

Newsletter

January, February, & March 2014
New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society



This is the big old reaper which was formerly owned by our Historical Society and stored in the Dryer barn. It is shown on the Dryer lawn last fall just before being loaded onto a flatbed truck to be taken to the Gallant Farm Preserve of the Delaware County Preservation Parks system. It is now on display in a well-restored old barn at Gallant Farm, along with several other antique farm machines which our Society has given to the same farm museum, including a big hay rake and the Swickard sleigh.

DATES TO REMEMBER

MONDAYS AT THE EALY HOUSE-- Usually 9:30-12:00, but not on such a regular basis this time of year. Call first.

THURS. FEBRUARY 6 -- 7 p.m., Society Meeting at the Plain Township Fire Station

THURS. MARCH 6 -- 7 p.m., Society Meeting at the Fire Station

MON. MARCH 17 -- Newsletter Deadline

Also: Deadline for registering for the Regional Meeting on Saturday.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22 -- 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Central Ohio Regional Meeting of the Ohio Historical Society, hosted by the Whitehall Historical Society at the Whitehall Community Park Activity Center, 402 N. Hamilton Rd. This year's theme is "Engage, Educate, Empower: Taking Your Organization to the Next Level." Cost is \$25 per member, continental breakfast and lunch included. Register by calling Helen Pestel (855-3765) by Mon., Mar. 17.

THURS. APRIL 3 -- 7 p.m., Society Meeting at the Fire Station

NOTE: In case of inclement weather bad enough to cause the local schools to close, we will not have a Society meeting that day.

NEWSLETTER CHANGES

The last three pages of this Newsletter have been written by **GUEST EDITORS ARLOIA WALTON and MARILYN REGRUT.**

Due to slack periods of news in mid-winter and mid-summer, there will now be just five Newsletters during the year. This present issue and the summer issue will each cover three months' worth of news. The remaining issues will cover two months each, as before.

REPORT ON 2013 -- a VERY SUCCESSFUL YEAR

We have had another productive year, highlighted by the renovation of the Ealy House pantry with grant money provided by the City of New Albany. The area was in very rough shape with several layers of old linoleum+wall paper, plus holes in the plaster. The walls and shelves are now painted, the original wood floor is lovely, and a historic sink and pitcher pump which came from the Schleppe house have been installed.

Organization of the artifacts continues with Helen Pestel working to locate items previously catalogued. There is much work to be done as we start working with the non-catalogued items in the house.

Maintenance is ongoing and involves a lot, from fixing leaky windows to fighting spiders and mice. The furnace room continues to be a dumping ground; the process of relocating items to the third floor for storage is ongoing. Volunteers regularly dust and sweep on workdays. We recently employed assistance for deep cleaning of the entire house. Parlor and dining rugs were sent out for cleaning also. The house is ready for the Holiday visitors.

The Rose Taylor Dryer Property is high on our priority list as we seek to achieve an outcome of preservation. The Delaware County Preservation Park gratefully acknowledged our donation of a historic reaper and sleigh. The sleigh belonged to Naomi Fodor's father. These items will be restored and cared for by their new owners.

Ealy House Visits

400 first-graders with about 30 teachers and parents visited. This is their second year to come as part of their "long ago" unit. The visits were arranged by Sydni Zimmerman, who told me that at parent's conferences she was told that several children said the Ealy Trip and "long ago" was the best part of the year so far. Sydni emailed each of the first-grade teachers to let them know about the Open House on Black Friday. A number of children returned with their families.

Approximately 340 eighth-graders visited Ealy House at the beginning of the school year as part of their American History class.

Numerous children have visited, including Girl and Boy Scouts, 4H and the Daisy Girl Scouts who were working on a community project, picking up sticks and walnuts in the yard. Nancy Ferguson was with them and showed the children and parents the inside of the house.

We have welcomed many adults; those walking by when we are working, friends, and scheduled groups such as "Women Today," who visited recently.

Black Friday Open House was a success with many enthusiastic visitors. The same situation occurred for our Holiday Open House Dec 8. Our visitors braved the snow and ice and were genuinely pleased to see the house. Many verbalized their love of old houses and history. Catherine Saveson played Christmas music on the old pump organ; she was relieved for a time by Meghana Ravi.

The December meeting was a dinner party at New Albany United Methodist Church, great food and wonderful musical entertainment provided by the Otten/Saveson family. We were pleased to meet some new members at the event.

