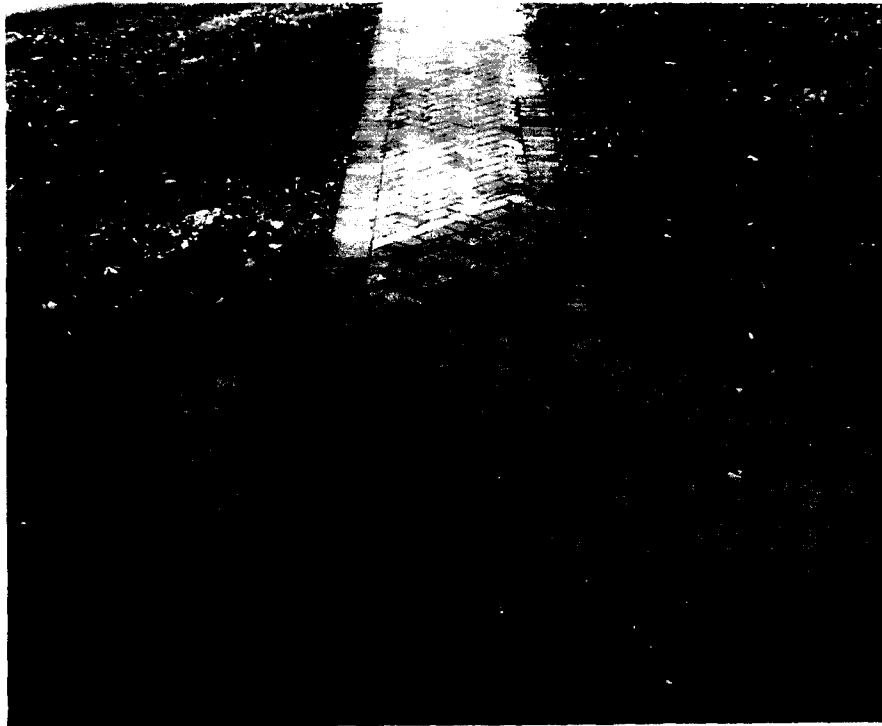


*October* **Newsletter** *November*  
~~2008~~ 2009 and ~~2008~~ ~~2009~~  
New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society

P.O. Box 219  
New Albany, Ohio 43054  
(614) 855-9861

[www.newalbanyplaintownshiphistoricalsociety.org](http://www.newalbanyplaintownshiphistoricalsociety.org)



*The newly reconstructed brick walk leading from the Ealy House front steps to the public sidewalk.*

## Lois Whealey and the Ranneys

### HOLIDAY DINNER PARTY, Thursday, Dec. 3

**THURS. DECEMBER 3, 6:30 p.m.** -- Holiday Dinner at the New Albany Methodist Church

**Menu:** Ham Loaf or Chicken Parmesan (choose 1)  
Twice-baked potato, green beans, salad,  
dessert, choice of beverage.

**Price:** \$13.00

**Reservations:** Mail check and choice of entrée to Helen Pestel, 8355 New Albany-Condit Rd., Westerville, OH 43081, by Monday, Nov. 30. Otherwise, phone Helen at 855-3765 or Marty Saveson at 855-9809 by Nov. 30.

Sharon Carter is heading a committee to provide table decorations. Marty Saveson and Kathy Yager are in charge of a program. The church will be decked out for the holidays, so come prepared for a festive evening.

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### OTHER DATES TO REMEMBER

**TUES. DEC. 8** -- Board Meeting

**TUES. JANUARY 5** --7 p.m. Board Meeting

**THURS. JAN. 7** -- 7 p.m. Society Meeting at the Plain Township Fire Station.

**Program:** Rhonda Anderson, on the "Inquiry Kids" project in the Elementary School, featuring Daniel Thompson, Theresa Kempker, and Catherine Saveson.

