

Newsletter

June, July, & August 2015
New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society



Grand Marshals Robert & Debbie Dean wave to the crowd in the 2015 Founders Day Parade. They are riding in a bright red 1988 Avanti convertible, followed by their own bright red 1937 Studebaker coupe, driven by their son Danny. (The Avanti is being driven by friend Richard James, with Betty Dean Maynard in the front passenger seat.)

DATES TO REMEMBER IN JUNE, JULY, & AUGUST

MONDAYS at the EALY HOUSE — 9:30-12:00. We meet, exchange ideas, get a few chores done, & show the occasional "walk-in" around the house. It's a good idea to call first (Ealy House phone no. is 855-9861).

ANNUAL POTLUCK PICNIC

THURS. JUNE 4 — 6:00 p.m. at the Savesons' barn, 8370 Clouse Road. The Board will provide several main dishes. Everyone else please bring a salad, side dish, or dessert to share. Lemonade and ice water will be provided. Please bring your own table service (extras will be available).

All members and their guests are invited. For more information, call Marty Saveson at 855-9809.

SAT. JUNE 13 — **OUTING TO SLATE RUN METRO PARK.**

(Rain date: June 27). See page 3 for details.

SUNDAY, JUNE 14 — 1 - 3 p.m. Ealy Open House. Docents needed.

THURS. JULY 2 — 3:30 p.m. **Ribbon-cutting at Resch Park.** This will be just west of the Ealy House. Park across the street in the church lot.

7 p.m. **Society Meeting at the Fire Station.**

Program: Robin Schuricht, Education Specialist with the Ohio History Connection, is an expert in **Weaving and Spinning.** She is interested in helping us get our big loom back in usable order.

SAT. JULY 4 — **Independence Day Celebration**

Parade at 11:00 a.m. with our wagon.

Ealy Open House after parade until 3 p.m. Docents needed.

SUN. JULY 19 — **OUTING TO HILLIARD HISTORIC VILLAGE, 1-3 p.m.**

Rain date: July 26, 1-3. See page 3 for details.

THURS. AUGUST 6 — 7 p.m. **Society Meeting at the fire station.**

SAT. & SUN. AUG. 15 & 16 — **Harlem Township Days in Center Village.**

See p. 3 for details.

THURS. SEPTEMBER 4 — 7 p.m. **Society Meeting at the Fire Station.**

OUTINGS PLANNED FOR THE SUMMER

SLATE RUN LIVING HISTORICAL FARM

Slate Run Living Historical Farm is a working 19th-century farm, with huge old barn, an assortment of horses, chickens, other animals, old horse-drawn machines which are actually used, and everything needed for a pre-motorized farm. Likewise, the house is fully equipped in late-19th-century furniture and kitchen devices, and usually cooking is going on there. Though it is outside of Franklin County, it is part of the Metro Park system. It right next to a regular park with picnic areas, etc. We will aim for Sat. June 13, with a rain date of June 27. Our plan is to meet at the Methodist Church Parking lot at 9 a.m. for car-pooling. Bring a picnic lunch for yourselves. We will want to get to Slate Run Farm by 10 a.m., tour the house and barns & then go to a nearby picnic area in Slate Run Park for our lunch. Call Marty Saveson (855-9809) ahead of time so we will know who-all is coming.

HILLIARD HISTORICAL VILLAGE

The Hilliard Historical Society, known as the Northwest Franklin County Historical Society & Museum, has a whole collection of buildings which are arranged like a little village on the edge of the Franklin County Fairgrounds. They include an 1876 church, an 1814 school, a train station, train signal, and caboose, an 1850 granary, an old barn, a vintage voting booth, a gazebo, and a reproduction covered bridge. There is an admission charge of \$8. for adults, \$7. for senior citizens, and \$1. for students. The hours are Thursdays, 4-8, Saturdays 4-8, and Sundays 1-4 p.m. We will try for Sunday afternoon, July 19, with a fall-back date of Sunday, July 26. Call Marty Saveson (855-9809) if you want to go with a group and if you are willing to car-pool.

HARLEM TOWNSHIP DAYS

On Saturday and Sunday, August 15 & 16, the Harlem Township Historical Society will hold its annual **Harlem Township Days** festival in Center Village on the green across from the Fire Station just off Route 605. The parade starts the event on Saturday at 10 a.m. and activities go on until 6 p.m. that day. On Sunday, the hours will be 9 to 5. There will be dozens of activities, including a Civil War encampment complete with cooking and laundry as well as military exercises. Also there are tractor pulls, children's activities, food, a quilt show, and a lot more. Our Society has participated in a small way each year. This year, David Cline will be there both days, displaying some of our antique artifacts, and Marty Saveson has been invited to demonstrate rug-braiding one day. We urge you to take advantage of this impressive and enjoyable event.

