

# *Newsletter*

*April & May 2014*

*New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society*



*Naomi Swickard Fodor as a Second-grader  
(See p. 4 for the whole class)*

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**MONDAYS AT THE EALY HOUSE**-- Usually 9:30-12:00, but to play it safe, call first (Ealy House phone number is 855-9861).

**THURS. APRIL 3 — 7 p.m., Society Meeting** at the Plain Township Fire Station

Hostesses: Sally Hess and Helen Pestel

**MON. APRIL 7 — Cub Scouts tour** of Ealy House, 6:30 p.m.

**THURS. MAY 1 — 7 p.m., Society Meeting** at the Fire Station

Hostesses: Theresa Kempker and Liz Feichter

**SAT. MAY 17 — FOUNDERS DAY.** See page 10.

**TUES. MAY 20 -- Newsletter Deadline**

**THURS. JUNE 5 — 6 p.m., POT-LUCK PICNIC** at Savesons' barn. Details in next Newsletter. (No regular Society meeting.)

**FRI. JULY 4 — Independence Day events.** Details in next Newsletter.

## NOTES & NEWS

**MORE TOURS** -- The Worthington Historical Society Study Group #2 much enjoyed their tour on March 20. The next tour will be for Cub Scouts on April 7.

**A volunteer is needed to fill our position of Secretary.** The main duty is to take minutes at our monthly meetings. We should not be imposing on our President for this duty.

**Volunteer Gardeners** are needed to neaten up our Ealy grounds and add a few old-fashioned flowers or shrubs.

And speaking of **VOLUNTEERS**, we are now ready to do some more cataloguing. This is easy and it is interesting.

## Someone You'd Enjoy Knowing

Naomi Swickard Fodor was born in Plain Township on August 17, 1922, but her family history within the community stretches long before her birth. Her ancestors' heritage is one of deep devotion and service to their community. They were some of the first arrivals in Plain Township and very early acquired many acres of land.

These ancestors shared the names of many in our community, including 'Carpenter, McCurdy, Swickard, Doran, Baughman, and others (some of these names, Baughman and Doran for instance, were acquired through marriage).

Starting with Naomi's maternal family, Thomas Carpenter, her grandfather, was a Civil War veteran. He spent time in the Andersonville Confederate prison, living with unimaginable and extremely harsh conditions. He was later one of the first grocery store owners in the village. He was also a crusading patriotic volunteer, often personally taking ballots to voters' homes so that these community members could have a say in their government. He attended any observance which honored fallen soldiers.

Her paternal ancestors were faithful and generous supporters of their religion. Great-grandfather Ollie Swickard and his wife, along with Naomi's parents, Jesse and Lizzie, always attended church in New Albany. They willingly supported the education system, often quietly and without seeking recognition. The above examples are just a fraction of the influence that Naomi's ancestry has had on the community.

On entering the Ealy House Museum, one will see many artifacts of the early community on display. Some of these belonged to Jesse and Lizzie, who were "keepers." They realized the importance that these objects would hold for the community's future generations and handed them down through the family. Naomi and her husband, Jim, saw to it that these inherited pieces of history would be seen by children and village newcomers.

1930, the 2nd and 3rd Grades of New Albany  
in front of the 1925 building  
which at that time housed all twelve grades



**Front Row (L. to R.):** Mildred Yank, Evelyn Miranda, Helen ?, Waneta Garrabrant, Naomi Swickard, Ann Ranney, Dale Kring, Carroll Dean, Herbert Holter, Bobby Weed, Marian Wilkin.

**Second Row** (girls whose heads are between those of front row kids): Verda Swickard, ? , Betty Belknap, Doretha Dietzel, Mary Purtee.

**Third Row:** Marvene Daily, Oma Bailey, Cena Parrill, Edna Jones, Arloia Baughman, Agnes Morgan, Virginia Bailey, Robert Barb, Mildred Frizzel, Opal Kellett, Clark Ranney Jr., Robert Clark

**Back Row** Charles Foulk, Ann Kegg, Maxwell ?, ? , Cecil Walton, Stanley Doran, Weldon Carpenter, Paul Miller, Homer Brenning.

**Teacher:** Miss Esther Althaus (far right), a graduate of New Albany High School. She taught the 2nd and 3rd grades all together.

Naomi attended all twelve years of her primary and secondary education in New Albany schools. Her undergraduate college days were spent at Capital University in Columbus, Ohio. She earned her Master's degree at the Ohio State University. She taught for forty-one years in the neighboring Jefferson Township school system, during which time she influenced countless lives.

Jim and Naomi were always present at the monthly Historical Society meetings. Jim donated (among many other items) a karaoke set so that all members could hear and vote on the business at hand. Naomi often furnished refreshments, many times bringing a beautifully decorated cake for a birthday or an anniversary. This is a practice she continues to today; her pecan pies are "to die for"! Jim, on many occasions, would do odd jobs at the museum, aided by his prized tractor.

The Fodors were also faithful volunteers at the annual Harvest the Arts festival. Naomi would be seen at the apple-butter booth. She stirred, seasoned, and canned the popular product that was cooked in a copper kettle over a hickory wood fire. Jim did many jobs at the Festival, always dressed in overalls, a straw hat, and a red bandanna. The couple even donated apples from their own beautiful orchard. Likewise, they were staunch supporters of and workers at the annual Founders Day celebration in May. They were the Grand Marshals of the 1997 parade.

Jim and Naomi were devout church supporters. They helped with the rummage sale, made election day chicken and noodle lunches, were weekly greeters, and were wonderful teachers and friends.

Naomi will always be a wonderful asset to the Plain Township community. On a personal note, she has one admiring relative who cherishes knowing her.

