

# *Newsletter*

*April and May 2009*

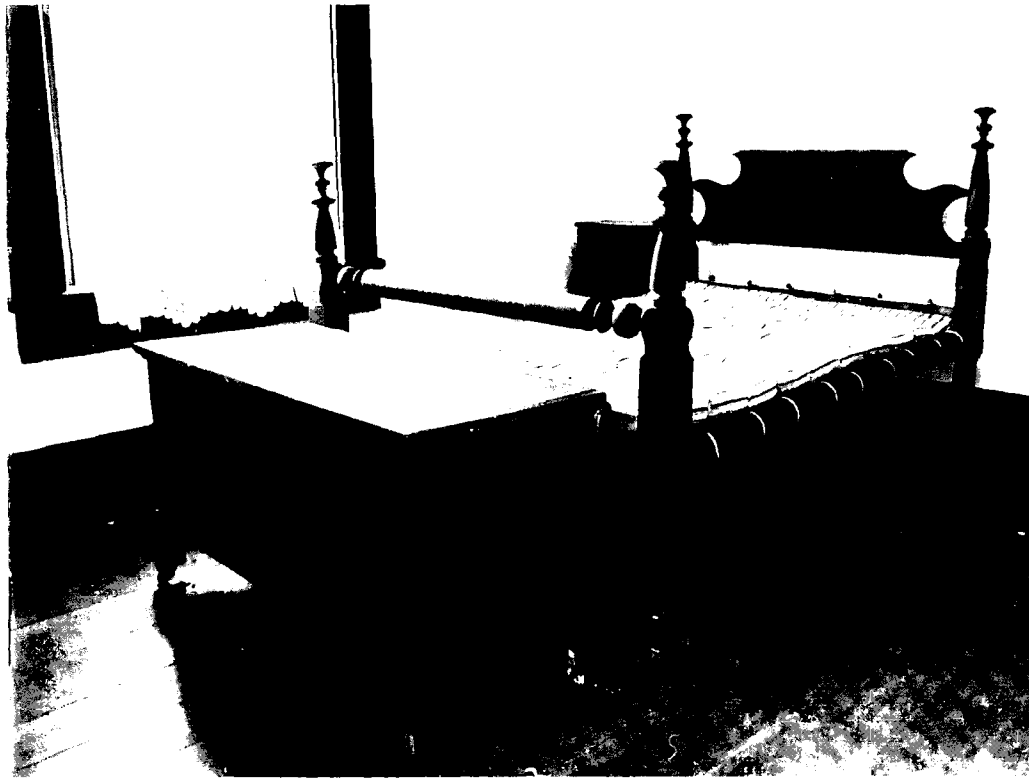
*New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society*

*P.O. Box 219*

*New Albany, Ohio 43054*

*(614) 855-9861*

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



The northwest bedroom in the Ealy House. The rope bed belonged to the forebears of Norma Jean Butts Gorsuch, and the walnut chest came from Naomi Swickard Fodor's great-grandfather Carpenter, who probably made it himself.

## A DETECTIVE STORY

A welcome bit of recent news is that the Historical Society's Ealy House is hooked up to the city sewer and has been since 1996. A suspicion that it was hooked up began to grow after the Clerk in the Community Development Office turned up a handwritten entry in an old note pad that revealed that Mrs. Hilbert obtained a sewer permit in 1995.

Two developments enabled the Society to dispel doubts that the Village still had: John Ayres, walking with John Saveson around the Ealy property, recognized signs that a sewer line had been installed after the Village contracted with Columubus for sewer and water. A white clean-out pipe sticking two feet out of the ground behind the house had no use in the old septic system which was assumed to be there. But the Village required such a fixture when a "bend" existed in an on-site line. What the clean-out pipe indicated was that the soil pipe to the old septic tank had been cut, the line spliced and turned 45 degrees or more to run 200 feet west to a manhole, where the line "tapped" into the city sewer. A second clue is the clearing of brush and trees which even now marks the route where the new pipe was laid.