We continue to appreciate the support and effort of our members as we strive to grow our membership, maintain and improve our properties, and are an available resource to the community.

-- Marilyn Regrut, President

MEMBERS OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD (as of Nov. 2013)

President -- Marilyn Regrut (614-797-4490)

Vice-President -- Neil Kirby (614-855-2623)

Treasurer -- Helen Pestel (614-855-3765)

Secretary -- position unfilled

Board member (3 yrs.) -- Robert Dean (614-855-9327)

Board member (2 yrs.) -- Sharon Carter (614-939-5292)

Board Member (1 yr.) -- David Cline (614-855-3122)

Alternate Board member -- Marty Saveson (614-855-9809)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Norma Massie has returned to the land of ice and snow. Her new address is as follows:

Apt. 1-G

4895 Lake Forest Blvd.

Westerville, OH 43081

(Editor's note: On November 14, 2013, six of our members accepted the invitation of the Harlem Historical Society to attend their meeting in Center Village. Betty Maynard, John & Sine Ayres, Robert & Debbie Dean, and Sally Hess were very much impressed with the group and with the program, which is described below:)

GHOST TOWNS OF CENTRAL OHIO

The Center of Ghost Town Research was started by Mr. Richard Helwig, who began researching and documenting ghost towns in Ohio in the mid-1970's. Since that time he and his son Rick have collected information on over 9000 ghost towns in Ohio. Delaware County alone has a book of registries five to six inches thick.

We learned that Bud Town and Green Town became Harlem Township in 1809. The Methodist Church was built in 1812. A grocery store and post office were built by 1866. There were three buildings on eleven acres. Such towns were also called Cross Road Communities. If a bridge, railroad, or major highway were built near-by, the communities disappeared.

The towns were divided into four categories:

1) Semi-ghost Towns, which retained less than ten percent of their industry, e.g. Condit.

2) Old Towns, which changed their names. For example, in 1880 Centerville had a population of 150, but became Center Village in 1893.

3) True Ghost Towns, which have literally disappeared, e.g. Snipe Town (once at the intersection of Fancher and Green-Cook Roads).

4) Towns that never really existed because they were not officially platted. Most counties have only one or two of these, for example, Savannah or Hartford Road.

Mr. Helwig accommodated those in the audience who had come to hear spooky ghost tales with two stories set in Clover Leaf (later Ratsville) and Moonville.

Following the meeting, extremely delicious refreshments were served. The meeting hall itself is quite interesting, with maps on the wall and some antique machinery. Also, Vicki Tieche's lovely booklets/brochures (around 24 different ones) regarding all aspects of the local area (for example, cemeteries) were available in a circular display case.

-- Sally Hess

NEW ALBANY PLAIN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

November 7, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 at the NA Fire Station by Marilyn Regrut.

13 members present.

Minutes of Oct. 3rd read by Betty Maynard; motion to accept, David Cline; second, Kathy Yager.

Financial report distributed and explained by Helen Pestel. Motion to accept, Kathy Yager; second, Neil Kirby. Financial investment report examined by Neil Kirby and John Saveson.

Old Business:

Marilyn reported that she recently spoke with Joe Ciminello; he is willing to release the Society from the holding period required by our agreement, for payment of \$40,000 by the Society at the time of sale of \$125,000 or more. He also wants the driveway easement deeded to him. Much discussion about the size and actual placement of the easement. John Saveson voiced concerns about a lot split and how much property is on the other side of the easement. There were no definite answers.

The issue of zoning specifics was discussed, and possible changes needed prior to sale of the property, which is in the NA Links PUD. Neil and Marilyn will visit City Hall to see the zoning text; we are fortunate to have available the services of an attorney who will help with zoning if needed.

Spring-wagon wheel repairs still needed, David will seek resources to accomplish this.

Delaware Preservation Park will be picking up items we are donating to them, time yet to be verified.

Ealy porch and ramp surfaces need attention, Marilyn will contact Henning Co for advice, and David will ask Ron Davis for his opinion on treatment and sealers and a possible estimate.

New Business:

Ealy House deep cleaning will occur Sat Nov 9 at 9am and possibly extend to the following Saturday. A lady who comes highly recommended will do the heavy work.

Ealy House open-houses scheduled for 1-3 PM Nov 28 and Jan 8; several people offered to serve as docents. Women's group, "Women Today," will visit Nov 19.

Begin Ealy holiday decorating Mon Nov 18 (tree and toys).

