

Newsletter

August and September 2008
New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society
P.O. Box 219
New Albany, Ohio 43054
(614) 855-9861
www.newalbanyplaintownshiphistoricalsociety.org



The main staircase of the Ealy House

OUR AUGUST MEETING

Our Society meeting on Thursday, August 7, will be in the form of a guided tour of the new cultural arts center in downtown New Albany, right across the street from the Mill. Parking is easy, near the main entrance. We will meet by the front door at 7 p.m. If needed, a short business meeting will take place after the tour.

DATES TO REMEMBER

THURS. AUGUST. 7 -- 7 p.m., Society to tour the McCoy Performing Arts Center.

SAT. AUG. 23 -- Market Day

Labor Day Weekend -- Yard Sale at Dryer property. Exact days and times to be announced.

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

TUES. SEPT. 16 -- Newsletter Deadline

THURS. OCTOBER 9 -- Wiener Roast at Cathell Ranch

SAT. OCT. 11 -- **HARVEST THE ARTS FESTIVAL**, 11 - 4
2 p.m., D.A.R. Tour of Ealy House

SUN. OCT. 26 -- Halloween Event at Museum. Details to be announced.

THURS. NOVEMBER 6 -- 7 p.m., Society Meeting at Summerville. 5055 Thompson Road, to celebrate Aziel Shockley's 100th birthday (actual date is Nov. 27).

NOTE: Work days will be announced. Help is needed! Call 939-0089 for more information.

EALY HOUSE ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER

The Society has been told informally that the Ealy House was placed on the National Register on July 2. We are waiting for official confirmation from the Park Service in the Department of the Interior.

MORE MEMORIES OF THE EALY HOUSE

Kim recently took former residents of the Ealy House through their old abode. Roland (or "Charlie" or "Racky") Campbell and his sister Jean were most impressed with the restoration. Some of their memories are of cracking walnuts in the dining room in the wintertime, sliding down the banister in their pajamas, and having bats in the attic!

Our "library" at the top of the stairs was Jean's room (later, Ruth Hilbert's bedroom), and the tiny little room next to it was their father's office, with a rolltop desk (later, Mrs. Hilbert made it into a bathroom). The pantry had a sink behind the door, with water from the cistern. And they had an organ right where our organ now is, in the upstairs hall.

NO MORE SOOT

The chimneys on the Ealy House have been capped. All Ohio Masonry removed several buckets of soot and five dead birds from the fireplace in the dining room. Two more dead birds and one dead bat were removed from rooms upstairs. No uninvited flying visitors have been seen since.

LANDSCAPING THE GROUNDS

There are some ideas in the air for the gardens and grounds of the Ealy House. The fall will be a good time to move in some old-fashioned shrubs and bulbs in keeping with the way of life in the 1860's. Also, we plan to move the stone slabs from the Kern-Harrington yard to a suitable position in the Ealy yard. Any suggestions?

TO MARKET, TO MARKET

Market Days continue this year, though a bit differently. The Chamber of Commerce is trying new arrangements and new activities during the first Saturday of each month. (This is the only Market Day each month that the Historical Society is attending, even though there is a Market Day on every Saturday through Aug. 23).

On Sat. June 7, vendors displayed their wares along the sidewalks while a human chess game played out on the green during part of the day. On July 5, we set up our booth on the green, and sales slowed while all gathered to watch scenes from the junior musical, "The Music Man."

Our historical pamphlets, greeting cards, stationery, and necklaces have been the biggest moneymakers so far (\$64.25 to date). Customers have many questions about the Ealy House, and the town is waiting for its opening. From now on we will have photos of the Ealy House on display.

Our wish list for our next Market Day (Aug. 2) and for next year includes a display stand for our pamphlets and some of our cards. We would also appreciate baked goods and old-fashioned flowers. Stickers for children would help keep sticky fingers occupied.

If anyone would like to volunteer at our Market Day table on Aug. 2, please let Theresa know (8552623). Or if you would like to set up the table on other Saturdays, you are more than welcome to do so. Theresa would be happy to get the materials to you. Our thanks go to Sine-Marie Ayres, John Ayres, and Marilyn Regrut for their help with the June & July Market Days.

--Theresa Kempker, Market Day Arranger,
Carrier of Tables, & Storer of Goods

THE BYE-LO BABY DOLL

At our July 10 barn party, Debbie Dean presented the Society with the doll shown below. This is called a "Bye-Lo" doll because it was made according to the exact design and construction techniques of the original German dolls created in the 1920's by Mrs. Grace Story Putnam. Mrs. Putnam modeled her first doll after an actual baby. She formed the likeness in clay, at a hospital, then made a plaster mold, and then a wax cast. The dolls were produced with bisque heads and hands in Germany, and later in the U.S.A. with composition heads and hands. Remember that before this time, there were no baby dolls, only little-girl dolls and grown-up dolls. Bye-Los were a huge success. Within a three-year period in the 1920's, Mrs. Putnam made over a million dollars from the dolls.

