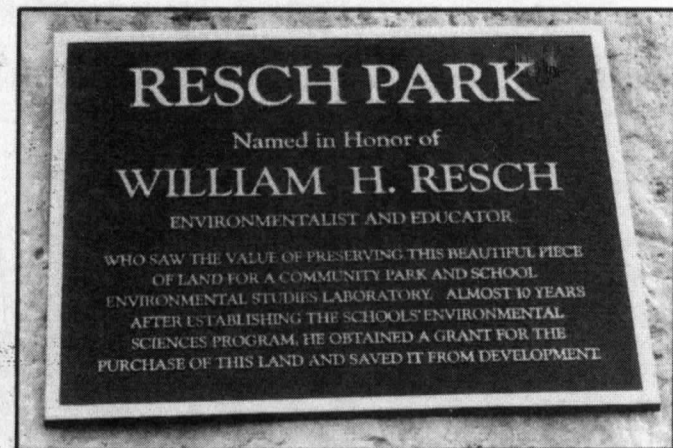


Newsletter

January, February, & March 2015
New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society



DATES TO REMEMBER

MONDAY MEET-and-WORK DAYS at the EALY HOUSE — 9:30-12:00. It's a good idea to call first (Ealy House phone no. is 855-9861).

THURS. FEBRUARY 5 — 7 p.m. Society Meeting at the Fire Station.

Jeri Merritt will give a program about her craft projects and exhibits around the state.

Refreshments by Debbie Dean

THURS. MARCH 5 — 7 p.m. Society Meeting at the Fire Station

Program: Dave & Betty Maynard will report on their recent trip to Russia, with, of course, a lot of photos.

SAT, MARCH 21 — REGIONAL MEETING of central Ohio Historical Societies in Gahanna at the Olde Gahanna Sanctuary, 82 N. High St., Gahanna. Members pay \$30 for the meetings, which include a continental breakfast and lunch. Register by Monday, Mar. 16, with Helen Pestel (855-3765). We will arrange to car-pool. By the way, Delaware & Licking counties are included in our Region 6, so we may see some friends there from Harlem Township and the Delaware parks. Details about the talks and presentations should be available soon.

THURS. APRIL 9 — 7 p.m. Society Meeting.

NOTE THE DATE (2nd Thursday of the month). Details in next Newsletter.

NOTE: If any Society meeting falls on a day when the New Albany schools have been closed because of severe weather, that meeting will be canceled.

THE COVER PHOTOS show the recently created amphitheater and entrance plaque for Resch Park, which is located just west of the Ealy House on Dublin-Granville Road. The amphitheater is constructed of Glacial Boulders carried from Canada and deposited in Plain Township by the retreating glacier thousands of years ago. A major addition to our educational properties, this will be used by art, drama, science, and natural history classes. (See p. 7 for more on this topic.)

THANK YOU

Since my term as President has ended, it is time to say thank you for trusting me with the leadership role in this Society. I have enjoyed meeting many new friends, working with Society projects, and bringing members of the community into the Ealy House. We have enjoyed some success because our members work together.

At this time we can be proud of a lovely museum filled with artifacts and records from early New Albany and Plain Township families. We have access to much history of the community and its residents because items were preserved and facts were written down. We are indebted to the early members of the Society who established the group and made things happen by giving of themselves (and their inherited artifacts and photographs and even their funds). We continue to be contacted by members of long-time local families, as happened again recently. They become a wonderful source of information for us and we are thrilled to welcome them into the Ealy House. Our communication mechanism is working well, thanks to Catherine Saveson, who maintains our Web Site, and Marty Saveson, who edits our Newsletter. Thanks to their continuing work, people know about us.

As we move on with maintaining the history of the area, the majority of our newer members are not descendants of early local families. We are fortunate to be attracting members who have entered the area at a later time, but nevertheless support our mission of preserving our local history. Thanks to them, the Society will continue to grow and thrive.

The NAPT Historical Society is a wonderful group of great people. I look forward to continuing to be a part of it. -- Marilyn Regrut

FIRST GRADE TOURS

Nov. 3rd and 4th were busy days as 16 classes of New Albany First Graders visited the Ealy House along with their teachers. They learned a lot about how different life was "long ago." It is amazing how interested these very young children are as they visit a strange new place. Their questions are great, their comments are wonderful, and we love having them. See page 8 for some of their own descriptions of their visit.

1019 Brush Arbor Circle
McDorrough, GA 30252
December 2014

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS from GEORGIA!

