

Newsletter

December 2007 and January 2008

New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society

P.O. Box 219

New Albany, Ohio 43054

(614) 855-9861

www.newalbanyplaintownshiphistoricalsociety.org

D A T E S T O R E M E M B E R

SAT. DEC. 8 -- 6:30 p.m., Historical Society Christmas Dinner at the New Albany United Methodist Church. Details on p. 2.

MON. DEC. 10 -- 8:30 a.m. Board meeting at Bob Evans.

THURS. DEC. 13 -- Chamber of Commerce lunch at Royal American Golf Club. Hist. Soc. to receive award. Details on p. 3.

THURS. JAN. 3 -- Board meeting.

THURS. JAN. 10 -- 7 p.m., Society Meeting at the Library.
Program -- Arranged by Margaret Bobo, on genealogical resources available from the D.A.R. & the Daughters of 1812.
Hostess: Kim Cathell

TUES. JAN. 22 -- Newsletter Deadline

THURS. JAN. 24 -- Board Meeting

THURS. FEBRUARY 7 -- 7 p.m., at the Library, Society Meeting
Program -- David Cline on the cast-iron toys of Kenton, Ohio
Hostess: Marilyn Regrut

NOTE: Most Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings, 9-12, are work days at the Ealy House. Help is needed! Call 855-3765 or 855-9809 for more information.

OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER

DATE & TIME -- Saturday, December 8, 6:30 p.m.

PLACE -- New Albany United Methodist Church

MENU -- Marinated Chicken breast OR Ham Loaf (specify in advance)
Salad, Green Beans, Twice-baked Potatoes, choice of Desserts

PRICE -- \$12.50 per adult; \$6.25 children under 10.

RESERVATIONS -- Send check & choice of entrée to Helen Pestel,
8355 New Albany-Condit Rd., WESTERVILLE, OH 43081. Or phone
Helen at 855-3765 or Marty at 855-9809.

PROGRAM -- A talent show is again being organized. Please phone
suggestions to Marty Saveson at 855-9809.

HARVEST THE ARTS

The Festival was once again quite a success. The weather was good, the crowd enthusiastic, and our earnings most satisfying: Apple butter brought in \$209.50, the Bake Sale \$287.55, the Scarecrows \$430, the Candles \$356, and the Food table \$653.60 (this latter included soup, sandwiches, and the apple cider). The grand total was \$1,936.65. Thanks to everybody who helped.

Looking ahead to next year, please save for the scarecrows these items: old hats, old long-sleeved colorful shirts, & old pantyhose (which are used to construct the body, stuffed with straw). Also pint and half-pint canning jars for the apple butter.

MARKET DAYS

Market Days brought in \$242.80 this past summer. We participated in 7 of them (we skipped the last one, since the place was being taken over for the "Oktoberfest" -- so the report in the last Newsletter was actually the final report). Thanks again to Theresa and all her cohorts.

EALY HOUSE NEWS

Helen Pestel, John Saveson, & David Cline are still the only ones working on a regular basis--and "regular" means 3 to 6 days a week. They moved from removing wallpaper to applying primer & paint. Three rooms downstairs are more or less finished, plus a bedroom upstairs, and much of the hall. The plaster repairs are now finished. John has been cleaning the woodwork--it is gorgeous. The piano got taken by the folks now living in the big old Taylor house (happily for them and happily for us). Much remains to do--please come help!

HOLIDAY WISHES FOR THE WHOLE SOCIETY

The busy holiday season is at our doorstep. Everyone seems to have so many plans and obligations on their time. Please don't forget the true reason for the season and stop to just enjoy the blessings in your life. Sometimes the simple, unexpected events and memories become the most cherished.

Everyone has too many obligations, but I am sure that rearranging this or rescheduling that would avail you to be of assistance to helping our organization out for just a few hours sometime. I am looking for some relief workers. The current crop of volunteer labor is getting worn out. We need some other members to step up to the plate. We need lots of help and it doesn't always require hard work or heavy lifting. There is always something that you can do to help us along. Currently, we still have things in the Kern Harrington house that need packed and moved. We need to get out from under that house and the utilities that come with it. If we fail to do this we may be passing the hat to pay the electric bill.

I am also thrilled to announce that our restoration is getting some positive attention from the community. The Chamber of Commerce is giving the project an award at their Christmas luncheon. I will be there with other interested members to enjoy lunch and receive the award. The luncheon is at 11:00, on December 13 at the Royal American links. The cost is \$20.00 per person. This is an annual event for the Chamber and an opportunity for our organization to have some visibility.