Debbie created the head and hands of our doll from porcelain (using molds based on the original ones). She painted these by hand and attached them to a muslin body, which she made from an official pattern. And finally she made the exquisite dress and bonnet, almost as much work as the doll itself. This beautiful doll will be displayed in an antique cradle in our museum. Thank you, Debbie!



PHIL HESS, 1931-2008

Philip Hess, a native of West Virginia but a long-time resident of central Ohio, died on June 12 of Huntington's disease. A commissioned officer in the U.S. Navy and Naval Reserves, he was best known to us as a member of the faculty of the Columbus Academy, where he served in various capacities for 40 years and was very much loved and appreciated.

He and Sally had been members of our Society for many years. Some of us remember him as the genial transporter of Sally's baked goods to our various bake sales. We enjoyed his company when he came to some of our events. We send our deep sympathy to Sally and their three surviving children, Nancy, David, and Joseph.

MORE ABOUT EVELYN SWICKARD

A correction to the article on Evelyn in the last Newsletter: She graduated from Capital University in 1930, not The Ohio State University. Also, it should be mentioned that she was a life-long member of the New Albany United Methodist Church.

Her father, Orville, was a local carpenter. Her mother, Nellie, was a sister to my grandfather Arthur Daily. Arthur married Carrie Park, and they were the parents of my mother, Elizabeth, and Walter Daily. Walter married Bernadine Schott, who was a sister to Aziel Schott Shockley. These are just a few examples of the interesting relationships among the families in our village-township area.

--Liz Feichter

EALY HOUSE TOUR FOR D.A.R

The local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will be given a tour of the Ealy House on Saturday, October 11, at 2 p.m. One of our own members, Margaret Bobo, is Registrar of the chapter.

HARVEST FESTIVAL COMING UP

Yes, Oct. 11 is only 2 months away, and as usual we are heavily committed to participating. We plan to again sponsor a bake sale, a soup/sandwich/cider table, scarecrow-making, and candle-making. Apple butter will be featured, and we will do a 50/50 game.

There will be help from some Clouse Road residents at the scarecrow booth, from Presbyterian Church members for the candle-making, and all of ourselves for the rest of it. You will be called upon, fear not. There is no escape.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE JUNE 2 BOARD MEETING

There is good news about the Ealy House: it is now officially tax-exempt.

The Dryer House is a hotbed of bad news. An unidentified truck cut the wire carrying electricity to our pole, which is the same pole used by the warning siren. Also, the golf course workers are using our barn to store various items of theirs. But worst of all is the roof news. A new bid of \$8900. has been submitted by Holley Roofing. This bid does not include fascia or soffit. This bid is of course way over the threshold of \$3000 for small claims court (which does not mean we should not pursue our claim anyway).

NEWS OF FLORENCE BEVELHYMER

Florence and her adoptive family have moved again. The new address is 2956 Wolf Creek Lane, Normal, Illinois 61761. Sadly, Florence had a stroke on June 1 and since then has been in a nursing home in Normal, Illinois. Dan Mooney reports that she can speak and walk and does recognize him and Sondra, but is not her old self. She seems to appreciate greeting cards, which Dan and Sondra read to her.

Minutes of the June 5, 2008 NAPTHS Meeting

This meeting, held at the New Albany-Plain Township Fire Station, was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by President Kim Cathell.

18 members and guests were present this evening.

Kathy Yager read the minutes from the May 1 meeting, from the newsletter. One change was made; the date of last month's meeting should have been printed as April not March. With that change David Cline made a motion to accept, seconded by Betty Maynard, and agreed to by all present.

The treasurer's report was presented by Helen Pestel. Bob Goodrich made the motion to accept, seconded by Marty Saveson, and agreed to by all present.

Kim C. introduced one of our guests, a longtime resident, Dawn Carroll. She is researching what can be done about our local "memorial to local veterans" which sits alongside Johnstown Road, across the street and a little east of Eagles Pizza, in front of the old town hall/police station. The Village of New Albany owns the land it sits on and it now is in the "right of way" for Johnstown Road. There was a newspaper article about Dawn and the memorial, a few weeks ago, and Dawn only received input from 2 people. She wants to know everyone's ideas about where the memorial should be moved to. It is made with materials which will likely crumble if an attempt to move it is made. The village staff thought to make a new memorial near the old burying ground, behind the police station, the Duke/Duchess Shoppe and the town hall parking lot. This is much more hidden from view compared to where it is right now. So give the lady some feedback. Where do you think a new memorial should be built? Should it incorporate any part of the old memorial? Should it contain names of deceased and living veterans? At what point in time should names be added: within 6 months of returning home from war, alive or deceased, 1 year, what space of time? How long should these veterans have lived in New Albany or Plain Township before their names are added to the memorial (as local

residents). Dawn's address is 5409 E. Walnut Street, Westerville, Ohio 43081. Please contact her soon. She wants to have ideas to present to the Village Council at a summer meeting.