A very long time ago, a friend said, "There comes a time when changes will be made." This year for me, the change is that I can no longer write a note to each of you. So with best wishes and hugs, I'm thinking of you.

Please, picture this: One woman, one power chair, two 1-lb. cans of beans (to use as dumbbells) and a list of shoulder exercises from the therapist for a torn shoulder clavicle. All ends with 20 hugs to reward myself, and they hurt!! However, the shoulder is feeling better.

In 2014, there were many fun opportunities for me. I made a motor trip to Myrtle Beach, North Carolina, to meet some lovely people. I found out that I have five granddaughters instead of four, and four great-grandchildren instead of two.

I have the joy of many visits with one great-grandchild, Nola Rose, who is 2 and very smart.

93rd birthdays can be such fun. Our daughter put on Facebook that I would be 93 on May 3rd. That resulted in 78 cards that made me cry and laugh. I also received flowers, candy, and a cake. The wife of a local air conditioner repairman baked me a beautiful cake which he delivered the same day that one of our two air-conditioning units had to be replaced.

I also find that visiting with family and friends by phone is very pleasant. Hearing of family plans, job promotions and college, and seeing the little ones grow is so great. Best of all, getting out of my bed each day brings me joy and relief.

The Atlanta Braves baseball team fell apart and 2015 doesn't look very promising. I am happy that we still have our two Freddie's.

Please keep the letters and phone calls coming! Have a blessed holiday.

Much, much love,
Arloia Walton

(Editor's note: New members of our Society who do not know Arlie should be told that she was a long-time resident of New Albany, descended from a pioneer family in Plain Township. She was one of the founders of our Society in 1975 and a tireless worker with endless enthusiasm for our many projects. She and her husband, Cecil, moved to the Atlanta area in 2001 to be near their daughter Beth and her family. Sadly, Cecil died in 2010, but Arlee remains comfortably ensconced in her own apartment in the same house with Beth's family.)

NORMA BUTTS GORSUCH (1924 - 2015)

Norma Jean Butts was born on February 18, 1924, to Gale and Frances Butts. She grew up in Gahanna, along with two sisters, Ruth and Florence. She attended elementary and high school in Gahanna and went on to teach for 37 years at East Linden Elementary School in the Gahanna area. We are told that she was much appreciated by her students, some of whom kept up with her for years.

Norma joined our Historical Society in the 1990's and was an active participant in the Tuesday morning cataloguing sessions at the Kern-Harrington House. Her expertise was in glassware -- especially Ohio glassware, of which she had an enormous collection. She died this past January 8, almost 91 years old.

Norma Jean liked to tell the story of the little band at the school when she was in first grade. She always rued the fact that she was not allowed to play the drum, because a certain little boy in 2nd grade (namely, John Saveson) got to play the drum, while she had to play some inferior instrument like a triangle. John Wolfe, who was in the first grade along with Norma, remembers that he played the tambourine in that same band all those years ago.

Norma was descended from a Meckwart family, who had come from Germany. The rope bed which is such an attractive and interesting piece of furniture in our Ealy House bedroom came from the Meckwarts, and was given to our Society by Norma Jean. She will be remembered also for having made sure that the old school house on Rte. 62 in Gahanna, which belonged to her family, got preserved. It is now restored and standing on land near the Gahanna High School, on Havens Corner Road.

-- M. Saveson

PLEASE HELP US WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

James & Susan Huetter
4420 Haybury Drive
New Albany, OH 43054

Barbara Sweeney
7122 Gable Stone Lane
New Albany, OH 43054

NEW ALBANY-PLAIN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Highlights of the Meeting of November 6, 2014

The meeting was called to order by President David Cline at 7:00 p.m. at the Plain Township Fire Station. Minutes from the October meeting and the new Treasury report were approved.

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF A TRUSTEE: Betty Maynard was nominated for the one-year opening of a trustee position on the governing Board. The nomination was unanimously approved without further discussion and Betty is now a member of the Board.

A MOTION TO HIRE OUR FORMER CLEANING PERSON TO CLEAN THE EALY HOUSE IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS WAS MADE, seconded, and unanimously approved.

"TIME TRAVELER" CERTIFICATES are being handed out to all the children who visit the Ealy House.

Our membership has been invited to the **Harlem Township Historical Society** presentation on Schools at the Center Village Firehouse on November 13 at 7 p.m.

Open Houses: An Ealy Open House was held on Sunday, Oct. 26. Two more are scheduled this year: one on "Black Friday," Nov. 28, and the last on Sunday, Dec. 7.