**Hosts:** Patty and Willard Zarley

**TUES. Jan. 19** -- 7 p.m. Board Meeting  
Also, Newsletter Deadline

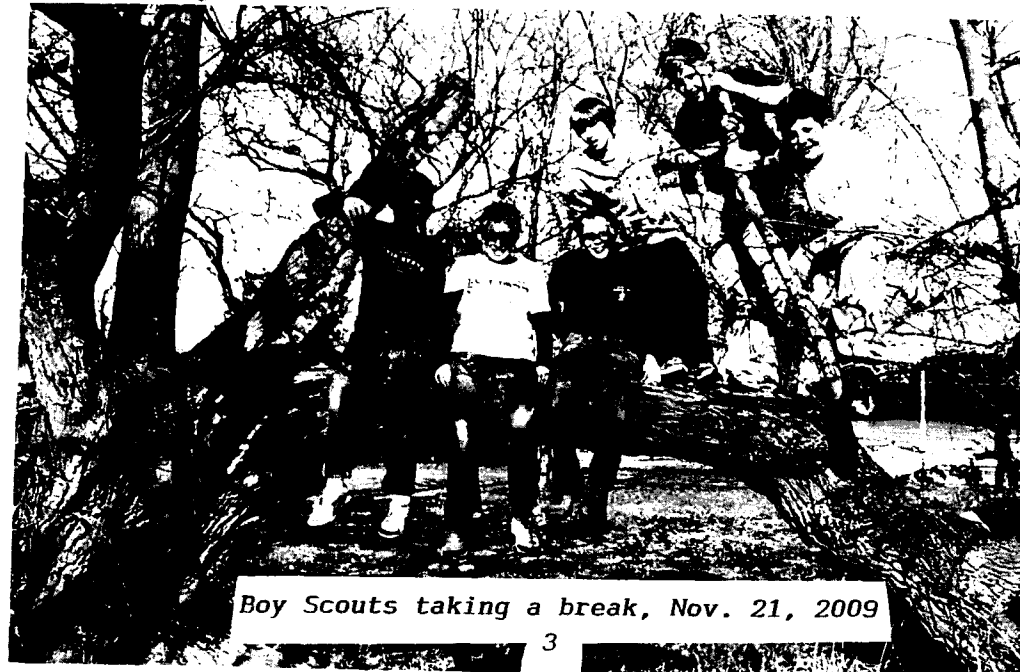
**THURS. FEBRUARY 4** -- 7 p.m., Society Meeting in the New Albany Library.

**NOTE: WORK DAYS** at the Dryer House or the Ealy House will be every Monday from 9 a.m. to about 11:30, until work starts on the porch and ramp. Call Helen at 855-3765 for information.

Lois Whealey, long-time member of our Society (though she resides in Athens, OH) and descendant of the New Albany Ranneys, recently sent us a very interesting document. She describes it thus in a letter dated Sept. 24, 2009:

"At some point Ann Ranney Abbott combed through the Dr. Ranney casebooks and compiled a long list of references to family (as opposed to all the patients he treated). She transcribed 12 pages of clear, careful writing--it's in Ann's own hand--about 30 lines to a page on ruled notebook paper." This will be deposited in the Ealy House library.

She adds, "It is clear that Ann Abbott's family are related to at least three of the six families" featured in John Saveson's pamphlet Plain Township: People and Places. "Dr. Sylvester Ranney's wife was Mary Campbell; his only son Boivin married Cordelia Strait; and their son Boivin Clark (1888-1985) married Mary (Martha?) Taylor after World War I; Ann Ranney Abbott, I believe, was their oldest child. So those are the Campbell, Strait and Taylor families." Lois Whealey is a mine of information about the Ranneys. We very much appreciate her sharing her genealogical findings with us.



Boy Scouts taking a break, Nov. 21, 2009

## BOY SCOUTS SPIFF UP RTD GROUNDS

On Saturday, Nov. 21, the Boy Scouts of Troop 317 (Gahanna) gave our Rose Taylor Dryer property a new look by cleaning up the entire yard. The leader of the project was Will Parker, who is working towards becoming an Eagle Scout. He saw our need, asked our permission, and planned the whole 6-hour day for 16 scouts. He assembled the tools and other necessities, and ordered the perfect weather for the big day of work. Scoutmaster Tom Liskay came, and four assistant leaders: John Shanks, Mike Swaney, Tony Condo, and Dr. Mike Parker. These men pitched in mightily also, wielding some of the bigger tools, including a power saw.