Helen P. told us that she has received a letter informing us that the Ealy House (museum) now has tax-exempt status. Hooray!!!

Kim C. told us that the state historical society has sent us a letter stating that our application to place the Ealy House in the National Registry of Historic Places, has been forwarded by the state to Washington, D.C. to the Department of the Interior, National Parks Service.

This summer, Market Days will be held every Saturday. Our executive board recommends that we participate on the first Saturday of the month, with a suggestion that we do this with a "fall back" plan of the next Saturday, if bad weather occurs. John Ayres made a motion to accept this and Marty S. seconded. It was okayed by all present.

We have received a bid for capping the chimneys at the Ealy House. It is for \$590 to "sweep" the flues in both chimneys and to cap both of them. Cleaning one and fitting it for use could get to be reeeaaally expensive. Other than ambience, why does the museum need drafts and smoke in the house? John Saveson made a motion to accept the bid, seconded by John A. A hand vote showed majority acceptance.

There was then discussion about building the landing and steps for the front of the museum. Two bids were presented by David Beatty and Jack Pershing. There was also discussion about adding tuck pointing to the contract to fill in spaces which showed themselves when the stone steps were removed. No final decision was reached, the subject being tabled until the architectural drawings are redone according to the changes the ARB wanted made.

On to the Rose Taylor Dryer House roof: a new bid has been received to remove what work has been done so far and to repair the roof on the main house and 2 flat roofs on added on sections. The

bid is from Holley's Roofing and Siding, Inc. for \$8,900.00. The motion to accept this bid was made by Bob Goodrich, seconded by Emily Eby, and accepted by a hand vote majority of 11 hands. The contract is payable upon completion. Halleluiah, let's getter done!

AT the RTD House the electrical wire from the street to the pole is down. John S. made an offer to pay for the repairs to the downed line. This was accepted by the members present.

The evening's refreshments were provided by the board members present. Delicious. *Kathy Yager, Sec. pro tem.*

EVENTS PROPOSED AT JUNE 25 BOARD MEETING

(1) A big YARD SALE at the Dryer place on Labor Day weekend, to take advantage of flea market traffic. (2) Halloween open-house at Ealy House with refreshments, decorations, costumed tour guides. (3) Some kind of Christmas event.

THE ANNUAL BARN PARTY

On Thursday, July 10, Savesons' barn was the scene of a friendly gathering of about 28 members of our Society (of varied ages) and a very delicious feast. For once, the weather wasn't even "iffy." It was beautiful. In lieu of a regular meeting, Kim opened the affair with two welcome announcements: (1) The Village will pay to put in a sidewalk along the front of the Ealy House, if we will grant the necessary easement, which the group of course agreed to do. (2) It turns out that the Architectural Review Board will accept our architect's drawing for the Ealy House front steps after all, so we can go ahead as soon as we like.

Then came a charming surprise: Debbie Dean presented the Society with a "Bye-Lo" baby doll, dressed in a beautiful christening dress and bonnet. Everything had been hand-made by Debbie, who had even molded and painted the porcelain head and made the muslin body. This doll will lie in an antique cradle in our museum.

TREASURER'S REPORT — May/June

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUNE</u>
Postage Donations	\$14.00	
Bake Sale Cash Donations	40.00	\$40.00 (not yet deposited)
50/50	4.00	
Founders Day Bake Sale	364.05	
Evelyn Swickard Estate	1,000.00	
Checking Interest	<u>3.42</u>	
Total Income	\$1,425.47	

EXPENSES

AEP (KH: \$8.41, \$8.76) (RTD: \$9.12, \$8.75) (Ealy: \$40.00, \$7.53)	\$57.53	\$25.04
AT&T	30.27	
Print Xpress (Newsletter)		57.50
Treasurer State of Ohio (VFIRS Fee)	100.00	
Melaragno Residential Design (Ealy porch & steps)	2,210.00	
All Ohio Masonry (30% of chimney cap job)		<u>187.50</u>
Columbus Water & Sewer	<u>33.33</u>	
Total Expenses	\$2,431.13	\$270.04

May 1st Balance	\$13,604.12
Income	1,465.47
Expenses	2,701.17
End of June Balance	\$12,368.42
Hold for Computer	1,800.00
Hold for Quilt Frame	1,500.00
Vanguard Fund Balance 3/31/08	18,026.80
Balance NACF Ealy Sustaining Fund	28,470.81
Balance NACF Ealy Renovation Fund	13,719.56

—Helen Pestel, Treasurer

New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society

P. O. Box 219

New Albany, OH 43054