



# GRINDSTONE AWARD



**2003**

**Patsy Slater**

Volunteer, organizer and a lover of our community are the adjectives that best describe Patsy Slater. During the 40 plus years she has been a resident of Berea, she has been involved in the Bud and Bloom Garden Club (Past President), Shade Tree Commission (current Chairman), scouts, PTA and PTA Council (various leadership roles), Music Boosters (President), and currently President of the Berea Area Historical Society.

While serving on the Shade Tree Commission for over 21 years, Pat has helped catalog the oldest trees in Berea. Planting trees throughout the community is another function of the Shade Tree Commission. Through Pat's hard work Berea has been designated as "Tree City USA" for 18 years.

The flower boxes at the north entrance to Berea was one of her pet projects through the Bud and Bloom Garden Club and you can see her around town tending to other Bud and Bloom beautification projects.

Pat served on the steering committee to bring Ohio Chautauqua, a four day event of daily historical interpretations and programs to Berea. Berea was one of five sites in Ohio privileged to be chosen for this event and honor in June 2002. The event under a big tent brought the City of Berea, Baldwin-Wallace College, Berea Historical Society, Berea City Schools and the Berea Chamber of Commerce together in a memorable collaborative contribution to

the community.

One of Pat's biggest contributions to Berea was her willingness to take on the volunteer task of president of the Berea Historical Society after the untimely death of Eloise Tressel, an earlier Grindstone Award winner. Being president of the Berea Historical Society is a very time-consuming job. The museum is open 4 days a week throughout the year which requires staffing on those days. The Museum also hosts a full schedule of activities including garage sales, monthly meetings and receptions throughout the year.

State awarded Historical Markers pointing out the historic significance of Berea have been erected in the past few years under Pat's leadership. Every Historical Marker requires hours of research and paperwork from start to finish. Some of the historical markers in Berea are located on the triangle, the old railroad depot, and the little red schoolhouse.

Recently Pat and Jim have been very active in trying to get a day care inspection ordinance passed in Berea. They have been motivated by the death of their infant granddaughter while in a day care center.

She and her husband Jim are the parents of four sons, Tom, Steve, Jeff and Doug. In her spare time, Pat still finds time to play in several bridge groups. Her leadership skills continue to promote Berea as a great place to live, raise children and enjoy the attributes of a historic community.

Presented April 20, 2004

Holiday Inn Select, Strongsville, Ohio