Here is a list of what the Scouts accomplished that day: (1) Removed nails from fence boards and stacked the boards; also stacked fence posts at the road (for free give-away). (2) Raked leaves into a gigantic pile. (3) Gathered trash, including broken glass. (4) Cut down briars and other brush and piled it up for pick-up. (5) Picked up all the fallen branches both big and small and piled them up. Go take a look. You will be impressed!



Back, l. to r. Scoutmaster Tom Liskay, Will Parker, and Assistant Scoutmaster Dr. Mike Parker. Younger Scouts in front.

Will had attended our Nov. 3 Society meeting, where he met Dennis Keese. Well, upon hearing about the Scouts' project, Dennis generously offered to provide pizzas for their lunch. The Savesons supplied cider, doughnuts, and fruit for breakfast, and Marty S. & Theresa Kempker baked cookies for later, so the boys were well fed.

Mayor Nancy Ferguson has foresightedly arranged for the Village to grind our piles of brush & limbs into mulch and take it away.

Thanks to John Saveson for spending many hours at the Dryer place in advance of the Scouts, preparing for them, and to Willard Zarley for making sure the cistern in front of the barn got filled. Both gentlemen spent time on the scene Saturday. Many, many thanks to the Boy Scouts and to all the others who pitched in. The Alspaugh's, who built the house in about 1870, would have been pleased.

## HARVEST THE ARTS FESTIVAL WAS THE PLACE TO BE

On October 10 the place to be was Dorans' farm, which was filled with pumpkins, scarecrows, music, and dancing. The Arts Council sponsored numerous arts booths and children's activities. Our own Historical Society set up a booth with baked goods, apple butter, and fancy gourds (grown by J. Saveson), tended by Helen Pestel, Marilyn Regrut, Naomi Fodor, and Patty Zarley. Thanks to Ray and Becky Burgess, Cath Saveson, and Willow Otten for running our scarecrow-making station.

The candle-dipping center was handled by Ann and John Liptak, with the help of Kathy Yager and Marty Saveson. Julie DiIullo, Steve Bevelhymer, and Don Shoemaker had set up the fireplaces and tubs ahead of time, but John Liptak had the grueling task of tending the fires all day long and carrying hot water and hot wax back and forth. We must provide more help next year for this very popular project, which children of all ages adore.



## GRANDPARENTS AND NEANDERTHALS

We all love our grandparents. Perhaps you have fond memories of yours giving you gifts at Christmas. But do not take grandparents for granted, since humans did not always have living grandparents. Grandparents may have led to humans being the dominant hominids that we are today.

40,000 years ago, two kinds of hominids, Neanderthals and humans (*Homo sapiens*) lived in Eurasia, which was experiencing massive amounts of climate change. The climate would go from ice age to normal and then back to ice age, and the fluctuation would happen over the course of a person's lifetime. This meant that the animals that one would hunt in one's childhood might not be around in one's adulthood. This posed a threat to any group that got used to hunting and gathering in one climate, since they would need to learn about new animals and plants. They had no one who had lived through the previous climate change to help them.

For reasons unknown, more humans started living longer about 30,000 years ago. This allowed humans to have more children, accumulate more knowledge, and pass more of that knowledge on to their children and grandchildren. This gave them an edge over Neanderthals, who did not live so long, and did not have anyone to pass on knowledge. And in the rapidly fluctuating climate in which the Neanderthals lived, this gave humans a competitive edge which may have led to the Neanderthals' decline and extinction.

Therefore, grandparents may have helped the humans to outsmart the Neanderthals.

--Henry Kempker

(Source: Kate Wong. "Twilight of the Neandertals /sic/." *Scientific American*, Aug. 2009: 32-37.)

Helen Pestel called the meeting to order. She announced that the Board meeting was held two weeks after the last meeting as mandated in the By-Laws to fill the vacancy of President and Vice President. Helen introduced Willard Zarley as president, and Neil Kirby as vice president. The meeting was turned over to Mr Zarley.

Minutes of the September meeting were read, motion to accept by Liz Feichter, second by Kathy Yager. All ayes.