We also are planning to open our new museum next Founder's Day and hope to make this a grand event. We will start planning for this event in January and it will require lots of elbow grease before time. We are also going to need lots of volunteer time to pull off this event in conjunction with the other Founder's Day commitments that are the usual events of the day. So please mark your calendars now for Founder's Day and be ready to make this something really special.

We are almost to the \$50,000.00 point for our matching funds and only need to complete some of our bids for the second phase and then NACO will make their match to our accounts. Once phase 2 is complete the museum will be presentable and begin the task of being something the village can feature. Our location should be a bonus, being so close to the schools and closer to pedestrian traffic.

In closing, my message is that we need all members to help in whatever way possible. We can make 2008 a memorable year for our society and our village.

Happy Holidays!!!

from Kim Cathell

Rollie Pestel always greeted one with a friendly grin and a teasing quip. He was a life-long resident of Plain Township, a successful farmer, and a long-time school bus driver for the Plain Local Schools (his alma mater).

His devotion to Margie and his daughters was heart-warming. Many times at the "Joys and Concerns" portion of the service at the Methodist Church, he would proudly acknowledge his happy marriage to his "bride."

His roots are deep in the local area. His maternal grandfather, Lee McElwee, was one of the men who laid the first sidewalks in the village in 1916. His name appears in the left-hand corner of each of the squares of concrete. People could set their clocks at noon as Grandmother McElwee rang the dinner bell for lunch, every day and on time. The school complex now occupies many acres of the old McElwee farm. (Incidentally, Rollie and Ted's Uncle "Shavey" and Aunt Evelyn McElwee owned the farm and the house on Walnut Street now known as the Rose Taylor Dryer House.)

Rollie's paternal grandparents were owners of the 200-acre Pestel farm on Central College Road. They also were involved, as was his father, Art, in the Pestel milk company in Columbus in the 1930's. The family made many worthwhile contributions to the growth of New Albany and Plain Township. We thank Rollie and his family wholeheartedly.

--Arloia Walton

THE SOCIETY MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 6

Prior to the wiener roast at the Cathells' Serenity Chase horse farm, we held our regular monthly meeting. The minutes of the August meeting and the Treasurer's report were approved as read. It was announced that the water line is to the basement at the Dryer House, but is not yet installed inside the house.

Grant, from Durable Slate, attended to answer questions and explain all that had been done in the renovation of the Ealy House. Prior to Grant's presentation, John Ayres read the following statement:

".....On August 13, 2007, at 9 AM, Helen Pestel, Dan (David) Cline, and Marty Saveson representing the Board of the Society, and Nancy Ferguson and John Ayres, duly appointed by the Society to represent it*, met with Grant, Charlie and Ron, representing Durable Slate, at the Ealy House to discuss several items needing completion, further repair or adjustment to the contract price. After meeting around a table in the parlor for about an hour to discuss the contract, we toured the house and noted things from previous punch lists not yet completed, as well as several discrepancies in

the work that have come to light recently. > A record of the meeting and tour was prepared by Nancy Ferguson in consultation with me (John Ayres), and transmitted by e-mail to Grant, Charlie and Ron at Durable Slate on August 14, 2007. Nancy also U.S. mailed a copy of the letter to the Society's president and treasurer. Tuesday of last week, I sent a copy of the letter by U. S. mail to the five other members of the board. Tonight, I have handed copies of the letter to each individual or family of the Society in attendance. > As of yet, I have not received any communication from Durable Slate, either indicating their willingness to complete the contract, to make adjustment, or justifications as to why they believe they should not be required to complete the work or make the adjustments stipulated in the letter. > In order that the Society may have the work either completed or monetarily compensated for, and may receive just remuneration of monies already paid to Durable Slate for contract work they have not done, in addition to the Village inspectors' approvals and contractor affidavits requested on page 5 of the letter, I am asking for your opposition to the motion before us. Once the final payment is authorized by us and made to Durable Slate, we have no standing with them or their sub-contractors. > The Society is spending \$275,700 of the members' past and present money on this endeavor. It must obtain full value for these expenditures to fulfill its fiduciary responsibility to the past and future of the Society."

*This statement would seem to indicate that Nancy Ferguson and John Ayres were appointed by the Society to represent us in this matter. The motion by Sine Ayres that was approved is as follows: That the Executive Board plus John Ayres and Nancy Ferguson as representatives of the owner (the New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society) perform an inspection of the Ealy House to ensure that all items in the contract and previous punch lists have been completed to their collective satisfaction prior to authorization for final payment to Durable Slate being brought before the Society.

