

Newsletter

September & October 2014
New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society



*Students removing invasive Honeysuckle Shrubs in woodland
just east of the Ealy House*

DATES TO REMEMBER

MONDAYS AT THE EALY HOUSE — Usually 9:30-12:00, but it's a good idea to call first (Ealy House phone no. is 855-9861).

WED. & THURS. AUGUST 27 & 28 — Eighth-Grade Tours of Ealy House

WED. & THURS. SEPTEMBER 3 & 4 — More Eighth-Grade Tours

THURS. SEPT. 4 — Society Meeting at the Plain Township Fire Station

7:00 p.m. — Business meeting, including the forming of a nominating committee for president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and a new 3-year Board Member.

7:30 — Program: New member Richard Whitelock will give a talk on "Little-known Facts about the Revolutionary War: Heroes and Zeroes." Visitors are welcome.

WED. & THURS. SEPT. 10 & 11 — Final 8th-Grade Tours

SAT. SEPT. 27 — TOUR of the **ROBBINS-HUNTER HOUSE** in Granville. This is a beautiful Greek Revival building, open for tours from 1 to 4 p.m. Some of us also want to go in the morning to the "Antiques Fair" held that day on the grounds of the house. Between the two events, we plan to have lunch at the 1804 Buxton Inn. If you are interested in joining this outing, let Marty Saveson know a few days in advance (614-855-9809) and we can probably arrange car pools. Also, we need to let the R-H staff know how many are coming. (Friends may come, too.) Admission is \$5.00 each.

THURS. OCTOBER 2 — Society Meeting at the Fire Station

7 p.m. — Business Meeting, including the election of officers.

7:30 — Program: Jim Wootten will describe and explain the early division of land in our Township. As a real estate professional, he is interested in not only present-day property lines, but also the history of them. Again, visitors are welcome.

FRI. OCT. 10 — Newsletter Deadline

SAT. OCTOBER 18 — TOUR of the **GALLANT FARM PRESERVE** in Delaware County (just north of Delaware city). This is a 1930's farm re-creation. We will see our former antique reaper, hay rake, and sleigh where they are now well taken care of in a fine old barn. Also, we will tour the house, which is completely furnished with the household belongings of the Gallant family. We will plan to arrive at the farm at 1:00 p.m. Again, non-members are welcome to join us. Let Marty Saveson know in advance who is coming so that we can give a number to the Park managers.

THURS. NOVEMBER 6 — 7:00 p.m. Society Meeting at the Fire Station. Details in next Newsletter.

NEW ALBANY STUDENTS REMOVE INVASIVE PLANTS

AROUND THE EALY HOUSE AND IN RESCH PARK

On April 22, Earth Day 2014, 135 middle school and high school students removed invasive plants and picked up litter from the Resch Park streamside woods that surround the Ealy House Museum. Their goal was to improve the health and ecology of the Rose Run. Additional youth have performed similar community service in a New Albany City Government program.

Non-native plants have often been introduced to our area in the past for ornamental, soil stabilization, or agricultural purposes. Some of these non-native species have become invasive, spreading aggressively and shading out our native Ohio wildflowers and deciduous trees and shrubs. This, in turn, displaces other organisms, especially animal wildlife, that depend upon native plant species to survive. Invasive plants can severely disrupt an ecosystem's cycles and ability to function.

On Earth Day 2014, teachers and students targeted the following three invasive species for removal and disposal:

1. Japanese Honeysuckle has few natural enemies; therefore, it can spread widely and out-compete native plant species. Its evergreen or semi-evergreen nature gives it an added advantage in many areas. Shrubs and young trees can be killed by "girdling" when honeysuckle vines twist tightly around stems and trunks, cutting off the flow of water through the plant. Dense growths of honeysuckle can gradually kill plants by blocking sunlight. Vigorous root competition also helps the honeysuckle spread and displace native vegetation.

2. Multiflora Rose Shrub grows aggressively and produces large numbers of fruits (hips) that are eaten and dispersed by a variety of birds. Dense thickets of multiflora rose can prevent most native shrubs and herbs from establishing and may be detrimental to nesting of birds. It was once promoted for use in erosion control and as "living barbed fences" to confine livestock with its sharp curved thorns.

3. Wild Grape Vines crowd into the tops of trees either by growing up from the ground or by branching into the canopy from a neighboring tree. The trees can become disfigured or killed when the vines become weighed down by snow and ice. The vines can also block needed light and even grow so thick that they strangle native trees.

Now, as you enter the Ealy House driveway, look to your left and note a large portion of the ground in the woods is once again open, bathed in sunlight that will allow native Ohio wildflowers and food-source plants for wildlife to once again flourish. The students will continue their improvements of the forest ecology until our community's Rose Run Riparian Corridor and Resch Park are restored to balanced, diverse, and solely native Ohio vegetation. Our community is proud of the students' environmental stewardship.