NEW ALBANY-PLAIN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of the General Meeting of April 9

Meeting was called to order by President David Cline at 7:03 PM.

Those in attendance were David Cline, Helen Pestel, Jeri Merritt, Jerry Merritt, Betty Maynard, Robert Dean, Debbie Dean, Kathy Yager, Marilyn Saveson, Nancy Ferguson, Glyde Marsh and Nancy Sharp.

David Cline announced that Richard and Pam Whitelock were celebrating their 35th wedding anniversary.

Minutes of March 5, 2015 were read and motion to accept by Helen Pestel and seconded by Betty Maynard. Approved unanimously.

Helen Pestel gave the Treasurer's Report. This will be the last AEP bill for the RTD. Motion to accept by Marty Saveson and seconded by Nancy Sharp. Approved unanimously.

David Cline reported that the furnace is working and will write up guidelines for the most efficient use.

TYCO, ADT's parent company has not provided an estimate. Robert Dean is investigating Monotronics for desired coverage.

Nancy Ferguson and David Cline have procured an estimate for painting the spring wagon for \$2000. Robert Dean and David Cline and anyone else that is interested will paint the wagon navy blue.

ROSE TAYLOR RYER REPORT:

Joe Ciminello has contacted Nancy Ferguson and wants to meet to resolve the lot split so we may sell the property.

David Cline gave a man permission to look for metal and artifacts on the property and will let us know what he finds.

FOUNDER'S DAY REPORT: Founder's Day will be May 16.

Robert and Debbie Dean are the Grand Marshals.

Kiwanis Club and Key Club are the Community Connection.

April 9, cont'd

We are still looking for a horse to pull the spring wagon.

We will be displaying in the same gym as before. Heritage quilt and maps and "Guess What It Is."

The Ealy House Museum will be open after the parade until 3:00 PM.

NEW BUSINESS

Nancy Ferguson on behalf of the board reported on the projects pending at the Ealy House and which ones we could use the grant money for. David Cline asked that the general membership allow the Board to obtain estimates for the projects and then prioritize the list. The membership asked that we review some energy-saving devices that would reduce heating costs of the Ealy House. After the Board obtains estimates for the projects, we will set aside a portion of the grant money to pay some of the high heating costs.

A group of students doing a senior project will clean the yard and plant grass seed April 18.

April Open House will be held at Ealy House on Sunday April 19th from 1:00 to 3:00 PM.

The general meeting was concluded at 7:30 PM.

At the conclusion of the business portion of our meeting, Jillian Carney, Department Manager Digital Services, presented a slide presentation and talk on digitizing and preserving records. Mark Sundlov, who was with her, works in the same office as the local historian and will provide us with first-grade educational materials. Nancy Ferguson and David Cline had given them a tour of the Ealy House prior to the meeting.

Refreshments were provided by Jeri Merritt and were very good.

Respectfully submitted by David M. Cline, President

A VIEW OF FOUNDERS DAY FROM THE EALY HOUSE

Heartfelt thanks to our members who participated in the organization and much of the preparation for the Ealy House's participation in this year's Founders' Day. Those of us who were to be the opening crew of docents were able to have a good view of the Parade from the front steps of the Ealy House. The Parade took off on time with rain-threatening clouds above. The Grand Marshals (Robert & Debbie Dean) led the parade, followed by the Mayor, local judges up for election, Girl Scouts, 4-H members, convertibles, pickup trucks, utility trucks, dogs on leashes, baby strollers, and skate boards in great numbers. The community was well represented in the parade.

Bringing up the rear of the parade was our Society's President, David Cline, proudly sitting on the bench of honor in the newly renovated blue antique wagon which seemed to be shining under the overcast skies.

Our horse-drawn display was a hit. The "Ole Grey Mare" (actually, a white Percheron named "Tim") pulled with dignity, and when the parade was over and the horse returned to the Ealy House for trailering, "Tim" enjoyed a sumptuous feast on our finely cultured dandelions.



During our Ealy Open House, our Vice-President Neil Kirby's enthusiasm and pure love for the house and all its intricacies both outside and in were clearly evident in his presentation. He made a great effort to insure that our community members appreciated the home and its position in local history that it still proudly displays. What really showed through on that grey day and at that sparsely attended function, was the first-class, enthusiastic tour conducted time and time again by Neil. What an asset he is to our Society! Thank you, Neil, for a job well done. You were the highlight of my day and you made all the work and preparation worth while. Anyone who has never heard Neil's presentation or felt his enthusiasm for the Ealy House has missed a real treat.

A final thanks to David Cline, Nancy Ferguson, Marilyn Regrut, Glyde Marsh, Neil Kirby, and the rest of the day's volunteers. You all brought dignity to our mission on Founders' Day.