Following the meeting, Marilyn Regrut provided refreshments for the members' pleasure. They were generously assorted and very delicious. Many thanks to Marilyn.

PROGRAM: A **GUEST PRESENTATION** was made by Joanne Adams and Bob Mowery on the art of calligraphy. Both of them demonstrated and explained the techniques and the uses of this ancient skill.

-- Richard Whitelock, Secretary

(Note: Bob and Joanne are both professional artists and they are members of our Society. They have indicated that they would be very willing to teach classes or give workshops in calligraphy for our Society, perhaps at the Ealy House during school tours or open houses, or perhaps at Founders Day.)

MORE VIEWS OF RESCH PARK



Entrance to Resch Park
The amphitheater is farther ahead, down toward the creek.



Students seated on the boulders in the amphitheater.

FIRST-GRADERS REPORT ON THEIR TOUR

(On November 3rd and 4th, 2014, we showed all 16 first-grade classes through the Ealy House. Here are a few excerpts from the letters we received from one of those classes.)

Adam: "Did you now that the Ealy House is 150 years old? yes, I did. First I went to the parlor. In the parlor was litte bit of books. In the parlor in sted of tvs there were 3D glassis. In the parlor there was a oil lamp.

Angela: "I went to the basement. I saw a corn machine and even took a turn on it! It was made of metel and there was a bucket under the machine. I saw a saw in the basement to. They told me it was used to cut down trees. Then I went to the kitchen. I saw a butter churn. You would put some cream in the churn and now some body that is about six or seven years old will mix the cream until the cream turns into butter. I felt really exited because I learned new things."

Mason: "Then we whet to the basement we saw a axe wood nives and how to mack shooses. I was happy becoss I was fun and it was about history."

Nina: "Do you know what the Ealy house looks like? It is a red brik house that is old."

Rebekah: "Have you ever been to the Ealy house? I did! I went to the Ealy house on November 4th. In the parlor was books. The books cost alot of mony! The kids had to pass the books to the other kids. In the dining room their were nice plates. And in the parlor their was a stencil on the ciling. We also saw picture binocurals. I got to look in the pictrue binocurals! In the basement I got to use a corn machine. In the kitchen I got to use a butter chern. By the stove I saw bern marks. I leard a lot in the Ealy hous."

Samantha: "Frist, I went to the parlor. At the palor I saw pretty furniture were the guests would sit. There was a table, a couch, and a chair. In the past they had a record player and it only worked if you wind it up and you needed to put the big disc in it. In the back room they did not have light so they used a oil lamp."

Tyler: "Upstairs is were I went first. Upstairs in the hall there was a organ. Next I went to the basement. In the basement there was a saw. Next I went to the kitchen. The kitchen had lots of food tools after that I went to the dining room. Last I went to the parlor. I felt tiered beacus I walked a lot."

VISITS FROM CUB SCOUTS

Two Dens of Cub Scout Pack #150 visited the Ealy House recently. The "Webelos" joined community members at our open house on December 7. The "Tigers" came on Tuesday the 9th. The Scouts and their family members saw the entire house, including the attic. They were interested and very attentive and polite, although some had visited previously with a school class.

The Christmas decorations in the house at the time they visited consisted of simple things, the way a home would have been decorated long ago. The tree was decorated with candles, ribbon, old glass ornaments, and cranberries strung and hung as a garland. Old toys under the tree consisted of books, a doll and buggy, an iron toy tractor, and painted tin items. Evergreen branches and a crèche were on some of the mantels.

The Webelos visited at 5 p.m., when it was dark outside; this prompted the lighting of an authentic oil lamp in the back parlor, in addition to the electrified lamp. A recently donated oil lamp hanging on the wall in the kitchen was also lighted. The use of these wonderful lamps provided a lovely ambience to the house.

-- Marilyn Regrut

THOMAS VERNON EALY (1944 - 2014)

Tom Ealy, son of the late Harold Vernon Ealy and Margaret McCann Ealy, died on December 22, following a series of strokes. Some of us in the Society had met him and his sister, Cathie Zitko, in the fall of 2013, when they came to the Ealy House to see the abode of their great-great-great uncle, George Ealy, who built the house. The two are descended from George's brother Peter Ealy. Tom and Kathe presented our Society with two tools which had belonged to their grandfather Luther Melvin Ealy, a draw knife for shaping wood and a ladle for pouring molten lead.

Tom graduated from Bishop Hartley High School in 1962 and spent his working years in sales and in the lawn care business. In addition to his sister, he is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Heather and Heath Sigman and grandsons Keaton and Aiden Sigman, of Pickerington. We are very sorry to lose our friend and Ealy relation, after so short an acquaintance.

