



Anna District  
*Historical Society*  
Anna • Kettlersville • McCartyville

# Skipping Village Gazette

## Anna HS Girls' Basketball A Brief History

State, regional, district, and county championship trophies won over the years by the Lady Rockets basketball teams are proudly displayed in the trophy cases at the high school. Obviously, the community is proud of the success of the program which has just wrapped up another season. However, many may not be aware of the interesting history of the sport at Anna.



Seated: Ruth Schroeder, Waneta Nolte, Wilma Moothart Standing: Martha Milliette, Gladys Fogt, Bernice Naugle, Margaret Wohrle, Marie Curtis

The earliest known organized girls' team at Anna was the team of 1926-27. Rules at that time made the game quite different than

what spectators watch today: there could be up to nine players per team, and the court was divided into three areas. Players were assigned to each area (guard, center, and forward) and could not cross the line into another area. The ball was moved from section to section by passing or dribbling, and players were limited to three dribbles and could only hold the ball for three seconds (any longer would incur a foul). No "snatching" or batting the ball away from another player was allowed. A center jump was required after each score.

Most of these modifications from the rules of the boys' game were put in place to keep the girls' games from becoming "too strenuous and causing nervous fatigue" for the participants, a concept which is laughable today. However, this attitude continued to grow, not only in Ohio but throughout the United States. Finally, in 1939 the member high schools of the OHSAA (Ohio High School Athletic Association) voted by a margin of 2-1 to discontinue interscholastic basketball for girls as of September 1, 1940.

*Welcome to our newest ADHS members...*

*Jack Richard, Nina Boyer, Deb Holobaugh,  
David and Denise Poeppelman, Jerry and Margo  
Meyer, Tim and Mabel Mann*

*Welcome and thanks for your generous  
support of the Anna District Historical  
Society! (Please let us know if we have  
inadvertently missed your name, and we will add  
it to our next newsletter list.)*

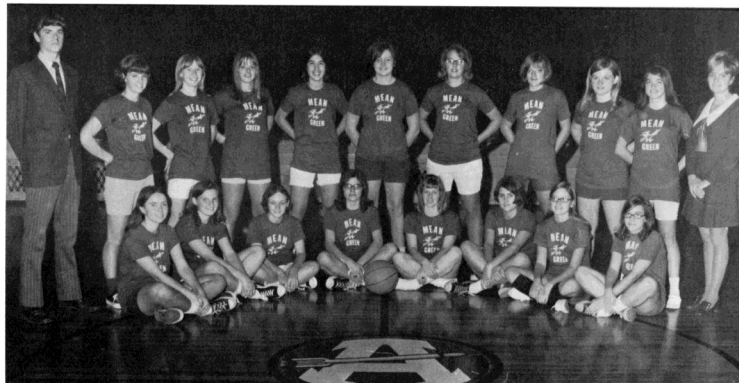


The last Anna High School girls' team before the shut-down of the sport in 1940: (not in order on picture) Maxine Billing, Dorothy Egbert, Marian Egbert, Irene Grilliot, Henrietta Riethman, Louise Winner, Betty Ailes, Rita Drees, Betty Fogt, Eileen Fosnight, Phyllis Schiff, Eileen Watercutter, Edna Werling, Coach Dorothy Billing, and Manager Velma Billing.

After 40 years, interscholastic girls' basketball finally made it's return with the 1970-71 team pictured at right. The players were instructed to wear their "Mean Green" t-shirts with whatever shorts they could find as uniforms. The girls' mothers either sewed or taped numbers on the backs of the shirts. Since the high school gym was already in use by the high school, junior high, and upper elementary boys' teams, all of the high school girls' games were played in the gym at the school in McCartyville that first year.

It is remarkable after that shaky return of girls' basketball at Anna that a state championship was won in 1981 by the Lady Rockets.

Below are the first teams of the modern era at Anna High School, the teams of 1970-71.



Reserve Seated: J. Kindred, D. Barker, J. Koger, D. Schiff, R. Zimpfer, J. McMaster, J. Albers, D. Shuster. ASSISTANT COACH: M. Bonnoront.  
 Varsity Standing: C. Maurer, S. Christman, K. Alexander, N. Egbert, T. Bergman, M. Meyer, D. Alexander, J. Elsass, T. Francis. COACH: Miss Nicholson



## HELP US PRESERVE OUR HISTORY

Please consider becoming a member of the Anna District Historical Society.

Name of member \_\_\_\_\_

Name of spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Children under 18 \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Single Membership - \$20 yearly \_\_\_\_\_

Family Membership - \$25 yearly \_\_\_\_\_

Lifetime Membership - \$500 \_\_\_\_\_

Leveled Monthly Membership \_\_\_\_\_

(minimum of \$10 monthly; please contact Randy Wentz if interested at 419.234.7660)

Mail to: ANNA DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY, P.O. Box 133, Anna, OH 45302

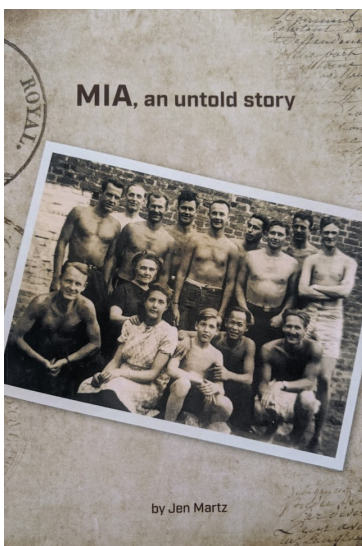
# New Books by Local Authors Available

The ADHS is proud to feature two books this month by local authors, Virginia Schiff Fields and Jen Boyer Martz. Both women grew up in Anna, and Jen Martz still resides in the village.

