

Summary of Licking County Bicentennial Projects – 2006-2009 (Bicentennial Year for Licking County Ohio was 2008)

June 2006...

Licking County Bicentennial Commission founded with Timothy Bubb as Chairman, Doug Smith as Vice-Chairman and Tony Beckerley as Secretary-Treasurer.

January 2007...

Work begins countywide on the Bicentennial Quilt

November 2007...

Debut of Images of America – Licking County at Newark Public Library with the photo history books then going on sale at various locations.
*Published by Arcadia Publications the book remains on sale at local retail outlets.

December 2007...

- Debut of Licking County Events Calendar
- Debut of Licking County Bicentennial Map
- Debut of Licking County Bicentennial website with emphasis on the Licking County Flag as the Bicentennial logo

January 2008...

Major kick-off event (January 30th) held on the date of the founding of the County. The Works hosted this debut of the Bicentennial Quilt and a weeklong display of historical quilts.

Lecture Series at The Works begins – the four part 'local history' series continued on a monthly basis through April 2008.

February 2008...

Bicentennial Vignettes debuted in local media and continued throughout 2008, with plans to publish a summary of the short stories as a legacy project.

March 2008...

The Celebration of Agriculture event held at the Newark Campus with recognition of some 60 Centennial and Bicentennial farms.

April 2008...

Local author showcase held at the Newark Public Library

May 2008...

Newark Earthworks Day was held at Moundbuilders State Memorial and the Newark Campus of Ohio State University and Central Ohio Technical College. Attendees from around the world were on hand.

Pioneer Days held at Camp Ohio in a joint project with Knox County.

Johnny Clem Breakfast at Buckingham House in Newark, celebrating the legacy of Newark's Civil War hero.

Debut of the Bicentennial Parade Float in the Utica Old Fashioned Ice Cream Festival Parade.

- Bicentennial Float featured in nine parades across Licking County throughout the Bicentennial Year of 2008

U S Route 40/Historic National Road Cruise-In in conjunction with the National Road Yard Sale.

Debut of the Licking County Passport Program led by the Greater Licking County Convention and Visitors Bureau – promoting local attractions and tourism.

June 2008...

Licking County Historical Society northern Licking County bus tour held.

Bowling Green Township Bicentennial event held featuring the Ohio National Road Association (ONRA) display that made several stops in Licking County throughout the year.

Hanover Independence Day Celebration (June 30) with a parade and festivities at the Licking Valley High School.

Open House and Tours of the historic Licking County Courthouse held in conjunction with the annual Law Day celebration.

July 2008...

Depot Days in Outville

- Centennial Farms book debuts – Licking County Soil and Water Conservation District Project

Bicentennial Salute by the Licking County Master Gardeners – “200 Years of Gardening”

- Licking County Bicentennial History Book debuts. By the end of 2008 some 250 soft-cover copies sold. Late in 2008 a hard cover version debuted and will be used as a legacy project with copies to public and school libraries, historical societies and others. In 2009 the Bicentennial Committee will hand-off ownership and distribution rights to the book to the Licking County Genealogy Society.

August 2008...

Bicentennial Community Art Celebration held in downtown Newark drawing large crowds.

Hartford Fair Sesquicentennial (150th annual) celebration held in conjunction with County Bicentennial.

Flint Ridge State Park Knap-In weekend celebration held.

Dawes Arboretum Outdoor Concert – Newark-Granville Symphony (Bluegrass-BBQ-Beethoven-Fireworks) held and attracting more than one-thousand concertgoers.

Bulletin Board Displays in the Southwest Licking and Licking Heights School Systems

- Debut of the limited edition Bicentennial Quilt Book with rights to be extended to The Works for use with the permanent display of the Bicentennial Quilt.

September 2008...

Annual Graveyard Walk at Cedar Hill Cemetery held in Newark

Pioneer Days at Camp Ohio in conjunction with Knox County.

- Debut of the Licking County Bicentennial Bell Pulls – limited edition of 100 were sold by year end.

October 2008...

Licking County Historical Society southern Licking County bus tour held.

Midland Event – Newark-Granville Symphony Bicentennial Concert with historical film footage (Our Town-Newark) and current video images set to music.