Treasurer's report distributed and explained by Helen Pestel who explained that the sale of canning jars for \$4.00 is not included. Balance September 17, \$19,965.99. Motion to accept by Sharon Carter, second Liz Feichter. All ayes.

The president asked for **committee reports**:

**Ealy House**, the ARB approved the application Sept. 14. It will be sent to the New Albany Company for approval. Neil Kirby announced that two companies are preparing bids for construction. It was suggested that a special meeting be called in two weeks to consider the bids that will be available. This will be scheduled, Marty Saveson will arrange a meeting place, and members will be notified by phone.

The new side walk has been installed. Many present voiced approval of the way it looks. The old bricks were removed; many were in bad condition and crumbling. The intact old bricks have been stacked at the rear of the property.

**Harvest of the Arts**, Helen needs workers for the bake sale, Naomi will take care of the apple butter. Naomi inquired about the apple butter left over from the Founders Day boutique items. Theresa Kempker reported that apple cider can be sold by the jug only, no sales by the cup. Willard stated that this will be decided at the Board Meeting.

**Alarm System**, at Ealy was discussed re need for notification of intrusion. Phone must be operational prior to activation of the alarm system. The phone jack needs repair, Willard will check it Monday. The Board will decide on a code and who will be called when the alarm is activated. It was suggested that the first call be made to the Ealy House phone number in case a member is in the building and failed to deactivate the system.

**Dryer House** Bob Dickendeshler worked on the electrical problems, 1/2 of the electricity is operational; parlor, living room, basement, stairs, furnace, and hot water tank. The kitchen, dining room and out buildings do not have power. Helen reported that circuit breakers may need to be replaced. Gahanna Heating and Cooling has been out once to evaluate the furnace. They suspect corrosion in the burner. They feel it is probably under warranty. The status of the thermostat is uncertain.

**NEW BUSINESS** John Saveson presented a ~~\$624~~ bill from the architect for Architectural drawings for the Ealy back porch. These drawings include the ARB requirement of the grid from the ramp to the front walk. John moved that the bill be paid, second by John Ayres. Passed. Discussion ensued regarding any other possible outlying charges from the architect. John Ayres moved that the invoice be marked "paid in full," second by Marilyn Regrut. Vote all in favor. It was reported by Helen that she re-issued the check that was never processed. The society has a \$33.00 stop-payment charge for the lost check.

John Saveson requested reimbursement of \$1450 he personally paid to Clagett. Motion to pay Mr Saveson what is owed made by Helen Pestel, second Neil Kirby, vote carried.

John Saveson announced that he wishes to contribute the same amount, \$1450, toward the cost of a historic marker. Sincere gratitude was expressed to the Savesons by those present.

Theresa Kempker reported on communication with Bill Resch regarding use of the Ealy House, Bill stated that he had discussed with Kim Cathell the possibility of a display of ecology and geology articles in the basement. There has been no discussion of classroom use.

Theresa reported that there is interest from a person regarding the purchase of glass and chrome shelves. Discussion followed regarding possible need of the shelves versus sale. The Board will discuss at the next meeting.

**BOARD MEMBER** The term of Board Member Sharon Carter is expiring. It was explained that a nominating committee was not appointed at the last meeting due to officers' resignations. The Board recommends that Sharon Carter be nominated to this three-year position. Mr Zarley closed the nominations. Motion to accept by John Ayres, second Marilyn Regrut. Vote followed, all in agreement.

**Computer** Liz Feichter inquired about the status of a computer and the \$1800 in reserved for purchase. The need for a computer in the upstairs office so items can be catalogued was voiced. All agreed that a computer is needed. Neil stated that it should be the first priority after the occupancy permit is obtained.

**Correspondence** Marty read a note sent with a \$70.00 donation from Lois Whealey. Lois is a descendent of the brother of Dr. Sylvester Ranney. She reported that Ann Ranney Abbott, recently deceased, copied 12 pages of Dr. Ranney's case books. They contain genealogy information. Members suggested that we will happily accept this information.

**Xmas Party** Marty Saveson suggested the Christmas Party be held on December 3, the usual meeting date. The Methodist Church is available and members are willing to host the society. Motion by Marilyn Regrut that party is held Dec 3 at the Methodist Church. Second by John Ayres. All ayes

Motion to adjourn by Cathy Yager at 9PM.

