



The John and Annie Glenn Museum National Road and Zane Grey Museum



Newsletter

Museum Association of East Muskingum

December 2025

Dear Friend,

Each December we pause to share the story of our yearly accomplishments at both the National Road and Zane Grey Museum and the John and Annie Glenn Museum. It is our privilege to live in a community rich in history and people whose vitality is rooted in stories of family, traditions, and civic celebrations. While both museums play a significant role in the ongoing meaningful traditions and celebrations, we challenge ourselves to consider new traditions and celebrations.

Anticipating 2026 - It will be a year like no other, the **250th Anniversary** of the founding of our nation. "America 250" will offer national, state, and local celebrations providing memorable times for everyone. The museum planning team has been collaborating with regional leaders and planners to ensure we are informed, involved, and aware of the birthday events. See page 4 for a partial schedule of activities and plans. Stay tuned!

Appreciating 2025 - The face of the M.A.E.M. office has changed. We are in a small building, located west of the Glenn Museum parking area. At the time when we were looking for a new office location, we received an unexpected generous gift from the estate of a former volunteer, Carol Campbell. Her gift enabled us to purchase the building, now known as the Carol Campbell Office Building. See page 6 to read about Carol's legacy. We are grateful for her gift and the support of her family.

Another significant face change occurred at National Road Zane Grey Museum (1973) where OHC has updated the building with much needed new siding, updated lighting, and upgraded heating and cooling system. With great appreciation, we thank the Ohio History Connection (OHC) for providing these much-needed improvements.

Open the newsletter to learn more about some of the activities of our enthusiastic staff and volunteers: Zane Grey Family Day, Annie Glenn Tea and Tunes, Space Days, New Concord Community Day, Friends of New Concord, Sounds of the Season, Christmas Open House, Firemen's Festival. We invite you to visit the museums and perhaps become a volunteer. If you would like to support us financially, you will find a return form on the back of the newsletter. Wishing you the best in 2026. Sincerely,

Executive Director



Zane Grey Family Day

Kicking off the museum season always begins with Zane Grey Day at the National Road Museum. Although the morning began with some drizzle, which moved some vendors indoors, it didn't keep guests from visiting. In fact, the vendors were quite pleased to be set up in various locations in the museum. Homemade soaps, craft items, informational tables about the Zane Grey Society, Soil and Water Conservation, and Tourism were popular, as well as a Western writer.

Outdoors, children could learn about fishing and outdoor cooking. The barbecue and lemonade stand served quality food to hungry guests. Children could make and take crafts and spin-the-wheel for some Western souvenirs. The JGHS cheerleaders assisted by painting faces. Music was provided by Ethan Timm.

Would there be a baseball game or not? Because of that morning drizzle, that became the question of the morning, but the Muffins arrived ready to play against local players. This game always draws a crowd, and while spectators are enjoying the competition, they are learning about the history of this American sport. We think Zane Grey would have approved. And why not? We offered fishing, baseball, outdoor fun, and great food, and we will continue with this celebration again at the end of April. Thanks to all of our volunteers who make all of our museum days possible.



Annie Glenn Tea and Tunes

Celebrating Annie Glenn is something the John and Annie Glenn Museum does for visitors with every tour, but we also remember her with an annual tea each spring.

The 2025 theme, Tea and Tunes, offered guests the opportunity to share Annie's love for music. Performing for the two teatimes was local musician and Muskingum adjunct professor Cheryl Wise, who treated everyone to some relaxing background music. The morning session offered special sweet treats along with the tea, and the afternoon included tea sandwiches furnished by volunteer Janice McCloud.

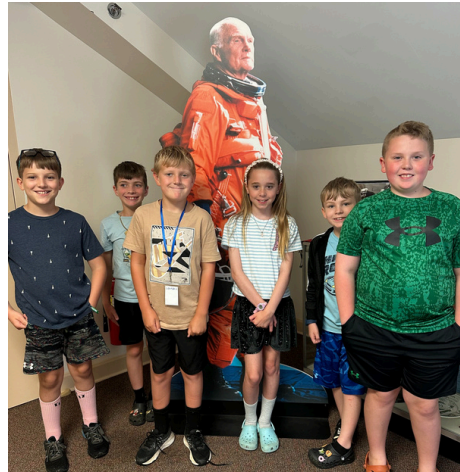
For many, the tea is a chance for local friends to gather, but we also welcomed guests from the Akron and Columbus areas. Reminiscent of 1940s and 50s tea parties, some guests even wore hats and white gloves. One mother has made the tea a tradition with her daughter. What a special way to spend quality time together! Plans are underway for the 2026 tea to be held in March, and this one will be even more special.