The motion and its approval were made at the April 5, 2007 meeting and are in the minutes of that meeting

Grant took us through items on a summary of the items discussed at the August 13th walk-through:

1. Scaffolding anchors have been removed from the outside walls of the building;

2. The contract did not include removal of the porch. The white paint on the inside of the porch was not included in the contract and will be taken care of when we decide what to do with the porch;
3. The window in the southwest bedroom is a contract item and will be taken care of;
4. A change order removed the Bilco unit being installed in the attic roof;
5. The bat dung removal was part of a change order and was removed at no charge;
6. The hot water tank installed is more efficient and energy-conserving than the larger water tank.
7. Chimney mortar wash was done Sept. 1, 2007.
8. Trash was removed Sept. 26th.
9. Collected paper work for Air handlers on Sept. 24th.
10. Missing register in bathroom has been replaced.

Following this discussion, Betty Maynard made a motion we pay Durable Slate the balance due on the contract. Marlene Thomas seconded the motion. The vote was done by a show of hands: 13 for, 5 against and 1 abstaining.

Elizabeth Feichter, Sec.

**THE SOCIETY MEETING OF OCTOBER 4, 2007
at the Plain Township Fire Station**

President, Kim Cathell called the meeting to order.
The Minutes of the September meeting were read and approved
The Treasurer's report was read and approved.

Sign-up sheets were distributed for Harvest Arts.

A list for phase 2 of work yet to be one was distributed to the membership to determine which was of the highest priority.

The colors selected for painting the interior of the museum were approved.

We discussed a possibility of wallpaper donation suitable to the 1860's.

We have saved pieces of wallpaper, stenciling and pictures and the picture in the kitchen is being preserved .

We have a \$3000 bid to complete the plastering. Jim Fodor made a motion to accept the bid, Liz Feichter seconded it and the motion passed.

(
(
Nancy Ferguson presented a program on the back porch of the Ealy House contending that it was an original part of the house. She mentioned the ceiling of the porch interior has lathe and plaster. The Ohio Preservation Society had taken sample and stated it was identical to the ceilings in the basement.

The following is a brief synopsis of Nancy's findings:

The moldings on the porch corners look the same as on the house, and fireplace in the front parlor;

Railings on the front of the porch are hand-made, pickets on an angle, diamond-shaped, again same type of molding;

Stone steps match the stone on the house, four corners based with brick;

Building inspector found the porch in good shape, although the floor is rotted and needs replaced;

The porch was modernized throughout the years.

John Saveson was in favor of keeping the porch.

Nancy indicated she might make a donation toward the purchase of "man-made-wood" for the floor of the porch.

The porch would be a way to use the lay of the land for a handicap ramp.

Liz Feichter made a motion to rescind the motion to demolish the back porch. Nancy Ferguson seconded the motion and it passed with one "no vote."

The Christmas dinner is to be held December 8th at the New Albany United Methodist Church was approved.

(
(
NACO has asked us to remove everything from the out buildings at the KH House. Some things we may want.

Nancy Ferguson's presentation on the back porch was our program

Liz Feichter and Marty Saveson furnished refreshments.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Feichter
Secretary

Phase 2 of the museum was discussed and items needed done were prioritized from recommendations of the membership at the October general meeting.

1. Replace front steps and a railing.
2. Chimney caps.
3. Painting (no bid necessary as the Society is doing it).
4. Security System.
5. Back porch, steps and railing.
6. Septic tank.
7. Regrade (at the basement door).
8. Interior basement door. (David Cline will look at this and may be able to do it).
9. Landscaping.
10. Sidewalks or stepping-stones.
11. Utility sink in the basement.
12. Telephone hook up in the basement.
13. UV protection on windows.
14. Basement door hardware and frame. (David and Junior will look at this).
15. Plastering.

We have a weak battery in the security system at KH. Kim is taking care of this and will keep us informed on moving this unit to Ealy.

The board passed a motion to paint all rooms upstairs Navajo White, the kitchen will be painted green, the music room will also be painted Navajo White. Two bedrooms upstairs have gray paint on the woodwork.

We scheduled November 10th as moving date and Kim will have some guys from the high school help.

The Cub Scouts want to go through the museum but since we are in the process of moving in and out, it probably won't happen.

We approved a motion for a man to take the bedsprings and other items from the attic over the pump room at the Dryer House.

NEW ALBANY-PLAIN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY
GENERAL MEETING – NOVEMBER 1, 2007

President, Kim Cathell, called the meeting to order. Minutes of the October meeting and the Treasurer's report were approved.

The gourds have arrangements in them and Sharon will take these to the craft bazaar on Saturday, November 3 to see if she can sell them.

The painting continues at the Ealy House. Two rooms are *ainted* and two more rooms have coats of primer. Ceilings still need painted and hallways. Plastering has just made the rooms of the house look fantastic. Everyone in the Society owes John Saveson a thank-you for this.

