcher's question, we can often refer the person to a source that can help.

# **RECENT HAPPENINGS AT THE RTHS HISTORY CENTER**

## **A Busy Summer**

This summer was a busy one for the RTHS. It was also hot and wet, often at the same moment, but members as always pitched in to work.

## **Second Garage Sale**

Doris and Jack West decided to donate their garage sale in August to the Society. RTHS members also included items and helped price items and set up and take down the sale. Their help was especially valuable as Doris's injury left her housebound and unable to do much. We extend thanks to Anita and Dave Bannerman, Ivan Clark, JoeAnne Conners, Kay Dawson, Barbara Eller, Mary Geiger, Bill Gothard, Monty Mercer, Ron Papp, Wilma Schroeder, Jan Stahl, and Martha Taulbee for all the work. And we owe a special thank you to Jack West, who found time to help us while being available at home to cook, clean, and fetch things for Doris. The sale brought in \$523.32 to be used for sprucing up the entrance.

The RTHS is tentatively planning to hold a used book sale, possibly in November. with books, DVDs, VCRs (remember them?), and some Christmas decorations. This is still in the planning stages, so watch for announcements in the local papers and on the RTHS Facebook page.

## **Milestones Celebrated**

On July 15, the RTHS celebrated three milestones. The Society is 20 years old this year, and has grown from a small group to about 175 members all across the country. The History Center is 10 years old and is a building filled with more than 3,000 items, both artifacts and archival records. And in the fall of 2016, the RTHS paid off the mortgage on the building three years early.

After Glynn Marsh and Ivan Clark opened the July 15 ceremony, Englewood Mayor Pat Burnside, Clayton Mayor Ted Stevens, and Union Mayor Michael O'Callaghan spoke about the past and future of their cities and the Society's role in the community.

Then members burned a copy of the mortgage and enjoyed refreshments.

## **Visible to the Public**

The Society also is increasing its visibility in the community. Doug Allen and his daughter, Laura, represented the Society in the Englewood Festival Parade on Aug. 11. The RTHs had a tent display at the Festival. Several people stopped by (when it wasn't raining). One family renewed their membership as a result of their visit, and several other people took copies of the newsletter and expressed interest in stopping by the Center.

The RTHS tent at the Farmer's Market on Sundays at the Esther Price Candies Parking lot off National Road was a little less successful. Ivan Clark had reserved space on four Sundays, but one Sunday his health didn't permit him to attend, and the heavy rains cancelled the market on Sept. 9.

Ethan Jones, a Northmont Middle School 8th-grader, came to the Center to "shadow" Ivan as part of a school project and is interested in starting a history club at the school. Also, a local scoutmaster indicated interest in getting his scouts involved with the Center as part of their merit badge program. And the geocache placed on the Center's grounds years ago by John Combs has had many visitors.

## **New Look to Yard**

Something is missing from the Center's grounds, and soon something will be added. The mulberry tree near the railroad crossing sign was a casualty of a lightning bolt. Fortunately, it didn't fall, but the split revealed it was rotten and needed to be removed before it damaged any of the artifacts around it, the fence, or—even worse—our neighbor's property. (The geocache that had been in the tree has been moved.)

Last spring the RTHS accepted the gift by Blevin, Inc., of a statue of a toolmaker that stood at the former Te-Co building. Plans are underway to relocate the statue to the south lawn as soon as a cement base can be put down to securely anchor it.



**Glynn Marsh, Bill Gothard (rear), and Doris West play with fire.**

## **YOU. YES, YOU. WE NEED YOU!**

The Society has a big job to do. We have a beautiful History Center, a treasure trove of artifacts and information, and the support of some wonderful people. But we are missing one important thing—enough volunteers to keep things running smoothly. Will you help us out?

### **Choose Your Job:**

We need volunteers for a range of duties, from handyman to clerk to gardener to computer data entry to artist to docent to curator. You name your talent, and we will find a place for you to use it! We will also share our talents and teach you.

### **Choose Your Schedule:**

You can volunteer as much time as you like. Want to help out two hours a week? One afternoon a month? One weekend a year? Sure, we'd love to have you! Every hour counts.

### **Available tasks:**

Here are some places we need volunteers:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| a) Assembling newsletters/mailings         | i) Making phone calls                   |
| b) Cleaning the History Center             | j) Planning events                      |
| c) Recording oral histories                | k) Publicity; getting the word out      |
| d) Creating new exhibits (learn as you go) | l) Recording acquisitions and donations |
| e) Entering data into our computer         | m) Recruiting more volunteers           |
| f) Helping with fundraisers                | n) Researching questions                |
| g) Hosting museum visitors                 | o) Tending the gardens                  |
| h) Maintaining the Center (minor repairs)  | p) Finding and writing grants           |

To volunteer, clip or copy the form below and return it to: RTHS, 114 Valleyview Drive, Englewood, OH 45322.