— William Resch
May 26, 2014

NOTE: The 6-acre Resch Park is included with the Ealy House in the National Register of Historic Places.



Students removing wild Grapevines that strangle native Ohio trees. The Ealy House is to the right.

REALTOR CARE DAY at the EALY HOUSE

June 4 was a busy day at the Ealy House. It was the day chosen by the New Albany Realtors Association to donate money (\$1000) and time to improve something in the community. The NAFT Historical Society is very fortunate that the Ealy House became their focus.

A large group of workers arrived at 9 a.m. with tools, energy, and muscle. They cleaned weeds and rubble from the foundation, trees, and shrubs. They added top soil, flowers, boxwood, and mulch. A flower bed was created by the side yard stone steps. We asked them to dig out the dirt at the basement entrance to expose the covered stones because that area is often muddy. There were no buried stones; so, with brute strength and good planning, four guys and one girl lifted and moved a huge slab of sandstone from the edge of the property to the basement entrance. It is very hard to believe they did it.

After three hours of hard work, it was very evident that someone really cared enough to make the Ealy House yard pretty. We are very appreciative of the efforts and generosity of the New Albany Realtors Association.

— Marilyn Regrut

NOTES & NEWS

TOURS OF THE EALY HOUSE since Founders Day have kept us on our toes. On May 31, a very enthusiastic group of Westerville folks found much of interest on every floor. Then came the 4th of July, and reportedly the largest crowd we had ever had, keeping the docents going for a good 4 hours. And in between, and since then, there have been many small groups, including a family from Sweden.

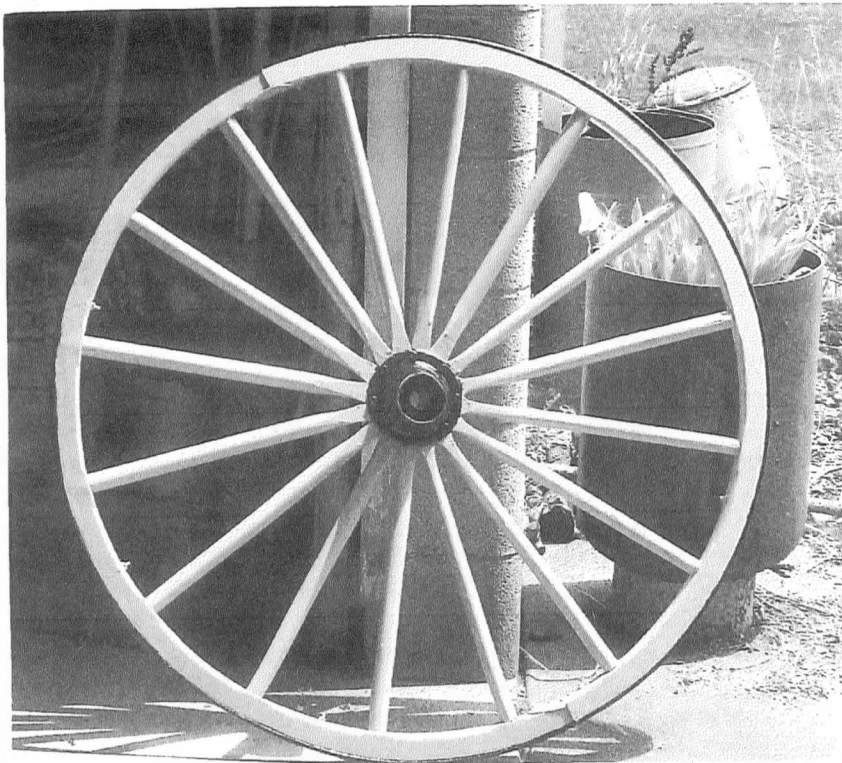
ANTIQUE DOLL CLOTHES, which turned up recently during an Ealy House cleaning, were an attraction at our most recent Society meeting. Naomi Fodor recognized a baby dress with a photograph attached to it—of herself in that very same dress. She identified the other items as doll dresses made by her mother for Naomi's dolls at Christmas long ago. Two of these dresses actually belong to two dolls now on display in the Ealy House. Naomi also identified some of her relatives in several old photographs which she donated to the Society.

Henry Kempker reported that the **GROUND HOG TRAP** is in place. He checks it weekly and there has been no activity. As for the huge hole adjacent to the basement door, one of the men doing the basement work threw a smoke bomb into it. David later filled it in and it has remained filled with dirt.