The rest of the house except the kitchen and the southwest bedroom will be painted Navajo white and the kitchen will be painted ^{file}green. The motion was made by John Saveson, seconded by Liz and approved.

The handicap ramp was discussed but nothing was decided until we have a plan to present to the Village.

Our Holiday Dinner will be December 8th at the New Albany United Methodist Church. The cut-off date for reservations is December 1st. Cost is \$12.50. The menu is ham loaf or marinated chicken breast, potato, vegetable, salad, rolls and dessert.

The move-out date for KH is November 10th at 9:00 AM.

A motion was made and passed to get rid of the three jewelry cases.

We received \$300 in donations in the three weekends we disposed of items from the out-buildings at KH.

David Cline described some of the adventures he, John Saveson, Jim Fodor, and Bob Dickendeshar had while presiding over the free salvage give-away. He and Marty Saveson then showed some of the more curious items that turned up. Refreshments were then served, provided by Sharon Carter and Marlene Thomas.

*Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Feichter*

NAPTHS Board Meeting
November 12th

Present: Sharon Carter, Helen Pestel, Kim Cathell, Liz Feichter, Marty Saveson

The Treasurer's report and Minutes of the Oct. 25th meeting were approved.

At the Ealy House, we need weather-stripping. The thermostat is set at 55 degrees because the plaster needs to dry before painting.

We have gray woodwork in the NE and SW bedrooms.

We cannot use a wireless security system. A motion by Sharon Carter and seconded by Liz Feichter to shop ^{for} a security system.

The Chamber of Commerce wants us to open the house on December 2 to complement the Market Street Christmas Tree lighting. We discussed having a bake sale, boutique and donation jar; however, the front steps are an issue and must be repaired before that date. Kim will work on this. Liz and Marty will set up the boutique. Don Cameron will portray Ebenezer Scrooge in the front parlor. Sharon will get some Christmas cards put together and possibly note cards.

Liz and Sharon will decorate for the dinner.

The Chamber is sponsoring a Christmas luncheon on the 13th. Cost will be \$20. We are to receive a donation for renovation of the Ealy House.

A final notice will be sent to our roofer. If we get no response, we will file with Small Claims Court.

Some program possibilities for future meetings will be Chief Hoovler, Chief Chaney, an archeology dig and Dennis Keesee.

The next Board Meeting will be December 10th at Bob Evans at 8:30 AM.

EF

TREASURER'S REPORT -- September/October 2007

	September	October
Income		
Pamphlets	20.00	11.50
Donation (\$250.00 for NACF)	325.00	240.00
Plastering Donation to go to NACF	2,750.00	\$2,895.00
Memberships (Morgan, Carter, Regrut, Bulderbergs, Shannon)		60.00
Harvest of the Arts		1,936.65
Applebutter after Harvest of the Arts		36.00
50/50		4.50
Salvage at Kern-Harrington		293.00
Market Days		152.80
Checking Interest	<u>1.26</u>	<u>.54</u>
Total Income	\$3,096.26	\$5,629.99
Expenses		
AEP -- (KH\$9.49,\$7.72;RTD\$3.67,\$14.12;Ealy\$12.52,\$8.34)	\$ 25.68	\$ 30.18
Columbia Gas of Ohio	6.50	6.50
Durable Slate (balance of contract)	7,749.00	
AT&T	22.57	22.57
Vector Security		104.85
Ace Printing		33.60
Rumpke		47.64
Harvest of the Arts food, cider & wax		244.98
Plastering (to date) of Ealy downstairs & ~½ upstairs	<u>3,750.00</u>	<u>4,120.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$11,553.75	\$4,610.32
September 1st Balance	\$ 19,941.11	
Income	8,726.25	
Expenses	16,164.07	
October 31 st Balance	\$12,503.29	
Hold for Computer	1,800.00	
Hold for Quilt	1,500.00	
Vanguard Fund Balance 9/30/07	19,405.15	
Hold for transferred to NACF Ealy Renovation	5,895.00	
Transferred to NACF Ealy Sustaining	30,650.00	
Transferred to NACF Ealy Renovation	11,139.61	

Helen Pestel, Treasurer

NEW ALBANY PLAIN TOWNSHIP
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Box 219
New Albany, Ohio 43054

certified by



Look familiar? This is the banister which turns into a newel post, not of the Ealy House, but of the Beecher House (also known as the Bath & Body house). John J. Beecher made it for both houses and also for the Taylor House farther east on Dubl-Granv Rd. These three identical, exquisitely carpentered pieces exemplify the habit of artisans to carry their special skills from one job to another. (Likewise, identical mantels are found in these same 3 houses as well as in the Clouse & Dean houses.)