Submitted by Marilyn Regrut

NEW ALBANY PLAIN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
OCTOBER 15, 2009 (Special Meeting)

Willard Zarley called the meeting to order at 7:05 at the New Albany Fire Station. Minutes of the last meeting were read, correction made change \$625 to \$624 paid to Clagett. Motion to approve by Helen Pestel, second Sharon Carter.

Treasurer's report not given since this is a mid month meeting. Helen Pestel reported Harvest of the Arts gross income of \$1055.25. She estimates it will be approximately \$900 net after expenses are paid.

Ealy House : Willard did not receive copies of the architect 's drawings of the porch as he was promised last week. He voiced his disappointment. There was a brief discussion of the committee status which had dissolved itself May 20 2009. The committee was charged with solving problems at Ealy House:

- 1 Parking/ Handicap access
- 2 Sewer hook-up
- 3 Change landscape plans from flagstone sidewalk to donor bricks when established Jan 8, 2009.

Before the recent ARB was submitted, (August 6 meeting ) a membership vote re -established the committee status.

Two construction bids for the porch and handicap ramp were presented:  
Clagett: \$48,200                      Henning \$31,940

Discussion ensued regarding specifics which would explain the large variance between the two costs. Committee members John Ayres and Neil Kirby stated that they are exactly the same with no advantage in the higher bid. There was discussion of the reputation of the companies who submitted bids. Both will use specified materials, Henning will complete the work in 30 days. It was suggested that since there is such disparity between the bids perhaps a third bid should be considered. John Ayres requested that any members with a builder to suggest make it known. Sharon Carter suggested Mr Parish's father who does this type of work. Building plans and bid specifics were circulated among members present. Richard Justman questioned the number of bolts holding the "band board"; his concerns were clarified by John Ayres. Robert Dean knows a contractor who has done work on his home; based on this experience he feels the bid cost is not unreasonable.

Helen Pestel moved that we accept the Henning bid to include the Back Porch, Handicap Access Ramp, and grid to the front sidewalk per the approved ARB plans. Second by John Saveson, vote passed with 15 yes, 0 no and 1 abstain.

Helen Pestel questioned the required payment schedule for the project.

David Carter moved that we authorize payment as required and, if required, to pay up to 50% of the total bid, providing money is available, until the next Society meeting. Second by David Cline, all present in favor.

John Saveson discussed the necessary building and zoning permits, Ealy house is zoned residential and the zoning fee for the porch will be waived due to the \$300.00 ARB charge.

John Saveson moved that we pay up to \$250 for the porch building permit; the issuing group meets next Thursday. Second by John Ayres, all ayes.

The zoning application includes landscape plans. John Ayres explained that there is a Village requirement that the submitted plan be done by a licensed landscape architect. Jon Reiner, owner of Oakland Nursery submitted a bid of \$750 for needed drawings. He is a LA and his plans will go through the New Albany approval process. Sharon Carter suggested Fred Parrish as an alternative for the landscape plans. Sharon will contact him and determine if he is a licensed LA, as is required. There was much discussion about the need for this service and what would be included. The village requires the landscape plan; there is no way to avoid it. In addition to plantings, the trench ditch to keep water from the basement door and the cistern issue will be addressed.

Marilyn Regrut moved that we allocate \$750.00 to pay for a landscape plan that will meet village approval. Second Helen Pestel, all present in favor. All present agreed that it is implied that the LA with the lesser cost be hired to do the needed plans.

The landscape plan will be submitted with the building permit application.

Discussion of available funds indicates that the "restoration fund" is now over spent. John Saveson stated that the NA company is aware that this is an issue. John Saveson will ask Craig Mohr to arrange a meeting with Tom Ruby to discuss funds.

Marty made us aware that the vacuum sweeper hose is broken, replacement is available at cost of \$50.00. The sweeper is an expensive brand.

Discussion of cost vs. convenience vs. investment ensued. Sharon Carter moved that we purchase the replacement hose, John Ayres second. Vote 15 yes, 1 no.