The Saga of our Spring Wagon

Those of you who watched our local 4th of July parade may have wondered where our Society's spring wagon was. Well, to begin with, powder-post beetles were eating our wooden wheels. So Steve Bevelhymmer and I took the three worst wheels up to Knox County, to Samuel, our Amish farmer-carpenter who had done the major repairs on the wagon about 2 years ago. Samuel told us that although he did wagons, he did not do wheels, so referred us to one Jonathan, who has a buggy factory and builds both buggies and wagons, including wheels. After learning that children would be riding in the wagon for the parade, Jonathan agreed to repair the wheels by July 4th. However, when I went to pick them up on the agreed date, Jonathan's son reported that his Dad was on vacation out of state. (Of course, the Amish do not use telephones.)

I next tried to rent some replacement wheels from Jonathan's workshop, but learned that 120-year-old buggy wheels have very different bearings from those of later wheels and will not work with the wrong kind of bearings.



On my next trip (over 50 miles each way), I took the 4th wheel to have it repaired also, and found Jonathan working on the other 3. Most of each wheel had to be rebuilt, but a few of the original spokes remain. Jonathan taught me the care of the wheels and bearings, including advice to paint them with oil-base paint to prevent insects from eating the wood. The 4 wheels have been properly painted and are back on the wagon, good for 4,000 miles of parades. And if you don't like the color of the wheels, they can be painted with any kind of paint now.

-- David Cline

NEW ALBANY-PLAIN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Highlights of the Abbreviated Meeting of June 5, 2014, held in the Saveson barn following the annual picnic.

The event was attended by 30 members and a few guests.

OLD BUSINESS: Basement restoration and tuck-pointing bids were discussed. It was decided to award the contract to All-Ohio Masonry for \$3475.

Porch and ramp work on the Ealy House will be started next week by Ron Davis. The group voted to add painting of the railing (for \$500) to Ron's contract.

JULY 4 ACTIVITIES: Wagon wheels not yet repaired. Decision must be made about participation in parade if wagon is not usable. Group agreed to let the Board make the decision because time is so short. Robert Dean stated that if we participate in only one parade, it should be the Founders Day one.

In any case, the Ealy House will be open on July 4 from 2 to 4 p.m. We have 5 docents lined up.

Thanks to John and Marty Saveson for their hospitality. It was a perfect summer evening with good food, conversation, and a lovely breeze blowing through the barn.

-- Marilyn Regrut

NEW ALBANY-PLAIN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Highlights of the Meeting of July 12, 2014

The meeting took place at the Hanby House, following a very interesting tour of the house and film of the story of the Hanby family. The meeting was called to order at approximately 11 a.m. Nine members and one guest were present.

OLD BUSINESS: All-Ohio Masonry has begun work on the basement restoration. Thanks to Nancy Ferguson for moving items away from the walls. Ron Davis repaired the basement windows and power-washed the porchs, ramp, steps, and railings. He will paint soon, depending on the weather. JCR Landscape is working on the parking area; weather determines progress. A sump pump has been purchased, will be installed by David Cline & Chandler Kisial.

On July 4th we did not participate in the parade because the wagon wheels repair was not complete. Thanks to Steve Bevelhymmer who located the wagon's original Amish craftsman and to David Cline who made a total of 4 trips (410 miles) during the process. Motion by Becky Knore to pay David \$74 for gas, seconded by Valerie Bevelhymmer, and passed by the members present.

Ealy open-house on July 4 was a huge success. We should consider opening immediately after the parade next year. Thanks, docents. Some of you worked all day.

Dryer barn doors were repaired by Robert & Debbie Dean (following the temporary fix done by the Deans, David, & Chandler just after the barn party).

-- Marilyn Regrut

NEW ALBANY-PLAIN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Highlights of the General Meeting of August 7, 2014

New members Richard Whitelock and Nancy Sharp were introduced.

OLD BUSINESS: A great deal has been accomplished this summer. The driveway/parking area is now complete, and grass is growing on the slope and in the pavers (thank you, Bill Resch, for the watering system). Basement tuck-pointing and brick replacement are complete. The basement windows have been repaired and made secure against the weather. The basement has been cleaned. The new sump pump will be installed when David has help. Porch & railing painting is in progress.

We will not participate this year in **Harlem Township Days** (Aug. 16-17). The planners of the event have been notified and have stated that we will be welcome in 2015.

The hall light fixtures that we ordered turned out to be too large. After some discussion, the group approved sending them back and ordering four of a smaller size -- for both the downstairs and the upstairs halls.

NEW BUSINESS: 8th-grade tours begin on Aug. 27, 2 days a week for three consecutive weeks (see DATES page). Many docents have committed to helping, but several slots remain open. In preparation for those visits, we will be cleaning and organizing at the Ealy House on Monday Aug. 18 and Monday Aug. 25, 9:30 to noon. Any help is welcome.

Several members have been suggesting changing our meeting structure. After some discussion, it was decided to try the following: the business meeting will start at 7 p.m. sharp and adjourn in 30 minutes. The program would begin at 7:30, making it possible for people to attend without participating in a business meeting. The group voted to try this for three months, beginning with the meeting of September 4th. (See Dates page.)

