

Code: 517074  
Subject: Jon Elsasser(517074)  
Date: Tuesday June 24, 2008  
Interviewer: Josh Witting  
Special Notes:  
Minutes:

- 0 introduction
- 1 Moved because of history
- 2 President of Zoar Board of Ohio Erie Canal,  
Trail ends in Zoar right now but trying to move forward. Involved because of Zoar
- 3 Community organizations
- 4 Christmas in Zoar
- 5 Member of the Zoar Board. Harvest festival explanation. Separate days
- 6 Craft and antiques important. Crafts are dying out because of more imports.
- 7 Involved Dave Ewing got him involved with Canal Heritage Organization.  
Can bring visitors New way to attract people is through recreation. History is not as
- 8 important
- 9 President by default. Dick Leibolt was tired and he took it over.
- 10 All volunteer but expenses are same. In his 6th year as president.
- 11 Zoar projects involved in. 2001 Zoar Civil War Incampment. Every two years.  
19th century town. Enactors love coming Also renovated the town Hall. Canal Museum
- 12 on first floor
- 13 Leibolt and Knack were real founders/ Open when Ohio Historical Society not here.  
Three DVD's about zoar. Walking tours with a CD. History of Canal Era. Present Day
- 14 CD
  
- 15 Too expensive to do distance learning. Tried but too costly so gave to Tusky Valley High
- 16 New Parking Lot below Zoar Tavern. Improved cemetery.  
Publish books about Zoar. Jack Adisom Zoar pottery. Zoar Furniture. Zoar industrial
- 17 goods.
- 18 Brick yard, brewery, foundry, Brooms, Zoar textiles. Zoar Art
  
- 19 Renovating an old out building, Across from school house. Use for educational building.
- 20 Surfaced the trail between fort Laurens and Zoar. Dan Rice involved with bridge over
- 21 Over Canal restored 1887 Iron Bridge On towpath road. Old Bridge over Tuscarawas.
- 22 Damaged when we had flood in 2005.  
Civil War only every other year because of on in Mesopotamia. They did it but then quit.
- 23 Weekend before Tuscarawas Fair.  
Zoar became successful because of the Canal. They built the canal and were paid for it
- 24 so they could pay their debts on the land.  
Important today because of recreation and quality of life. Biking is very heavily used liked
- 25 between here and Navarre.
- 26 Towpath will help business. Quality of life.
- 27 Maybe help keep kids and people here,  
good things Civil War: Bridge over 77; Bridge over River (Iron) Hurdles Money, time,
- 28 and people.  
Getting good people to volunteer. More time is being used with business, school
- 29 activities, commitment.
  
- 30 People that use the bridge love it. May have made it too wide. Asset in the long run.
- 31 Would not have been used for education because it came from ODOT.
- 32 Zoar likes visitors so the Parking lot was good idea.

Efforts have benefited by helping to develop the lands and give people the opportunity to  
33 develop businesses.

34 Preserved things that would not have been preserved.

Timing is slower than wished. Set back 2005 flooding. Closing of the Tavern had big  
35 impact.

Need more economic business. On Ohio Historical Society. Funding has had hard time  
36 doing what they would like.

Future will continue what has been going on. Will make progress because of the Canal  
37 Corridor.

Helping get a different kind of volunteer. Hopefully get more people wanting to move to  
38 Zoar.

39 Much history in this area Schoenbrun. Today much is going on.

40 Advertising over a 10 year period over \$100,000

41 Ask people how people found out about events. Mostly word of mouth.

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