New Albany City grant money received for 2013 is available. One of the designated projects is the creation of better parking and improving the drive way. Two local contractors have looked at the area; John Richardson provided an estimate of \$10,980 for grading, pavers and gravel. The second estimate is not yet available. Discussed reasons for getting this project started soon. Membership agreed to allow Board to review specifics of the two contracts and bring the information to the Christmas Party for a membership vote.

Planting trees with grant money has been suggested in the past; those present want the issue of trees put on hold until the parking is finalized and finished.

Harlem Township Meeting, Nov 14, discussed; several people plan to attend, transportation available for those who want it.

Christmas Party Dec 5 at 6:15 at the NA Methodist Church. Marty Saveson explained food choices of entrée/salad and asked to be made aware of food preferences by Dec 2. Cost is \$14.00 payable to Helen Pestel.

Adjourned at 8:05. Refreshments provided by Kathy Yager.

Kathy Yager, Secretary pro tem.

NOTES & NEWS

Our first Ealy House Tour of 2014 took place on Sunday, January 12, for a group of about 20 CUB SCOUTS and parents. The young "Bears" and "Lions" were the liveliest visitors so far, according to docents David Cline and Marilyn Regrut.

FOUNDERS DAY planning for 2014 has begun. The date will be May 17, and the theme for this year will be "It's a Jungle Out There." Our Society's representative on the Founders Day Committee is David Cline.

GLYDE MARSH is the subject of the main front-page story of the Jan. 23 issue of This Week New Albany News. The article praises him for his non-stop service to the Community, as he enters his 7th term on the City Council. He is a "retired" Professor of Veterinary Science at OSU, but still works as a poultry consultant around Ohio. He is a long-time member of our Society, of course, and a conscientious attendee of local sports events and public meetings on important local issues. On February 12 he will be recognized by the Ohio House of Representatives "for his dedication to public service after all these years" and "his exceptional devotion to the people of New Albany." Congratulations, Glyde!

NAPT HISTORICAL SOCIETY TREASURER'S REPORT

October 2013

Income		
Yard Sale (total income for Oct.)		\$ 16.00
Expenses		
AEP (Ealy \$63.05; RTD \$6.05)		\$ 69.10
AT&T		\$ 30.79
Print Xpress (for Newsletter)		\$ 47.50
Total Expenses		\$147.39

November and December 2013

<u>Income</u>	<u>November</u>	<u>December</u>
Donation	1,000.00	10.00
Memberships (D & S Carter, M Regrut, S Hess, & M. L. Campbell, Gorsuch, Farber, Yager)	50.00	30.00
Cookbook & Open house donations		34.00
Christmas Dinner	181.00	266.00
Total Income	\$ 1,231.00	\$ 340.00
Expenses		
AEP -- (Ealy \$107.25,\$269.8;RTD\$6.05,\$6.21)	\$ 113.30	\$ 276.01
AT&T	30.82	30.82
Columbus Water & Sewer	28.67	
OLHA (Ohio Local History Alliance) membership	35.00	
New Albany UMC (Christmas Dinner-Jamaica Project)		447.00
ADT Security (3 months)		103.33
Amerigas (Propane tank rental-Dryer House)		144.00
Print Xpress	47.50	
Total Expenses	\$ 255.29	\$ 1,001.16
November 1 st Balance	\$ 24,909.26	
Income	1,571.00	
Expenses	1,256.45	
Balance December 31st	\$ 25,223.81	
Hold for Quilt	1,500.00	
Vanguard Fund Balance 12/31/13	26,316.20	
Balance NACF Ealy Sustaining Fund 06/30/13	71,718.10	
Balance NACF Ealy Renovation Fund 1/21/10	closed	
Ameriprise (12/31/13)	141,761.07 (includes 9,071.74 (6.66452%) (Memorial Money)	

Respectfully submitted, Helen Pestel, Treasurer

Several months ago I received a phone call from a long time New Albany resident, Arloia Walton, who was very active in the early days of the New Albany Plain Township (NAPT) Historical Society. She is 92 and lives with her daughter in Georgia. She told me she had mailed me a document recognizing contributions of John and Marilyn Saveson and wanted it published in our Newsletter. Arloia stated that she was concerned that it would never make the Newsletter because Marty Saveson is the editor and she would never print it. Now, after some persuasion we are publishing it.