Adjournment of meeting was followed by a presentation by Henry Kempker. Henry told of his experiences during this past spring when, as a student from Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio, he spent 4 months studying at the very old Wittenberg University (of Martin Luther fame) in Germany. It was most interesting and we know he enjoyed learning the culture. He told great stories and passed around intriguing pictures and maps.

Refreshments were provided by Sine and John Ayres. Thank you for the enjoyable treats.

-- Marilyn Regrut

NOTE #1: The August Minutes, of which these are the highlights, have not yet been officially approved.

NOTE #2: The editor apologizes profusely for her careless error in the last issue of the Newsletter where she wrote "Heidelberg" instead of "Wittenberg." Sorry, Henry, but it is confusing to have both a Wittenberg and a Heidelberg University in Ohio and both also in Germany. Anyway, we will now forever remember that Henry attended both Wittenberg Universities.

-- M. Saveson

New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society
Treasurer's Report – May/June, 2014

<u>Income</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>
Memberships (Jean Diehl)	\$ 10.00	
Postage/Newsletter donation	200.00	
Donation	<u>500.00</u>	
Brick		\$ 50.00
May 31 st Tour Donation		<u>15.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 710.00	\$ 65.00
 <u>Expenses</u>		
AEP – (Ealy \$146.35,\$76.79;RTD\$9.10,\$9.10)	\$ 155.45	\$ 85.89
Columbus-City Treasurer Water & Sewer Service	27.72	
Treasurer-State of Ohio (annual charity fee)	100.00	
Print Xpress		47.50
ADT Security		116.07
All Ohio Masonry LLC (tuck pointing down-payment)		1,390.00
Dave Cline (sump pump)		176.20
AT&T	<u>34.25</u>	<u>34.18</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 317.42	\$1,849.84
 <u>May 1st Balance</u>		
	<u>\$ 28,543.80</u>	
Income	775.00	
Expenses	2,167.26	
<u>Balance June 30th</u>	<u>\$ 27,151.54</u>	
Hold for Quilt	1,500.00	
Vanguard Fund Balance 12/31/13	26,316.20	
Balance NACF Ealy Sustaining Fund 03/31/14	78,422.42	
Ameriprise (3/31/14)	141,259.71 (includes 9,414.28	
	(6.66452%) Memorial Money)	

Respectfully submitted, Helen Pestel, Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION for our Society is available on our Web site: newalbanyplaintownshiphistoricalsociety.org

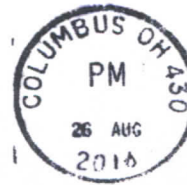
New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society
Treasurer's Report – July, 2014

<u>Income</u>	<u>July</u>
Memberships (Bob Mowery & Joanne Adams)	\$ 20.00
July 4 th & private Tour Donations	<u>12.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 32.00
 <u>Expenses</u>	
AEP – (Ealy \$52.78;RTD\$9.10)	\$ 61.88
Wagon Wheel repair to M Regrut & D Cline	202.00
Mileage for wagon wheel repair to D Cline	74.00
All Ohio Masonry LLC (balance tuck pointing)	2,085.00
JRC Landscaping (Balance on parking pad)	7,480.00
ADT Security System (Balance on repair)	32.59
AT&T	<u>34.99</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 9,970.46
 <u>July 1st Balance</u>	
	<u>\$ 27,151.54</u>
Income	32.00
Expenses	9,970.46
<u>Balance June 30th</u>	<u>\$ 17,213.08</u>
Hold for Quilt	1,500.00
Vanguard Fund Balance 06/30/14	27,895.20
Balance NACF Ealy Sustaining Fund 06/30/14	80,377.04
Ameriprise (6/30/14)	146,502.21 (includes 9,763.67
	(6.66452%) Memorial Money)

Respectfully submitted, Helen Pestel, Treasurer

PARKING AT THE CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION: Parking will be limited when school starts and students park in the numbered spaces in the church lot. Please park close to the church or the ministry center where there are no numbers on the spaces.

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



In this issue:

- Students eradicate invasive plants, pp. 3-4*
- Realtors' Day at the Ealy House, p. 5*
- Saga of our Spring Wagon, pp. 6-7*

Upcoming:

- Aug. 27 & 28, Sept. 3, 4, 10, 11 -- 8th-grade Tours of Ealy House*
- Thurs. Sept. 4 -- Society Meeting at Fire Station*
- Sat. Sept. 27 -- Tour of Robbins-Hunter House in Granville*
- Thurs. Oct. 2 -- Society Meeting at Fire Station*
- Sat. Oct. 18 -- Tour of the Gallant Farm Preserve near Delaware*
- Thurs. Nov. 6 -- Society Meeting at Fire Station*

(See details on all these events on page 2.)

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