Space Days

On July 14 and 15, 2025, the John and Annie Glenn Museum in New Concord celebrated astronaut, John Glenn's birthday with a Space Days event centered on electricity. The museum highlights Glenn's birthday, July 18, each year with a themed program connected to his career with NASA.

The 2025 Space Days event brought students ages 9-12 to the museum to learn about the roles of electric circuits and the dangers of static electricity in spacecraft. During the morning session, students used colored holiday lights clipped from strands, alligator clips, and batteries to complete electric circuits. They experimented with batteries of different voltages as power sources and discovered that, unless wires were connected in proper sequence, electricity wouldn't flow. As a result of their efforts, students learned the differences between electric conductors and insulators. From those discoveries they were able to generate an understanding of safe electrical practices.

At noon, on each of the days, lunch was donated by Wally's Pizza. During the afternoon sessions, students experimented in creating static electricity using ordinary items. Wiffle ball bats, balloons, wool fabric, aluminum soda cans, Kool-Aid powder and paper shreds played an important role in discovering static electricity's attractive and repulsive forces. We learned that static electricity can be very dangerous inside a spacecraft.



As always, the afternoon ended with the explosive fun of water rocket launches. Two-liter soda bottles containing small amounts of water became missiles propelled to great heights by air from a bicycle pump. To conclude the day, students were given a book from the Scholastic Publishing Company and sponsored by a donation from Park National Bank. The generosity of our sponsors is greatly appreciated.

New Concord Community Day

New Concord's Community Day is a great celebration of the community that raised John Glenn and so we offer free walk through tours of the John and Annie Glenn Museum. This is a wonderful chance for locals to see the museum and we brought in over 200 visitors that day. We also participated in the shop walk for Muskingum University students and gave plenty of goody bags with home made cookies to those calling Muskingum their home. There was live music, a beer garden and vendors set up in Village Park. Friends of New Concord was kind enough to allow us to set up an informational table featuring our plans to celebrate America turning 250.



America 250

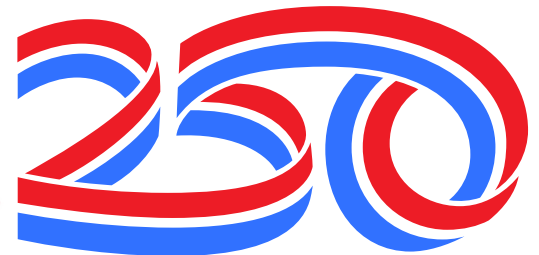
Get ready because we have a year full of fantastic events to celebrate the United States turning 250 years old. For the past two years, we have been honored to be included in some state-wide initiatives such as the Tails and Trails created by Ohio 250. The John and Annie Glenn Museum is part of the Air and Space Trail while the National Road and Zane Grey Museum in both the Ohio Creativity Trail and the Ohio Innovation Trail. Getting a little closer to home, in February we hosted a book talk in conjunction with Muskingum 250 that brought an overflowing amount of guests to the National Road and Zane Grey Museum classroom.

Keep an eye out for these new and improved events as we head into the new year:

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|----------------|------------------------------------------|
| January 24 | Village Entrance Sign Dedication |
| February 21 | Re-dedication of the Glenn Plumbing Sign |
| March 21 | Western Film Showing |
| April 25 | Zane Grey Family Day |
| May 5 | Paint and Sip with NCAARD |
| June 15 and 16 | Carol Campbell Nature Camp |
| July 11 | New Concord Heritage Day |
| September 5 | New Concord Community Day |
| November 11 | New Concord Veterans Program |
| November 30 | Holiday Open House |
| December 6 | Sounds of the Season |



AMERICA



More information to come!

National Road and Zane Grey Museum Updates

Big changes are underway at the National Road and Zane Grey Museum. The museum opened in 1973 and has stood proudly encased in a siding of the best weather-resistant cedar. Age, however, has taken its toll. Now the Ohio History Connection has set aside money to replace the worn exterior with a new composite siding made of rice hulls melded in a plastic matrix. The project is moving forward through the efforts of Lepi Enterprises and is projected to be completed in time for the opening of our 2026 season.

Electrical and lighting improvements along with security updates have been completed and plans are underway to hydrate our beautiful Conestoga Wagon. The OHC collections and exhibits departments are working hard to refresh the artifacts and memorabilia within the display cases. In addition, the museum's 135-foot-long diorama will receive a complete face-lift. New posters in the classroom will complete the visible upgrades to entice visitors to spend more time there.



Friends of New Concord Euchre Night



Did you know that we rent out facilities within our museums for events? In February, the Friends of New Concord hosted a community euchre night. They decorated the building inside and out with a St. Patrick's Day theme. Every seat was taken. Congratulations to the grand prize winner, Debbie Ashton Gingerich! Thank you, Friends of New Concord for including us in such a fun-filled fundraising event. We hope to see more events hosted at our museums in the upcoming new year!