-- R. Whitelock

A VIEW FROM THE GYM

Despite the occasional rain showers and the unfamiliar layout of booths and rides, Founders Day turned out to be well worth all the work to put it on. Outdoors, behind the elementary school gym, there were huge crowds all day, milling around the food booths and riding the rides. But when the occasional rain showered down, the school art show, which was quite spectacular, and the gym filled up with plenty of wet people to look at the displays.

There were a dozen or more tables of exhibits in the gym (5 of which were OURS). Our old photos, our Heritage Quilt, David's collection of "What Is It?" antique objects, and the reproduction antique toys attracted a lot of attention. The kids loved playing with the jumping jacks and bats with balls on a string. Marilyn Regrut's antique button display and Marty Saveson's rug-braiding also attracted appreciative visitors. Perhaps our most eye-catching display (after the Heritage quilt) was the New Albany High School band uniform, along with the 1907 cornet, both of which were used in the band by Alexander Doran in 1912.

-- M. Saveson

Our Historical Society's antique spring wagon, pulled by Percheron "Tim" in the Founders Day Parade of 2015. Riding in the back of the wagon is our Society President, David Cline (looking away from the camera). The handsome new paint job on the wagon was finished in time for the parade by David himself and Robert Dean.

NOTES & NEWS

The **ROCKY FORK METRO PARK** in the northwest corner of Plain Township is under construction. Trails are being created, restrooms and at least one shelter are already going up, and informational signboards are being made. Some of our Society members have been asked for help in describing former mills and dwellings, Native American artifacts, and the geology of the area. We have seen some of the signs during the planning process, and they are both beautiful and instructive. We are told that portions of the new Park will be open by summer.

RECENT SPEAKERS: At our recent Society meetings we have been privileged to hear from several experts on subjects pertinent to the Ealy House. In April, **Jillian Carney, the Manager of Digital Services in the Outreach Division of the Ohio History Connection**, gave us a lot of useful advice on how to preserve our documents, photographs, and other important papers. She was accompanied by **Mark Sundlov, also from the Ohio History Connection, where he is the Executive Secretary of the Ohio Local History Alliance**, which means that he helps organizations like ours to learn about our local history and how to help local residents and school children understand their own local history.

At our May meeting we were fortunate to have **Constance Mengel** analyze the **graining and faux painting** on the woodwork and the doors in the upstairs and downstairs halls of the Ealy House. She is an expert in 19th-century American grain painting and gave us quite an interesting talk on the itinerant artisans who did such work. She pointed out different styles of brushwork on our dining room door and showed us various kinds of tools that would have been used.

The new so-called "1 - 8" school building was open to visitors during Founders Day. Quite a few of us took advantage of it during one of the downpours that day. Some of us were lucky enough to have a 4th-grader whose classroom was in that building this past year show us around. It is truly a marvelous building, unlike any traditional school. There are many open spaces, no regular hallways, many sets of classrooms which can be opened up together, a cafeteria on every floor, a roof garden, and a greenhouse. Half the chairs in each classroom are rocking chairs (for fidgety kids); beanbag seats are in the lounge areas. There is an assembly room on each floor, complete with a stage. Let's have a Society meeting there sometime!

NEW ALBANY-PLAIN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Highlights of the Society Meeting of May 7

The meeting was called to order by President David Cline at 7 p.m. at the Ealy House. The minutes of the April 2015 meeting were read by Secretary Richard Whitelock and unanimously approved. The Treasurer's report was given by Helen Pestel and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS: Bids are out for various proposed jobs. Once they have been received and prioritized, the Board will present its recommendations to the general membership for approval.

ROSE TAYLOR DRYER HOUSE: Board members met with Joe Ciminello and Vince Romanelli on April 24, 2015. All parties agreed to revise the contract to offer the property for sale, and our attorney is presently drawing up the contract for approval by all parties.

FOUNDERS' DAY REPORT: The Parade will begin at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 16, led by Grand Marshals Robert & Debbie Dean. President David Cline will ride in our newly painted spring wagon. Our displays will be presented in the Elementary Gym. David Cline will man the exhibit with help from other volunteers. Marilyn Regrut will display historic buttons. The 1917 New Albany Band uniform and cornet will make the trip to the gym along with other artifacts selected from the Ealy House. And the Ealy House, with another set of volunteers, will be open from noon until 3 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS: We donated a "Cat's Meow" miniature model of the old high school to the Founder's Day silent auction. Robert Dean will try to sell some more of our Cat's Meows at his 50th class reunion.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The ribbon-cutting ceremony for Resch Park has been tentatively re-scheduled for July 4, assuming that Bill Resch's knee operation will allow him to attend.