The Village was still insisting on a dye test until calls to the Board of Health and the Village Engineer finally turned up a record in the Engineer's archives of an inspection made to determine that Mrs. Hilbert in March of 1996 had indeed connected the Ealy House to the city sewer. John Ayre's estimate of the cost the Society has saved is \$14,000.

## ANOTHER DETECTIVE STORY

Nancy Ferguson, inspired by the old photo showing the brick walk leading out from the front steps of the Ealy House, poked around in the ground and, sure enough, discovered the old bricks about 4" to 6" under the dirt. The zigzag pattern is still visible. It is not clear what can be done with these old bricks, but there they are, connecting us to the past.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- THURS. APRIL 2** -- 7 p.m., Society Meeting at the Plain Township Fire Station.  
Program: Old New Albany in Historic Photographs
- TUES. APRIL 14** -- 7 p.m. Board Meeting
- TUES. APRIL 28** -- 7 p.m. Board Meeting
- THURS. MAY 7** -- 7 p.m. Society Meeting at the Fire Station  
Hostesses: Kathy Yager & Theresa Kempker
- TUES. MAY 12** -- 7 p.m. Board Meeting
- SAT. MAY 16** -- **FOUNDERS DAY**
- TUES. MAY 19** -- Newsletter Deadline
- TUES. May 26** -- 7 p.m. Board meeting
- THURS. JUNE 4** -- 6 p.m. Potluck Picnic at Saveson barn  
8370 Clouse Rd. Details in next Newsletter.

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## NEW DIRECTORY COMING

Sharon Carter, our loyal caretaker of our Mailing List, is about to produce an updated Membership Directory for the Society. She will include E-Mail addresses if she has them, so please send yours to her at:

**scarter002@insight.rr.com**

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## PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS NEEDED

We would appreciate some new ideas for programs at our monthly meetings. Sometimes we need only an interesting display. Other times, when our business is short & quick, we appreciate presentations of 20 to 30 minutes. If you yourself can offer a program, tell us. If you know someone else who might present an interesting program for our group, let us know. Call Kim (939-0089) or Marty (855-9809) or any other member of the Executive Board. (Of course, as you well know, we lack funds to offer an honorarium.)

## MINUTES OF THE SOCIETY MEETING OF FEBRUARY 5

Meeting called to order by Kim Cathell at 7:10.

Minutes of previous meeting read. Motion to accept made by Kathy Yager, second by David Cline.

Treasurer's report distributed and explained by Helen Pestel. Motion to accept made by Sharon Carter, second by John Saveson.

### Committee Report:

The group met with representatives of the Henning Company regarding the porch and handicap access issues. John Ayers reported that Ms Hilbert paid for water hook-up in 1995; he is looking for records to prove that the sewer tap was also paid at that time. The records are difficult to trace because of NA and Columbus combined payment structure; thus the sewer tap payment has not yet been validated. He will obtain 3 bids for sewer work.

John Saveson presented a copy of a letter he wrote to the NA Community Development Office regarding tracing old records of paid sewer fees and the possibility of waiving fees. Letter filed with minutes.

Questions of the presence of a leach bed, septic tank and or holding tank on the property were discussed. These items will need to be removed if they are present. (Ed. note: any existing leach bed does not have to be removed.)

### Founders Day Commission Meeting

Attended by David Cline and Sharon Carter. The Theme is "Connecting the Fun"; it will be held May 16, 2009. Sharon and David reported that the Gym will be available to us; the committee requests an art show including quilts, also old toys and buttons.

A bake sale will also be included. There will be a parade (parade route was not discussed) and the committee requested a float.

Children's activities will include a game park, face painting, characters, and a photo booth.

Bake sale must be held outside. Sharon will request permission to have a boutique sale table in the Gym with the display. There was a discussion of problems involving the art show in previous years.