November 2008...

Bicentennial Passport Program concludes with an Abe Lincoln themed event at the Licking County Public Library downtown Newark location.

December 2008...

60th annual Christmas Lighting of the Licking County Courthouse held and drawing some three thousand to downtown Newark.

Unveiling of the Licking County Township Bicentennial Recognition Markers held at Buckingham House. The program was designed to honor the veterans from all of Licking County's Townships who have served the nation in the armed forces. This Bicentennial project was sponsored by the County Historical Society and underwritten by the

County Veterans Service Commission. The bronze plaques will be distributed to all townships for permanent display.

Final Bicentennial event 2008 held in the historic West Courtroom of the Licking County Courthouse. One Common Pleas Court Judge (Richard Wright) and seven Licking County Public Officials (Commissioner Timothy Bubb, Commissioner Brad Feightner, Engineer Tim Lollo, Sheriff Randy Thorp, Clerk of Courts Gary Walters, Treasurer Mike Smith and Prosecutor Ken Oswalt) received their oaths to public office. Some 200 people attended the impressive event led by Judge Jon Spahr.

Publications and Materials of the Bicentennial Year...

Images of America – Licking County book (photo history book)

Township History of Licking County book (text and photos)

Centennial Farms History book (text and photos)

Licking County Bicentennial Quilt pamphlet

Licking County Bicentennial Bell Pull (decorative item)

Licking County Bicentennial Map (Engineer's map)

Licking County Bicentennial Flag Logo 'refrigerator magnet'

Custom made Collector's Edition Licking County Flag

Outdoor Nylon Licking County Flag

Bicentennial Notes...

The Bicentennial Commission agreed to donate the Bicentennial Quilt to the people of Licking County through ownership by the County Board of Commissioners. A written agreement with The Works will be completed to make that the permanent display site, with certain stipulations to guarantee the proper display and long term preservation of this unique piece. A permanent custom display cabinet has been ordered and an 'opening' event at The Works is planned for mid 2009. Also, the color 'quilt pamphlet' booklet will be

passed along to The Works so that it will be available for further reproduction.

The soft cover book by Sondra Gartner/Connie Rutter 'Images of America – Licking County' will continue to be available at retail outlets through Acadia Publishing. As a gift to the community the royalties on the sale of this book will continue to be donated to Licking County Christmas Courthouse Lighting project.

The Century Farm Book will continue to be available through the Licking County Soil and Water Office in the soft and hard cover versions. Using County Bicentennial funds a supply of the Farm Books has also been ordered and will be legacy donations from the Bicentennial Commission. Committee member Dan Fleming has plated the donation books in the name of the Licking County Bicentennial Commission.

The 'Licking County History' by Dan Fleming/Robert Tharp was a popular publication. The Bicentennial Commission and the authors are donating the ownership, reproduction and distribution rights to the Licking County [Genealogical](#) Society for their benefit. Also, a supply of hard covered copies were donated to public libraries, historical groups, and high school libraries as a legacy project.

The limited edition 'Bell Pulls' were a popular Bicentennial collectors item. The supply of 100-pieces sold out by the end of 2008.

The Bicentennial/Township plaques, honoring the Veterans in our community, were completed at no cost to the Committee. The Licking County Veterans Service Commission sponsored the custom bronze plaques made for each township to be put on permanent display by the respective townships. Community member Gloria Hoover led this effort and received considerable assistance from the Licking County Historical Society.

The Bicentennial Commission sold a 'limited edition' custom indoor County flags and several dozen nylon outdoor flags in 2008 on request. The 'County Flag Awareness Project' was a Bicentennial priority. In addition to the 3x5 indoor and outdoor flags, the Bicentennial Float, several thousand of small flag magnets, and the considerable use of the County Flag image as the Bicentennial logo seems to have accomplished the goal of getting the County Flag better recognized in the community.

In 2009 a compilation and publication of the historical short stories or 'Bicentennial Vignettes', that were featured in local media and websites during 2008, will take place. After a limited distribution the long term rights to the Vignette collection will go to the Licking County Historical Society for reproduction and distribution.

* The list prepared by Licking County Bicentennial Commission Chairman and County Commissioner Timothy Bubb (February 2009)