

SAHC eNews

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Ghost Towns Revisited at SAHC Annual Membership Meeting



Richard Cooley, left, and Kevin Maynard pose with the historic marker at Denmark, an extinct village north of Edgerton. The pair will offer a tour of area ghost towns at the SAHC Annual General Membership Meeting on November 10. (SAHC photo)

Local historians Kevin Maynard and Richard L. Cooley will discuss the area's extinct and forgotten villages with an armchair tour of local ghost towns at the Stryker Area Heritage Council's Annual General Membership Meeting on November 10.

The pair's presentation, which drew two standing-room-only audiences last spring, features the stories behind defunct villages including Edinburg, St. Joseph, Freedom,

Southport, Parkersburg, Williamsport and Pleasant Hill.

"These towns were all formally surveyed and recorded," Maynard said. "Some, such as Pleasant Hill, existed only on paper. Others flourished for a time, featuring businesses, homes, churches, post offices and schools before fading into oblivion."

"A number of ghost towns, including Freedom, were platted in hopes of becoming the Williams County seat," Cooley

stated. "Others vanished due to a rival village or lack of good transportation facilities."

Maynard and Cooley have researched, written and presented local history for more than two decades. Both men are past president of the Williams County Historical Society and coauthored the WCHS publications "A Guide to Williams County's History" and "Temple of Justice: The Story of Williams County's Court-houses."

Copies of the "Ghost Towns of Williams County" presentation have been published in booklet form and will be available at the event, with proceeds benefiting the SAHC's programs and operations.

The meeting will begin with a banquet style Swiss steak dinner served with mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, roll, salad and dessert for \$10 per person. Reservations may be made until November 1 by completing and submitting the reservation form on Page 2, by emailing info@strykerahc.org or by calling SAHC Secretary

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STRYKER AREA HERITAGE COUNCIL 2009 Annual General Membership Meeting Reservation Form

I would like to reserve ____ meals at \$10 each for the 2009 STRYKER AREA HERITAGE COUNCIL Annual General Membership Meeting, to be held November 10, 2009, at the Stryker United Methodist Church. I have enclosed a check or money order for \$ _____. *Make all checks and money orders payable to the STRYKER AREA HERITAGE COUNCIL.*

Name(s) _____

Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ email _____

Mail completed reservation form with payment to:

STRYKER AREA HERITAGE COUNCIL

P.O. Box 180
Stryker, OH 43557

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Phil Short at 419.682.6421. Payment may be made at the door, but reservations are required by November 1.

Members will also elect representatives to the SAHC Board of Trustees and hear an update on the SAHC's 2008-

2009 progress.

The Stryker Area Heritage Council Annual General Membership meeting begins at 6 p.m. at the Stryker United Methodist Church, 301 Cherry Street, Stryker, and is open to SAHC members and the public.

For additional information, check the SAHC website at www.strykerahc.org. 🐣

The SAHC eNews is an occasional publication of the STRYKER AREA HERITAGE COUNCIL, a non-profit organization. Complimentary subscriptions are provided to SAHC members. To join, contact the SAHC at P.O. Box 180, Stryker, OH 43557, by telephone at 419.373.0310, or via email at info@strykerahc.org. The SAHC eNews is edited by Kevin Maynard, 1436 Muirfield Drive, Bowling Green, OH 43402; email kevinmaynard@woh.rr.com.

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