



The Bexley Historical Society



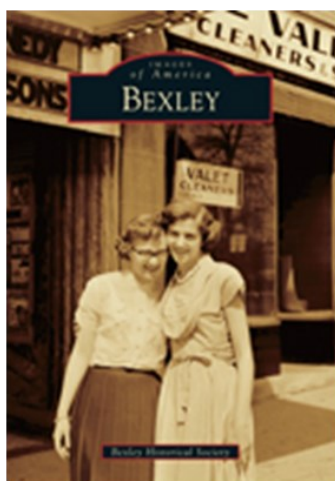
Brass Band, 1903
Capital University

The Historical Herald

Volume 37 Issue I

Summer 2014

Images of America—Bexley Book About Bexley Coming in August



Cover

Images of America
Bexley

We are excited to let you know that the Bexley Historical Society's new book about the history of Bexley is scheduled to be published by Arcadia Publishing on August 18th. *Bexley*, an entry in Arcadia's Images of America series, will have over 180 images accompanied by essays and detailed captions that tell the story of Bexley from the settlement by Adena people 2,000 years ago to the 1970s.

The images include dozens of photos donated by generous Bexley citizens, business owners, organizations, and institutions. In addition, images from the Bexley Historical Society's vast collection are featured in the paperback volume.

To celebrate the book's release, the Bexley Public Library will host an event on August 24th. More details about that event will be announced in the coming weeks.

Bexley is available for pre-order from Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and most other physical and online bookstores. Also, the Bexley Historical Society will have order forms available at the Fourth of July festivities on Capital University's lawn. The retail price will be \$21.99.

With over 8,500 titles in print, Arcadia is the largest publisher of local history books in North America.

Inside this issue:

Jerrie Mock	Pg. 2
Bernard "Bernie" Yenkin	Pg. 3
Donald Gene Davis	Pg. 3
Russ & Peggy Williams	Pg. 3
Hours of Operation & Contact Information	Pg. 4
Board Members	Pg. 4
Capital University Brass Band	Pg. 4

4th of July Celebration

The photo is from July 4, 1961. Bexley cheerleaders are riding in the car that is pulling the Eastern Kiwanis Club float featuring "Uncle Sam" or C.C. Crabbe, the originator of Bexley's Flag Day ceremony. Shown in the automobile are (L to R): Dody Schwartz, Barbara

Kerr, Sue Helmick, Claire Bass, and Patty Miller..

July 4, 2014, the Bexley Historical Society will sell Johnson Ice Cream treats at the community holiday celebration on Capital University's green space.



Jerrie Mock—From Bexley to Around the World

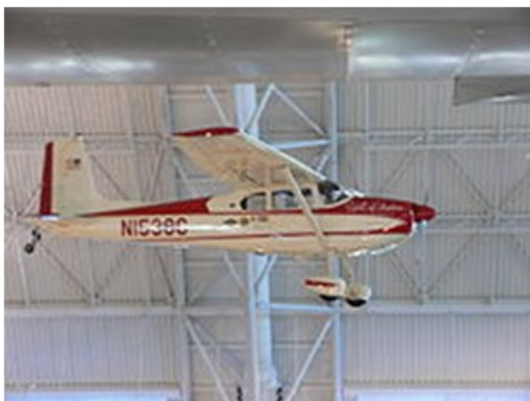


**Jerrie Mock returns to
Port Columbus**

April 2014, Port Columbus unveiled a statue of Jerrie Mock, the first woman to fly solo around the world. At the time she accomplished this feat, Jerrie and her family were Bexley residents residing at 2490 Bexford Pl.

Jerrie Mock left Port Columbus March 19, 1964 in a single-engine Cessna 180, "Spirit of Columbus", for her around-the-world flight. Her approximately 23,000 mile trip took 29 days and ended where it began – Port Columbus – on April 17.

Five thousand people gathered to welcome home the first woman pilot to circle the globe solo. Governor James Rhodes declared April 18 "Jerrie Mock Day" in OH and Columbus Mayor M.E. "Jack" Sensenbrenner proclaimed that same day as Jerrie Mock Day in the city.



Geraldine "Jerrie" Fredritz grew up in Newark, OH. After her family took a short airplane ride, the then seven-year-old Jerrie announced that she wanted to be a pilot. Her heroine was Amelia Earhart. At Ohio State she was the only female majoring in aeronautical engineering. It was the mid-1940s and a career in aviation for a woman wasn't realistic so at age 20 she dropped out of O.S.U. and married Russell Mock.

Jerrie's life-long love of aviation led to flying lessons. After receiving her license, she and Russell became half-owners of a four-seat Cessna 180. The decision to attempt the solo round-the-world flight was made when Jerrie complained one evening at dinner that she was bored staying at home all day and wanted to go somewhere. Russell suggested she get in their plane and just fly around the world. She readily agreed!

Once the decision was made and they realized she could be the first woman to accomplish this feat, they tried to keep it as quiet as possible so as not to inspire other female flyers to attempt the journey. Joan Merriam Smith from California, a 27-year-old pilot who flew charter planes, declared she was going to solo around the world following Amelia Earhart's route.

Neither woman recognized the other's plans nor acknowledged that they were in a 'race' - reminiscent of the Nellie Bly / Elizabeth Bisland race around the world in 1889– 1890.

Several days after Jerrie's return, she went to Washington to receive the Federal Aviation Agency's Gold Medal for Exceptional Service in a ceremony presided over by Pres. Lyndon Johnson. Among other awards received were the Amelia Earhardt Memorial Award and the National Pilots' Assoc. 'Pilot of the Year'. Her "Spirit of Columbus" now hangs in the Dulles International Airport near Washington, D.C.