### 2009 Budget

Board recommendations were posted on the chalk board. These figures were distributed at the January meeting but not discussed. Total projected budget cost \$ 10,330. A lively discussion ensued with comments and questions. Rumpke costs must remain, must be kept on one house. Newsletter costs discussed; postage is presently donated by Marty Saveson, labels by Sharon Carter. Costs involving the Dryer house were questioned; house must be kept for 25 years or returned. It is now used for storage, could be used for work space and to hold meetings.

Motion to accept the budget as presented was made by Sharon Carter, Second by Kathy Yager. Vote by show of hands: 9 yes of 14 present.

Funding was discussed as an issue; events do not bring in needed monies.

Ealy House, approx \$4717 of the total projected budget. There was discussion of the sustaining fund intention, income vs actual fund usage.

The possibility of organizing "Friends of the Society" to help raise funds.

Fund raising opportunities were discussed. David Cline showed a sample brick that could be sold as a fundraiser for the walkway. Sample brick had black or white letters and could be sold for \$50.00 (actual cost approx \$25). Labor will be a considerable cost for this necessary project. The name of a contractor was suggested by Sharon Carter (Parish Landscape). Use of volunteer labor from youth such as Boy Scouts was mentioned. After more discussion it was decided that this should be done by professionals to assure meeting NA Village standards.

New Albany Gardens and Care meal which requires hosting and serving with profit to organization helping was discussed. This has been very successful for other groups. Motion to pursue involvement with the NA Gardens meal made by John Saveson, second by Sharon Carter. The group also verbalized desire to repeat Max & Irma's fund-raising effort again.

Kim announced that the Regional Meeting will be held in Whitehall this year on March 14. The cost is \$25.00 and sign-up can occur at the March meeting. Deadline for money to Helen Pestel will be in the Newsletter as March 8.

Investment Policy: Kim explained that a policy is needed to help filter financial options and give support and guidance for good financial decisions and the protection of the society. Lively discussion involving options and the previously presented draft.

Neil Kirby suggested investment strategies in the following order:

1. Corporate Bonds
2. CD's
3. Mutual Funds
4. Money Market
5. Other investment vehicles upon prior presentation to and approval from the society

Motion made by John Ayers, seconded by John Saveson that a volunteer financial committee of society members will review potential investment and advise the treasurer. Treasurer will take committee recommendations to the Board for approval. Vote by show of hands: 13 yes of 14 present.

Discussion of the probable amount of money needed for completion of renovation and achieving museum status. It is felt that the \$25,000 of renovation money available will not be sufficient and that sustaining funds will be needed. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Adjourned 9 PM

Submitted by Marilyn Regrut, Secretary

## BUTTONS AND ZUCCHINI BREAD

*Our secretary modestly neglected to mention that she had arranged a very large and fascinating display of historic buttons for us to enjoy after the business meeting. Many of the buttons came from the Civil War era, the period of the early years of the Ealy House. Thanks, Marilyn. Thanks also to Naomi Fodor for delicious refreshments with a St. Patrick's Day theme, including her famous zucchini bread with flecks of true green.*

--Editor

## MINUTES OF THE SOCIETY MEETING OF MARCH 5

Motion opened by Kim Cathell. Minutes read by Marilyn Regrut. Motion to accept by Sharon Carter after correction of Name David Cline to David Carter. Second Helen Pestel.

Helen Pestel distributed and explained the Treasurer's Report. Copy attached to minutes. Motion to accept by John Ayers, second David Cline.

Naomi Fodor presented the society with two VCR tapes made by Dave Curtis. They were made before some of the old buildings were torn down. They had been given to Jim Fodor to be given to the NAHP Historical Society. Kim will view them and determine if they are appropriate for a meeting program or perhaps viewing at Founders Day. Robert Dean suggested that converted to DVD, this might be a sale item.

Ealy House back porch issues were presented by John Saveson who distributed back porch architectural drawings. After much discussion of various possible problems and options, the issue came down to moving forward with demolition of the porch and replacement with a new structure which would replicate as nearly as possible the existing structure. This will require plans by a licensed architect and construction drawings.