Marty has been contacted by a boy scout asking permission to organize a service crew and clean up debris at the RTD house. Discussion of liability followed with questions about the insurance policy on the RTD house and what if any liability is included. No decision.

Bob Dickendesher asked members to look at the back side of the barn at the RTD house. He is deeply concerned about the piles of tires and other items

which have been stacked against the back of the barn by employees of the Links. He stated that items not belonging to the society have also been placed inside the barn.. David Cline stated that the back of the barn is now open because materials he used to close it have been removed. The group discussed various options to pursue regarding this problem. No action.

Christmas party will be held on the first Thur in December 3, the regular meeting date at the Methodist Church. They will work with us to make space available.

Board meeting October 27, 7 PM at Tim Hortens  
Next Society meeting November 5 at the Library.

Motion to adjourn at 9PM by Sharon Carter, second Patty Zarley.

Submitted by, Marilyn Regrut Secretary

#### **HIGHLIGHTS OF BOARD MEETINGS**

*Oct. 6 & Oct. 27 -- Problem of keys to Ealy House discussed. Since our change of administration in September, we have had only one working key.*

*Nov. 17 -- Neil Kirby reported on the newly received Henning contract for the work on the Ealy back porch and ramp. There are "no surprises" in it. It is what we expected. Henning will start work 10 days after signatures & deposit, which Neil planned to hand-carry to Henning during this same week.*

*A new Finance Committee was set up to study and recommend investment procedures. Treasurer Helen Pestel, Vice-President Neil Kirby, and John Saveson were chosen to form this committee.*

*Plans were made for the Christmas dinner, with Sharon Carter volunteering to organize table decorations, and Marty Saveson agreeing to work with Kathy Yager on the program. The price will be \$13. for the dinner.*

#### **NEW ALBANY PLAIN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

November 5, 2009

Willard Zarley opened the meeting at 7PM and welcomed the visitors who were present.

Marilyn Regrut read the minutes of the October 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.  
Motion to approve made by John Saveson, second Liz Feicher. All ayes.

Treasurer's report distributed and explained by Helen Pestel.  
October 31<sup>st</sup> balance \$17,562.09.

Motion to approve by Neil Kirby, second Marty Saveson.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Willard reported that a meeting about funding was held with Tom Ruby, Helen Pestel, John Saveson, Neil Kirby and Willard Zarley attended. Mr. Ruby was pleased with the plans and gave approval to approach Craig Monte regarding funding needs. Discussed desire to close NACO account and transfer moneys to the society checking account to pay for porch expenses. Helen Pestel moved that money that has been spent to maintain the Ealy House be transferred from the sustaining fund to the renovation fund. Second Neil Kirby. All present in favor. Helen stated that approximately \$8,000 could be requested.

Neil reported that the porch and ramp contract have not been returned; it is expected anytime.

John Saveson announced that the landscape plan has been approved. The first estimate is in, will ask Mr Parish for an estimate. Mc Cullough's Landscaping was suggested as a possible third estimate. No action taken.

The insurance policy/liability coverage on the Rose Taylor Dryer House was discussed. Policy reviewed by Neil Kirby, Helen Pestel and Liz Feicher. It was decided that liability coverage is adequate to allow a Boy Scout project.

Will Parker, a Boy Scout from Gahanna Troop 317 working on an Eagle Scout project, was introduced by John Saveson, Will explained his plans to clean up debris and remove broken fencing at the RTD house. He will have 12-15 scouts working with him Nov. 21. A letter validating insurance coverage carried by the Boy Scout Troop was presented and filed in the secretary notebook for reference. Discussion ensued regarding what portion of the fence should be taken down, and saving the boards for repair of other areas of the fence as needed or possible sale of the boards. The status of the front gate was discussed also. John Saveson drew a graphic to demonstrate that the fence is not on the property line and indeed gives false idea of where the property line is.

Marty Saveson made a motion that we ask Will Parker to pursue his project of cleaning up yard debris, and remove the fence behind the opening which had been made to reach the side drive. Nancy Ferguson second, all ayes. Nancy Ferguson said the Village will remove the debris from the property.

Marty Saveson plans to furnish cider and donuts for the Scouts. Marilyn Regrut made a motion to spend \$50.00 to purchase sandwiches. Second Liz Feicher. All ayes.