**Bexley Council members
Ruth Mann and Brad Salt
at Port Columbus to
welcome home
Jerrie Mock after her
history making flight**

"Spirit of Columbus", the Cessna 180 in which Jerrie Mock flew around the world, hangs in the Udvar-Hazy Center of the National Air and Space Museum in Virginia. The Columbus chapter of Women in Aviation, International chose the chapter name *Spirit of Columbus* in honor of Mock's aircraft.

The United States Air Force named a street in tribute to Mock at Rickenbacker Air Force Base (presently Rickenbacker International Airport).

From Recent Interviews We Learned ...

... that **Bernard “Bernie” Yenkin’s** grandparents were born in the Vitebsk province, Byelorussia and immigrated to America in 1906 with their two sons, three year old Abe I. and six week old Ben A. Their journey from Byelorussia began in a covered wagon, then a train, a small ship across the Baltic Sea to Hull, England, and on to Liverpool where they boarded an ocean liner (steerage class) to America. The ship - “**SS Majestic**”.

... that Frey-Yenkin Paint Company was formed in 1923 and in 1954 it became the Yenkin-**Majestic** Paint Corporation.

... that Bernie did the second semester of his high school sophomore year in Miami, FL. Over the winter break at Bexley High School, Bernie went to FL to visit his grandparents. This was 1945, WWII had ended and trains were filled to capacity with returning military. School was starting, Bernie could not get a ticket home, so a family decision was made—attend classes in Miami for the remainder of the school year.



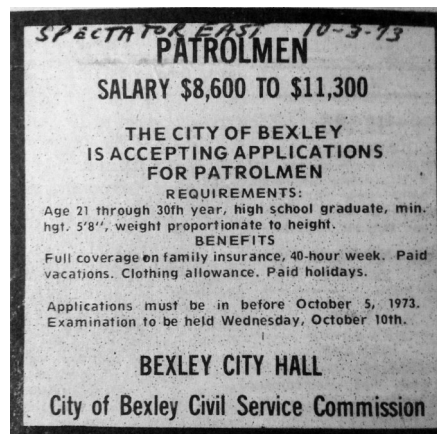
Bernie Yenkin sharing history from the Jacob & Musa Yenkin family booklet

... that **Donald Gene Davis** was a Bexley policeman from 1961–1990.

... that his maternal grandmother was Dollie McCoy Allen and that she was a member of the feuding McCoys—although not a participant!

... that the media gave the name ‘Booze Burgler’ to the individual who broke into North Bexley homes for alcoholic beverages.

... that during Don’s years on the police force, he assembled an outstanding memory book related to Bexley and the police department. The custom made book has the same dimensions as one page of the not so long ago Columbus Dispatch. This was done so that if a full newspaper page was put into the book, there would be no creases.



Spectator East, 1973
City of Bexley ad for Bexley Patrolmen

... that **Russ and Peggy Williams** have a long association with Bexley.

... that Russ left high school to enlist in the Navy, then returned to Bexley High after his military service and graduated with the Class of 1947.

... that Peggy was seen for many years in the 4th of July Parade on the Bexley Cancer Thrift Shop floats and that these same floats took many 1st place awards.

... that Russ’s father, in 1927, leased the Pure Oil Service Station which was located just east of Wentz Pharmacy (now Graeter’s). And that during WWII, he went to a Shell Station at Euclaire and Main as there were not enough men available to work at the large Pure Oil Station.



**Pure Oil Station on East Main Street
Between Wentz Pharmacy and
Christ Lutheran Church**

Dates To Remember

The historical society looks forward to seeing you during the community festivities on July 4th. Look for our ‘tent’ on Capital University’s green space where we will be selling Johnson’s Ice Cream treats.

Join us on Sunday, August 24, at the Bexley Public Library where we will introduce our newly completed book, *Images of America, Bexley*.

Bexley Historical Society

P.O. Box 9285

Bexley, OH 43209



Bexley Historical Society Museum

at the

Jeffrey Estate Caretaker's Cottage

2080 Clifton Avenue / Bexley, OH 43209

Hours

First Thursday of Each Month

10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Second Monday of Each Month

6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

First Sunday of Each Month March - October

1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Also open by appointment / 614-559-4360

info@bexleyhistory.org

www.bexleyhistory.org

501 (c) (3) Organization



**Capital University students organized a
Brass Band in 1903.**

**This was 15 years before the university
established their renowned
Conservatory of Music.**

Mission Statement

The Bexley Historical Society is an educational association. It seeks to promote interest and pride in the historical development of the community and in the accomplishments of its citizenry. It endeavors to research, assemble, preserve, and publish a valuable storehouse of materials including artifacts, memorabilia, photographs, and genealogical records relevant to the heritage of the Bexley community.

Board of Trustees

Michael Kilbourne, President Dr. Walter Buchsieb, Vice-president

Scott McKinley, Treasurer Position to be Filled, Secretary

Nancy Beck, Mark Epstein, Lori Ann Feibel,

Amy Goldstein, Robyn Jones, David Madison,

Connie Ostrove, Ron Robins, Karl Schedler

Advisors: Ed Hamblin, Edie Mae Herrel/Founder & Cottage Director

MEMBERSHIP FORM / Thank You For Your Support

Per Year / Per Household:

General Membership \$25.00 Senior Citizen: \$15.00

Supporting \$50.00 Patron \$100.00

Name _____

Address _____ Tel. No. _____

E-mail _____

Make checks payable to: Bexley Historical Society

Mail to: P.O.Box 9285 / Bexley, OH 43209

501 (c)(3) Organization