The option is NOT demolishing the porch but rather repairing and restoring it. A major problem identified is that one side of the foundation is bowed.

The question of whether the porch was indeed a part of the original house was discussed at length. Patty Zarley reported that a consultant from Ohio State Historical Society felt it was not original but added shortly after the house was built.

John Saveson submitted a rough estimate of \$36,000 to remove and rebuild. This figure includes two brick walks. There will be no cost estimate to repair and restore because there is no way for builders to project what will be involved. It is a fact that restoration will be more costly than replacement. It was added that Tom Rubey would like to see the porch replaced.

Kim asked for a vote on replacement of the porch versus repair/restoration. Vote of 13 people (of 17 present) to replace.



John Ayres pointed out that the ramp shown on the drawings will extend beyond the property line. Modifications will require a turn in the ramp. Willard Zarley asked why steps are necessary to access the porch since a handicap ramp will be required.

Regarding handicap access concerns, Neil Kirby mentioned handicap access to the restroom in the basement as a significant problem.

John Saveson made available copies of a portion of the Federal ADA Standards which delineate requirements for structures on the National Register of Historic Preservation. This information was discussed at length including applications to the Ealy House and NA requirements.

It was determined that: handicap access to parking is not required, handicap access to restrooms is not required, handicap access to the building is a requirement or an occupancy permit from NA.

Kim called for a vote on including handicap access parking- majority no. Kim called for a vote on publishing the fact that handicap access restrooms are available therefore making them mandatory. Majority no. Handicap access for the museum itself is required; discussed possible problems with doorway width, modifications which would change the basic structure.

John Saveson will seek bids for the porch demolition and construction. John Ayers added that the bid should include both architect and construction drawings.

John Saveson shared a document from Pam Hickok, Clerk of NA Community Development stating that the Ealy House is hooked into the sewer; therefore, there are no fees required for sewer tap. Filed with minutes.

The front brick walkway from base of front steps to the nature trail in front has a cost estimate of \$3150, John Saveson reported. Discussion of using original bricks, which require excavation, However, there may be condition problems.

Kim announced that:

The May edition of Columbus Monthly will feature New Albany.

Regional meeting is in Whitehall March 14. Notify Helen Pestel tonight if interested in attending.

New Albany is looking for a fair and equitable way to help organizations. The Board decided to request assistance with a focus on the Dryer House.

Founders Day will have significant involvement for the Society. Displays in the Gym will include Schleppe art, quilts, old tools, old toys, buttons, arrow heads and marbles. Children's craft tables will provide making rag dolls, post cards and bead bracelets. We are allowed to sell boutique items in the gym without a vendor's license. Bake sale will be outside. Volunteers needed for all areas. Kim is taking names and scheduling work shifts.

Float construction: Helen Pestel offered to help.

EMH&T report on the Rose Run Project has been reviewed by Kim Cathell and David Cline. Kim asked John Ayers to also evaluate it.

Kim opened the floor to members.

Marty Saveson is concerned that the stones behind the new front porch have not been tuck-pointed. John Ayers suggested caulk from the inside as an option. There was discussion. Sharon Carter made a motion that we contact David Beatty to get someone to do weather proofing/repair of stone foundation up to a cost of \$500.00. Second by John Ayers. All ayes. Meeting adjourned 8:55.

We enjoyed a large exhibit of Sharon Carter's scrap-booking activities and great refreshments, thanks to Helen Pestel.

Submitted by,  
Marilyn Regnit, Secretary

## FOUNDERS DAY PLANS

Saturday, May 16, is the date for our big Spring event, and already some of us are panicking over all there is to be done. We have more or less committed our Society to the following activities:

1. **DISPLAYS** in the Elementary School Gym. So far, we think we will be displaying antique toys, old tools, historic buttons, braided rugs, and quilts, including the "Heritage Quilt." Also, we hope Bill Resch will set up a Rose Run display in the gym.
2. A **MAKE & TAKE CRAFTS** table, where children may make rag dolls, bead jewelry, and sticker art.
3. A **BOUTIQUE** table, for selling our pamphlets, cards and craft items.
4. Outdoors, there will be the **BAKE SALE**, as usual and we hope for many delicious contributions to that.
5. Finally, there should be a **FLOAT**. This is not a sure thing unless we get some really good help, which was missing last year.