#### NEW BUSINESS

The issue of the Links storage of items against and in the barn at RTD house was again discussed.

Theresa Kempker moved that she and Bob Dickender be allowed to compose a letter to the management of the Links requesting the removal of their property from behind and inside the barn and compensate the Society for damage to the structure. Second Neil Kirby. All present in favor. The letter is to go to the Board prior to presentation to the management of the Links.

Marty reminded us that the next meeting will be the Christmas Party, sign-up sheet at the refreshment table.

Marty introduced the visitors and our speaker, Dennis Keese who treated us to a most interesting presentation about the men and boys of New Albany and Plain Township who served in the Civil War. His stories were wonderfully validated with well researched facts, and much history was learned by all present.

Submitted by, Marilyn Regrut

## The New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society

### Treasurer's Report — Sept./Oct. 2009

| <u>Income</u>   | <u>September</u> | <u>October</u> |
|---|------------------|----------------|
| Sale of Canning Jars                                    | 4.00             |                |
| Donation for paving bricks                              | 250.00           |                |
| Harvest of the Arts                                     |                  | \$1055.25*     |
| Bake Sale Donation                                      |                  | 20.00          |
| Deposit of starting change (Cat's Meow)                 |                  | 20.00          |
| Applebutter   |                  | 100.00         |
| Pamphlets   |                  | 3.00           |
| Membership Dues (Marilyn Regrut & Dave & Sharon Carter) |                  | 30.00          |
| Postage Donation  |                  | 30.00          |
| Anne Ranny Abbott Memorial                              |                  | 95.00          |
| Checking Interest                                       | <u>1.75</u>      | <u>1.78</u>    |
| Total Income  | \$ 255.75        | \$1,355.03     |

| <u>Expenses</u>                                   | <u>September</u> | <u>October</u> |
|---|------------------|----------------|
| AEP — (Ealy \$11.49, \$10.86; RTD \$4.94, \$7.33) | \$ 16.43         | \$ 18.19       |
| Columbus-City Treasurer Water & Sewer             | 21.90            |                |
| Print Xpress                                      | 42.56            |                |
| AT&T  | 22.18            | 22.14          |
| Inspired Spaces Landscaping & Design              |                  | 2625.00        |
| Sharon Carter (Applebutter expenses)              |                  | 83.08          |
| Claggett & Sons (Final Back Porch design)         |                  | 624.00         |
| Rumpke  |                  | 53.47          |
| Marty Saveson (HOTA Wax Expense)                  |                  | 79.99          |
| Check Stop Payment (Claggett & Sons)              |                  | 33.00          |
| Village of New Albany Building Permit             |                  | <u>220.06</u>  |
| Brink's   | <u>107.97</u>    |                |
| Total Expenses                                    | \$ 211.04        | \$3758.93      |

| <u>September 1st Balance</u>               | <u>\$ 19,921.28</u> | <u>Harvest of the Arts</u> |            |
|--|---------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| Income                                     | 1,610.78            | Cider (net)                | \$9        |
| Expenses                                   | 3,969.97            | Pamphlets                  | 3          |
| October 31st Balance                       | <u>\$17,562.09</u>  | Squash & Gourds            | 50         |
| Hold for Computer                          | 1,800.00            | Bake Sale                  | 170        |
| Hold for Quilt                             | 1,500.00            | Applebutter                | 154        |
| 18 Month CD Balance 2.47% Annual Int.      | 5,541.37            | Scarecrows                 | 210        |
| Vanguard Fund Balance 09/30/09             | 16,723.94           | Candles                    | <u>459</u> |
| Balance NACF Ealy Sustaining Fund 09/30/09 | 60,257.27           | Total*                     | \$1,055    |
| Balance NACF Ealy Renovation Fund 09/30/09 | 31,985.73           |                            |            |
| Ameriprise 10/20/09                        | 89,504.34           |                            |            |

Respectfully submitted, Helen Pestel, Treasurer



*The New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society  
P.O. Box 219  
New Albany, OH 43054*



*Front of the Ealy House, with the newly constructed brick walk. The bricks have been laid in the same pattern as those of the original brick walk.*