Jen Martz's book, *MIA, an untold story*, tells the story of her father, Harold Boyer, and his WWII experiences after his plane was shot down over France, and he was officially listed as missing in action.

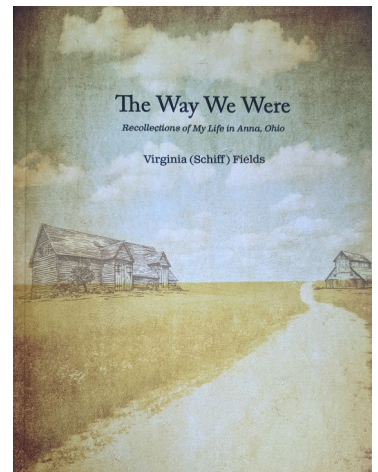
As a young girl, Jen, baby boomer and daughter of the Greatest Generation, often asked her father for stories of his experiences in WWII. For his own reasons, her father was hesitant to share his recollections with her. So the mystery remained until after Harold Boyer passed in November of 2000.

Then, quite unexpectedly, a number of events occurred which would lead the author to his stories and her answers. Jen's daughter, Brittany, discovered declassified information on the internet regarding Harold's experiences, his letters from 1940 - 1946 were found in the family's attic, and finally, Jen made a pilgrimage to Europe to discover many places and people that had been part of Harold's MIA experience.



This book is a daughter's labor of love to make known her father's untold story of his time spent at a French Resistance "safe house" in Nazi-occupied France. Signed copies are available for purchase at the Packer Historical Center for \$17 each.

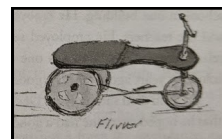
Born in 1917, Virginia Fields grew up in Anna and has lived her entire life in the Shelby County. In her book, *The Way We Were*, she deftly describes everyday life from childhood through married life to Chalmer Fields, a soldier during WWII.



She recalls the simple joys of childhood, the demanding chores of a household without furnace or running water, the daunting yet everyday tasks of raising and preserving food, laundry and home remedies.

Step back into time where entertainment was self-made or, perhaps, a visit from the occasional Medicine Show. Find out what school was like, how young folks met and dated, and how transportation changed their lives. Virginia takes us through the streets of Anna and describes each place of business and the personalities found within.

Her illustrations are whimsical yet accurate, and will take you back to a simpler time. Signed copies of Virginia's book will be available soon for purchase at the Packer Historical Center for \$10 each.



## Technology Update

The technology equipment has been installed and is ready for use, including internet service. A guest password is available for those working at the Packer Historical Center.

We also have phone service including voicemail. The phone number for the Packer Center is 937-646-0011. Voicemail will be checked twice weekly for any new messages.

**Anna District Historical Society**

112 West Main Street

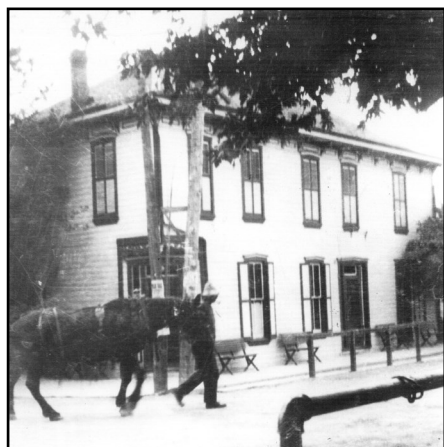
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Anna, OH 45302

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**ANNA, OH 45302**

# Out of McCartyville's Past...



**Flaute's Hotel** was purchased from Peter Hierholtzer circa 1880 and stood at the southwest corner of SR 29 and SR 119 in McCartyville. (above)

Pictured at right is the **McCartyville School Band** from April 20, 1950, led by Sister Mary Alphonsa.

**Anna District Historical Society**

112 W. Main Street, P.O. Box 133

Anna, OH 45302

Website: [www.adhs-oh.org](http://www.adhs-oh.org)

Phone: 937-646-0011

Carol Carity, *President*

Kathleen Eshleman, *Vice President*

Susan Bertsch, *Treasurer*

Carol Wentz, *Secretary*



1st Row: Ed Schroeder, Jerry Grilliot, Jerry Watercutter. 2nd Row: Mary Margaret Bornhorst, Phyllis Watercutter, Theresa Gepfrey, Carol Watercutter, Teckla Albers, Bill Koverman, Lois Koverman, Margie Bensman, Bill Bornhorst. Back Row: Eloise Barhorst, Janet Schmidt, John Buehler, Joan Buehler, Joann Berning, Jeannie Platfoot, and Sister Mary Alphonsa (Sister Rose Habig).

## HOW CAN I HELP?

- BECOME AN ADHS MEMBER - Membership dues help us pay our operating cost and support the society's work.
- ASSIST WITH BUILDING MAINTENANCE, ETC. - Contact Randy Wentz if interested. [rwentz915@gmail.com](mailto:rwentz915@gmail.com)

Hours for the Packer Historical Center  
Sundays 1-4pm and Thursdays 6-8pm