Sounds of the Season

The Sounds of the Season are provided annually by the John Glenn High School show choir, JG Company, and their strolling strings group, String Sounds. The National Road and Zane Grey Museum pottery room provides beautiful acoustics that reverberate festive cheer throughout the museum. Free walk through tours are offered to visitors alongside cookies and refreshments. Every year this event has standing room only, and we would not want it any other way. Thank you so much to the performers and their wonderfully supportive families that make this event so joyous.



Christmas Open House

This year's Christmas Open House was well attended. We had over **200** visitors and the village was chock full of families taking the time to enjoy some holiday cheer.

The New Concord Board of Trade added a little extra sparkle to the event by organizing the annual New Concord Christmas Parade and a new Santa Village complete with vendors, a petting zoo and, of course, the man himself.

We could not do this event without our amazing volunteers who baked homemade cookies, served hot chocolate and braved the cold just to see joy brought to our visitors.



Thank you, Carol!

New Office

The Museum Association has a new office, thanks to Carol Campbell! Carol was a long-time educator for East Muskingum Schools and she was a long-time supporter of our museums. When she passed away in **2023** she graciously made a monetary bequest to the Museum Association in her will. We were then looking at options for office space, and when the little building behind the Glenn Museum became available, we decided that would be a good use of her funds. It has worked out great and we're thrilled with our Carol Campbell Office Building.

We also intend to do some educational programming in her name. When we learned that she was a nature lover, we partnered with the Muskingum Valley Parks District and will present the first Carol Campbell Nature Camp at National Road Museum next summer. We thank Carol for her support and generosity. Her legacy will live on.

Internships and Student Workers

Our student workers bring a vibrant passion to our museums and we are very thankful for their dedication.

University Students:
Tanner Caudill, Megan Morrow, Betsy Johnson, Alyssa Derry, and Amanda Spillman are from Muskingum University. Allison Goschke is from Kent State University and Caleb Silvia attends Heidelberg University.



High School Students:
Clare Coll, Grace Allred and Addison Derry are from East Muskingum Schools. Colin Nethers is from Tri-Valley and Leah Sonderman attends Meadowbrook.



Staff



Back: Hope Neal [Assistant Director of Operations] and Betsy Taylor [Educational Specialist]
Front: Carol Montague [Gift Shop Attendant], George St. Clair [Gift Shop Attendant], and Debbie Allender [Director of Operations]
Not pictured: Laura Holmes [Operational Assistant]

Board of Trustees



Back: Derrick Gingerich, David Huston [Vice President], Trent Cubbison, Keith Eberly, David Adams, George St. Clair [President], Jeremy Morrow [Treasurer], Renee Coll, Barb Hansen [Executive Director], Levi Shegog.
Middle: Debbie Allender [Director of Operations]
Front: Clyta Young [Emeritus]

We added a few new Emeritus Status Board Members this year: Clyta Young along with Lorle Porter and Don McKendry who were inducted Posthumous. The time and effort they each dedicated to our museums will be remembered for years to come.

Volunteers



National Road and Zane Grey Museum
Back: David Huston, Alice Ross, Less Hoffmann
Front: Maryann DeVold, Connie Dingus, Sandie Morrison, Betty Hoffmann
Not pictured: Becky Cook, Sandy Harstine, John Moon



John and Annie Glenn Museum
Back: Mike Bennett, Rick Booth, David Huston, Marsha Phelps, Buck Phelps, Tom Davey, Julia Swan
Front: Matt Allred, Janice McCloud, Mary Klemens, Mary Jo Moody, Carolin Parks, Maryann DeVold, Margo Johnston
Not pictured: Sara Klein, Joel Linnabary

Volunteer Training is Saturday, April 11, 2026

10:00 a.m. for the John and Annie Glenn Museum and 11:30 a.m. for the National Road and Zane Grey Museum

Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers! 7

Museum Association of East Muskingum

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www.johnandannieglennmuseum.org

www.nationalroadandzanegreymuseum.org

Date: _____

Your donation to the annual fund will support the educational mission of the John and Annie Glenn Museum and the National Road and Zane Grey Museum.

I wish to pledge \$_____ per year for 3 years. **2025 2026 2027**

I wish to pledge \$_____ per year for 5 years. **2025 2026 2027 2028 2029**

I wish to make a one-time donation \$_____

____ I am interested in learning about volunteer opportunities

Scan the QR code to donate online

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Address _____

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Email _____

This gift is in honor of _____ or in memory of _____



The John and Annie Glenn Museum Foundation DBA Museum Association of East Muskingum is a 501 (C) (3) tax-exempt, publicly supported organization. Contributions are fully deductible to the extent permitted by law.