*"Don't ever question the value of volunteers. Noah's Ark was built by volunteers; the Titanic was built by professionals."*  
(Unknown source)

### Volunteer

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email (optional):** \_\_\_\_\_

**I want to help with** \_\_\_\_\_

**I'm not sure; call me:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Amount of time:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I also would like to donate for the "No Bake" Bake Sale:**        \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**I also would like to donate for the furnace/air conditioning fund:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Information**

**Yes!** I want to become a Member of the Randolph Township Historical Society.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ Gift \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Level (Check One)**

\_\_\_\_ Individual @\$15.00/year

\_\_\_\_ Family @ \$25.00/year

\_\_\_\_ Sustaining @ \$35.00/year

\_\_\_\_ Sponsoring @\$75.00/year

\_\_\_\_ Individual Lifetime @ \$250.00 (one-time)

\_\_\_\_ Corporate @ \$150/year

Extra Cash Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

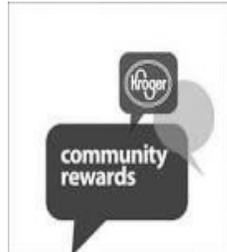
Enclosed is my check for \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send completed form with check to:**

Randolph Township Historical Society  
 RTHS History Center  
 114 Valleyview Drive  
 Englewood, OH 45322-1324

**COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM**



One way to donate to the Historical Society without hurting your budget is to link your KrogerPlus card to the Kroger Community Rewards program.

Each quarter, Kroger allots a certain amount of money for the Rewards budget and divides it among participating organizations according to each organization's percentage of the total spending by members of all the organizations. Reports sent to RTHS only show the customer's KrogerPlus Card Number, name, and the donation amount.

To register your KrogerPlus Card, go to [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com) and follow the instructions. Link the card to RTHS (NPO #81403). Those without computers or email can set up accounts at the public library or through another member. You can also register at 1-800-837-4483, with your KrogerPlus card and the RTHS number shown above. The bottom of each receipt should show your donation. Last year the Society earned about \$500 through this program.

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**Publicity Moves to New Day**

For years the *Englewood Independent* has printed our History Photo of the Month and other publicity about the RTHS.

Last spring, Civitas Media, owner of not only the *Englewood Independent* but the *Vandalia Drummer*, the *West Milton Record*, the *Tipp City Herald*, and the *Troy Daily News*, was bought by AIM Media. The company merged all the weekly newspapers into one section of the *Miami Valley Sunday News*. Instead of being a separate paper, the *Englewood Independent* is now several pages in the "Valley" section of this newspaper.

The History Photo of the Month and other material about the Society still appears in the paper. (The History Photo of the Month usually, but not always since we are only human, appears on the first Sunday.)

The paper is available (\$1.75 per copy) at stores around the area, including New and Olde Pages Book Shoppe on Union Road. It can be subscribed to by calling 937-335-5634. (If you are a subscriber and have delivery problems, this is also the number to call.)

**Items Wanted for Display**

The exhibits at the Center are interesting to visitors and to us. But sooner or later, we need new material.

The Society is seeking toys from the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s for a display. We already have several, such as the military truck used recently in the History Photo of the Month, and toy duck and its ducklings. (Originally, the duck was supposed to quack at the child pulled it along, but the "quacker" long since disappeared, probably with an exasperated parent's help, about 15 minutes after the child got the toy.)

Do you have any toys and games tucked away in drawers or attics that you could donate or loan to the RTHS? Do you, for instance, have a Davy Crockett coonskin cap that isn't too moth-eaten?

If you would like to contribute something, call or email the center. The number is on page 1.



## RANDOLPH TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

INCORPORATED

114 Valleyview Drive - Englewood, Ohio 45322

*"Uniting the Past with the Future"*

Clayton - 1816    Englewood - 1841    Union - 1816

### **SOME DATES TO REMEMBER REMAINING IN 2018**

*All events are held at the RTHS History Center, 114 Valleyview Dr., Englewood, Ohio, unless otherwise noted.*

#### **Monthly Meetings (open to the public):**

2nd Wednesdays

Oct. 10, 7:00 p.m.

Nov. 14, 1:00 p.m.  
*(note time change)*

Dec. 12, 1:00 p.m.

#### **Work Sessions:**

Wed. and Sat. afternoons  
1–4 p.m.

*(Often we are asked if work  
sessions are for board  
members only. Certainly not!  
All are welcome.)*

#### **Visitors' Hours at the History Center**

Usually the first and third

Sundays, 2– 4 p.m.

April–October;  
look for the flag and  
OPEN sign

#### **Special Tours available:**

Open other times by  
appointment.

Call us to schedule free tours  
for groups or individuals. We  
love showing our stuff to class  
reunions, groups of retirees,  
Scouts, and schoolchildren!  
Call 937-832-8358 and leave  
message.

The expiration date of your  
membership appears on the  
mailing label above, as shown  
on the sample below. Please  
check and renew, using the  
form on page 7.

#### **HOLIDAY CARRY-IN!**

Nov. 14, 6 to 7 p.m.

Come and celebrate the holiday season  
at the History Center. Bring a side  
dish or dessert. The RTHS will supply  
chicken and drinks.

Please leave a message at the RTHS  
History Center  
(832-8358) by Nov. 7 so there is  
enough chicken.

**Exp: DEC. 31, 2018**  
HISTORY MEMBER  
1234 STREET NUMBER  
ENGLEWOOD, OH 45322