-- M. Saveson

ANNUAL HOLIDAY DINNER

Our Christmas dinner party was its usual friendly, festive, delicious affair on Thursday, Dec. 4, with about 30 in attendance. President David Cline welcomed the group. Jean Shafer and her Methodist young people served an excellent dinner, and then there was a program with a few surprises. Introduced by Eunice Kathy Yager, three Otten family members led us in some carol singing -- with Liam on the violin, Rick on the banjo, and Cath on the mandolin. Then our three high-school-freshmen docents gave us a Christmas musical medley with Grace Mancini, bass violinist; Meghana Ravi, alto singer; and Willow Otten, violinist and soprano singer.

Then came a surprise video presentation dedicated to Marilyn Regrut, recognizing her many contributions to our Society over the past 4 years. Jerry Merritt had produced the video giving many views of the Ealy House, meetings, and other events, including past Christmas dinners. What a delightful reminder of our recent history and a very nice tribute to Marilyn, who was completely astonished and appreciative, as were we all.

NOTES & NEWS

CHANGE OF ADDRESS -- Norma Massie has moved yet again, this time to:
4373 Ruston Ave. -- Apt. 213
Gahanna, OH 43230

COSTUMES -- The three historical sites we have visited this past year (Hanby House, the Robbins-Hunter House, and the Gallant Farm) all have docents outfitted in period clothing, so why not the Ealy House? When asked for their reactions to their tours of the Ealy House, some 8th-graders suggested that our docents wear costumes. Do any of our readers have skirts, blouses, aprons, or men's shirts that might be appropriate for persons in the 1860's? Would anyone be interested in helping us make such garments? Does anyone have some patterns that would be appropriate?

"THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES" will be the title of Richard Whitelock's projected undertaking. He wants to create an archive of the memories of the old-timers of New Albany and Plain Township. Please help him if he asks you for an interview. We need to record our local history while we can. Thanks, Richard.

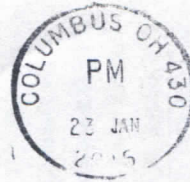
TREASURER'S REPORTS for Oct., Nov., & Dec. 2014

	October	
<u>Income</u>		
Memberships (Carter, Sweeney)		\$ 120.00
Donations		68.99
Pamphlets		4.25
Total Income		\$ 193.24
<u>Expenses</u>		
AFP (Ealy \$100.61; RTD \$9.12)		\$ 109.73
Wall-Carroll Electric (install office fixtures)		562.00
AT&T		37.89
Minuteman Press (Newsletter & brochures)		114.39
Total Expenses for October		\$ 824.01
	<u>November</u>	<u>December</u>
<u>Income</u>		
Memberships (Regrut, Yager, Campbell, Buzza, Gorsuch, Hutter)	\$ 50.00	\$ 30.00
Donations (Inc. \$6.00 open house)		516.00
Pamphlets		
Christmas Dinner	3.25	
Total Income	<u>232.50</u>	<u>195.00</u>
	\$ 285.75	\$ 741.00
<u>Expenses</u>		
AEP - (Ealy \$176.09, \$444.08; RTD \$9.12, \$9.12)	\$ 185.21	\$ 453.20
Time Traveler certificates for Ealy House visits	128.59	
Memorial Bench	447.50	
Columbus -City Treasurer - Water & Sewer Service	109.56	149.00
Amerigas (annual tank rental at Dryer House)		116.07
ADT Security (three months)		
Ealy House Cleaning	200.00	
Christmas Dinner		487.50
AT&T	<u>37.92</u>	<u>37.92</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 1,108.78	\$ 1,243.69
Nov 1 st Balance	\$ 12,935.58	
Income	1,026.75	
Expenses	2,352.47	
Balance December 31 st	<u>\$ 11,609.86</u>	
Hold for Quilt	1,500.00	
Vanguard Fund Balance 09/30/14	27,848.73	
Balance NACF Ealy Sustaining Fund 09/30/14	79,134.21	
Ameriprise (11/30/14)	148,266.23 (includes 9,881.23	
	(6.66452%) Memorial Money)	

Respectfully submitted, Helen Pestel, Treasurer

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

www.newalbanyplaintownshiphistoricalsociety.org



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Upcoming:

Thurs. Feb. 5 -- Society Meeting
Thurs. Mar. 5 -- Society Meeting
Sat. Mar. 21 -- Regional Meeting
Thurs. April 9 -- Society Meeting

(Details on these events on page 2)

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