Our annual Pot-luck Picnic will be held on Thurs., June 4, at 6:00 p.m. at Savesons' barn. (See details on p. 2)

Our next Ealy Open House will be on June 14 (Flag Day) from 1 to 3 p.m. Docents, please offer your services.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

PROGRAM: Guest Constance Mengel spoke on faux painting and graining. As our meeting was being held in the Ealy dining room, she was able to analyze the faux graining on the dining room door, which is the same as that on all the doors and woodwork in our two hallways. Afterward, delicious refreshments were provided by Jeri Merritt on the back porch.

CLASS OF 1965 CELEBRATES 50th

On May 23, 1965, Dr. Glyde Marsh, then President of the NAFT Board of Education, handed out diplomas to 40 graduating high school seniors on the stage of the gym in the 1925 school building. Exactly 50 years later, on May 23, 2015, Dr. Glyde Marsh handed out Golden A's to 13 members of that same class, on the same stage in the same building. Dr. Marsh gave a short talk after the recent ceremony, in which he described the problems the School District had gone through in 1965. The group then gathered for lunch at the Rusty Bucket, where they were joined by 2 more class members.

Alumnus Robert Dean, who had organized the day's events, had put together a souvenir booklet for everybody, containing photographs from the past and copies of documents of interest to the class of 1965. It should be added that he drove to the events in his 1963 Lark, the very same car he had driven during his high school years. Later that day everyone gathered at Debbie and Robert Dean's big barn for pizza and further reminiscing.

Of the original class of 40, 33 are still living. The 15 who attended the 50th reunion are as follows: Elena Atwood Scott, Robert Dean, Patty Easter, Dianne Hasson Cox, Lila Hunter Grimes, Keith Hill, Mary Margaret Marsh, Sherry Schneider Richards, Tom Schneider, Dennis Scott, Ron Simpson, Martha Swick, Floyd Thompson, John Tinon, and George Wolfe.

SOME LAST WORDS ABOUT FOUNDERS DAY

It is time for some words of praise for the Founders Day Committee for planning and producing such a big and popular event. Despite rain and construction & changes of roads and access, the Committee coped with it all, and the many elements of Founders Day came together successfully. Those who complain about certain details should be happy they do not face the challenges of managing the huge and complex undertaking of coordinating the whole Founders Day. Thank you, Beckie Knore, Linda Honaker, and the rest of your committee.

A very nice bit of news we heard after the event was that Robert Dean's son David, who lives near Los Angeles, flew 2300 miles to New Albany just to see his father ride in the Founders Day parade as a Grand Marshal. Has anyone ever come farther for Founders Day?

**New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society
Treasurer's Report – March/April, 2015**

<u>Income</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>
Memberships – Youth members: Meghana Ravi, Grace Mancini & Willow Otten; renewals: Carol Van Deest, Jerry & Jeri Meritt, & Connie Folk	\$ 20.00	\$ 40.00
Regional Meeting	30.00	
Donation	500.00	
Grant – City of New Albany		<u>10,000.00</u>
Memorials (Dickendeshler)	\$ 75.00	
Total Income	\$ 625.00	\$ 10,040.00
 <u>Expenses</u>		
AEP – (Ealy \$798.87, \$249.46; RTD \$8.32-Final)	\$ 807.19	\$ 249.46
Regional Meeting for Three members	90.00	
US Postal Service (Yearly Post Office Box rental)	56.00	
Ace Printing LLC (Newsletter)		67.50
AT&T	<u>39.85</u>	<u>39.35</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 993.04	\$ 356.31
 <u>March 1st Balance</u>		
	\$ 9,254.65	
Income	10,665.00	
Expenses	1,349.35	
<u>Balance April 30th</u>	<u>\$ 18,570.30</u>	
Hold for Quilt	1,500.00	
Vanguard Fund Balance 03/31/15	29,794.75	
Balance NACF Ealy Sustaining Fund 12/31/14	79,911.88	
Ameriprise (3/31/15)	147,461.28 (includes 9,827.59 Memorial Money)	

Respectfully submitted, Helen Pestel, Treasurer

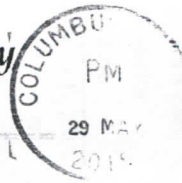
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Upcoming:

Thurs. June 4 -- Barn potluck picnic

June 13 -- Outing to Slate Run

Sun. June 14 -- Ealy Open House

Thurs. July 2 -- Ribbon-cutting, Resch Park

Thurs. July 2 -- Society Meeting at Fire Station

Sat. July 4 -- Parade & Ealy Open House

Sun. July 19 -- Outing to Hilliard Historic Village

Thurs. Aug. 6 -- Society Meeting at Fire Station