## CONTRIBUTIONS ARE NEEDED

1. Of course, **BAKED GOODS** for the bake sale.
2. **MATERIALS for CRAFTS** -- Remnants of pretty fabric, colorful leftover balls of yarn, old knee-high hose, and polyfill for the rag dolls. Also, **BEADS** and blunt needles for the bead project.
3. **YOUR TIME AND HELP** -- We need three people at each of three shifts at the BAKE SALE table, and likewise in the gym. You can start signing up at the April meeting. Founders Day is a lot of fun, so sign up, come dressed for whatever weather it is, and bring your own chair.

HIGHLIGHTS OF BOARD MEETINGS  
of Feb. 25, Mar. 3, & Mar. 10

1. Made plans for **FOUNDERS DAY** (see page 9).
2. **VILLAGE GRANTS** -- The Board will recommend asking for a grant for the Dryer property.
3. **ADA GUIDELINES** for historic properties -- copies distributed and discussed.
4. **NEW LOCKS** for the outside basement door and also for the kitchen door to cellar stairs -- discussed and approved.
5. **"HISTORIC AREA"** designation for High Street discussed. We will ask the Village to support this idea.
6. **NEWSPAPER PUBLICITY** -- Sparked by the recent misleading article in a local paper about the sewer and the brick walk, Kim urged the Board to elect one person to handle the newspaper publicity and to see that it is accurate. Board selected M. Saveson.
7. **BY-LAWS** -- The Board went through the first five articles of the By-Laws and made a few corrections & clarifications, which will be brought to the Society. This process will continue in future meetings until the By-Laws are clear and consistent and make sense.
8. **VIDEO TAPES** -- Kim reported that Dave Curtis's video tapes of New Albany in 1989 proved to be a great disappointment. They are not going to be useful as a program or as a resource.
9. **MORE BOARD MEETINGS** -- Kim asked that the Board meet twice a month from now on. We decided on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, at 7 p.m.
10. It was decided **NOT** to raise **MEMBERSHIP DUES** at this time.

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>JANUARY</u>	<u>FEBRUARY</u>
Jim Fodor Memorial	\$100.00	
Memberships (J&R Daily, C.Daily, Hess, Gammill/Stoia, Gorsuch R&J Thomas, Regrut, Fisher)	120.00	80.00
Aziel Shockley Memorial	25.00	
Pamphlets (correction to Dec.)	-5.25	1.50
Maturing C/D		90,415.59
Checking Interest	<u>2.78</u>	<u>1.85</u>
<b>TOTAL Income</b>	<b>\$242.53</b>	<b>\$90,498.94</b>
 <u>EXPENSES</u>		
AEP (Ealy \$157.82, \$199.11) (RTD \$4.61, \$9.14)	\$162.43	\$208.25
Print Xpress (for Newsletter)		45.60
Transfer to Investment		85,000.00
Ohio Assn. of Hist. Societies (dues)		35.00
Columbus Water & Sewer		22.08
Westfield Insurance		904.00
AT&T	21.40	21.44
Rumpke	<u>52.77</u>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 236.60</b>	<b>\$86,236.37</b>
 January 1st Balance		
Income		\$21,753.99
Expenses		90,741.47
February 28th Balance		86,472.97
Hold for Computer		26,022.49
Hold for Quilt		1,800.00
Hold for Emergencies		1,500.00
Vanguard Fund Balance 12/31/08		5,000.00
Balance NACF Ealy Sustaining Fund 12/31/08		14,439.10
Balance NACF Ealy Renovation Fund 12/31/08		24,600.74
		7,108.33

Helen Pestel, Treasurer

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P. O. Box 219

New Albany, OH 43054