Marilyn Regrut

A Grateful Commendation

In 1982 Drs. John and Marilyn (Marty) Saveson moved to the NAPT area. The house into which they moved was built by John's Great, Great Grandfather, George Clouse and is located at the East end of Clouse Rd. The story of George Clouse's grandfather (John Clouse) and his arrival in the U.S. and later in Plain Township is a heartwarming tale of early pioneer life.

The Savesons both have Doctorates in English. Their major has enabled them to put on paper much information about this area and its people of the past. Many people have read and learned from their contributions and I would like to acknowledge them.

Each has served as President of the NAPT Historical Society.

Each has attended countless meetings to promote the Society to the public.

They worked together to choose Historical sites in the area for promotion.

They arranged for erecting six Ohio Historical markers which are mounted at Smiths' Burying Ground (Route 62) Wagnor Cemetery (Central College Rd), Archibald Smith's Mill (Blacklick Creek), and the Ealy House. Another one, near the swimming pool, describes the division of land in Plain Township. In the center of town a monument commemorates the founders of New Albany.

Each has written and published the Society's Newsletter of which Marty is currently the editor.

John had the Ealy House placed on the National Registry of Historical Sites

John has written numerous Historical pamphlets concerning local people and places of interest providing priceless keepsakes. All money from the sale of these items goes to the Historical Society.

Both worked on renovation of homes the Society has owned including the Rose Taylor Dryer House, the Kern Harrington House and the Ealy House which is the present museum.

John has generously taken time to answer inquiries of people from many places who are seeking historical background information for family histories. John always credits the NAPT Historical Society in his works. John also received and put into displays a remarkable selection of antique tools, to the delight of the New Albany school children who visit the Ealy House. He is an avid gardener and many times has shared his produce with Society members. His contributions to the community are much appreciated.

Marty co-chaired the first and only Christmas Parade of Homes in conjunction with the opening of the Kern- Harrington Museum. She did the publicity, program brochures and many of the contacts needed for such a memorable and delightful event. She also cut and sewed wool strips from coats and cast off wool clothing in order to braid five rugs now used in the Ealy House. Marty has filed many applications for "grants" offered by the New Albany Community Foundation and the Ohio Humanities Council, providing a good financial boost to the Society and its operations. She is also known fondly for her donation of baked goods to many community events. Her expertise has added much value to our community.

As a family the Savesons have opened their home to friends and families of the Historical society for Christmas and Boxing Day celebrations. Boxing Day is an English tradition the Savesons learned while students at Cambridge University. At one such event guests came with canned goods to be given to charity. For many years Marty

has arranged the Christmas party that is held at the Methodist Church in New Albany. It is a fund raiser for the youth group of the church, who work as cooks and servers for the event. They renovated their barn, making it a party house for neighbors and Society members. The annual anticipated gathering, always popular, is held in June rain or shine.

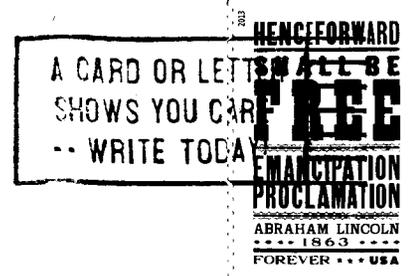
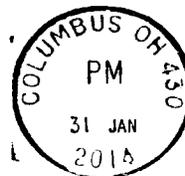
As a team, they have also willingly acted as docents at the museum. Through their efforts and many events at the Ealy House, interest in the museum is growing. They have been honored in the past by the Society as Grand Marshals for a New Albany Founders Day Celebration. They enjoyed participating in the Festival of the Arts held at Doran's Farm. You would find John pressing cider and both Marty and John stirring the apple butter kettle over a hickory fire. Marty was in charge of the scare-crow making, after having collected the supplies needed. Participating in this event was a rewarding experience for them as well as the community.

The Savesons never stop looking for new projects. In the 1990's they reached out to Licking County with an offer to use some of their acreage for a beautiful wet land preserve, and more recently they have done the same thing in Franklin County.

As a Society, we can look forward to many more rewards freely given of this couple. It is also nice to know that their daughter and family often are seen "helping out". Their dedication to the NAPT Historical Society is on-going, and we look forward to finding them involved in many more ventures with us in the future.

With gratitude, Arloia Baughman Walton

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Upcoming:
Thurs. Feb. 6 -- Society Meeting at Fire Station
Thurs. Mar. 6 -- Society Meeting at Fire Station
Sat. Mar. 22 -- Regional Meeting in Whitehall
Thurs. Apr. 3 -- Society Meeting at Fire Station
(See p. 2 for details)

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