Sincerely,  
Arloia Baughman Walton



## NEW ALBANY PLAIN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

GENERAL MEETING February 6, 2014

**MINUTES:** November 25, 2013 Read by Marilyn Regrut, approved with word change re Ealy open house, change Jan to December. Motion to approve by David Cline, second Kathy Yager.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Due to absence of the treasurer, Marilyn reported a balance of \$25,885.07 October 31, 2013. Cost of electricity at Ealy House was discussed. The 2014 proposed budget was discussed, questions resolved. Motion to accept by Betty Maynard, second John Ayres, and motion passed.

**OLD BUSINESS** New Albany City request for grant money has been completed and submitted. Thanks to all who contributed data. A copy was circulated for those interested in reading it.

**Dryer house:** Joe Ciminello attended the most recent board meeting. He made us aware that the driveway easement property needs to be deeded to the Golf Club. Much discussion including why the lot split really matters since the Golf Club has access to their maintenance building as it is. A recent phone call to Joe affirmed that demand. The membership needs to be aware of this, as we proceed. There was discussion of how much land needs to be included adjacent to the driveway. A new purchase document must be written to include the lot split and clarification that the Golf Club is not liable for golf ball damage. Joe will take care of the necessary survey; NAPTHS will pursue the lot split with the City. Nancy will seek legal counsel and Neil Kirby may be involved in the process.

**Method of sale** when we obtain a deed allowing us to sell was discussed, including pros and cons of methods available. Nancy moved that when we sell the Dryer property we will do so at public auction with a minimum bid to be determined. Motioned seconded by Glyde Marsh, passed.

**Ealy House Parking:** Nancy Ferguson discussed three proposals we have obtained to improve parking. She distributed and explained the contract that best meets our actual and financial needs. It is from JCR Landscape Service. Much discussion

followed about other parking options, including the church lot across the street, and asking the City of NA to provide a parking lot to access Resch Park on the west side of the house. Nancy Ferguson made a motion that we discuss final details of the plan with JCR and enter into a contract with them not to exceed \$10,980. Motion seconded by Marty Saveson, passed

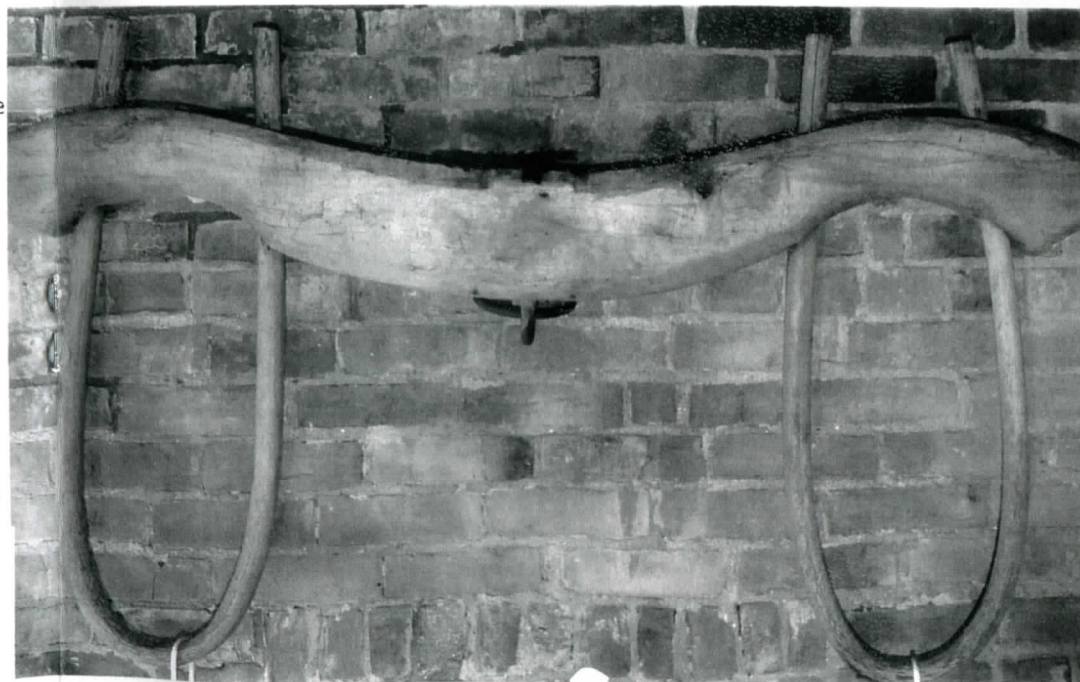
**Ealy House hall lighting:** Discussion of lighting fixtures we have looked at in the past which represent the period of the house. LED lighting mentioned and discussed. Motion by John Ayres to purchase 2 medium-size fixtures available online from House of Antique Hardware. Motion seconded by Nancy, passed.

Spring wagon wheel repairs have not happened due to weather

### NEW BUSINESS

Ways to recognize City of NA for their grants should be addressed. Please consider this and bring ideas to the next meeting. Adding the NA logo to our website with information indicating the grants provided by the City was discussed. Catherine Saveson has indicated that it will not be a problem to add recognition to the web site.

-- Marilyn Regrut, Sec. pro tem.



*Right -- The ox yoke used by the Swickard family when they moved from Pennsylvania to Ohio in the 1820's. It is now hanging in the tool museum room of the Ealy House.*



## NEW ALBANY PLAIN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### GENERAL MEETING March 6, 2014

Minutes of Feb 6, 2014 meeting were read by Betty Maynard, correction of side of Ealy house identified regarding parking area (changed from south to west). Motion to accept with change David Cline, second John Ayres

Treasurer's report for Jan. and Feb. circulated and discussed by Helen Pestel. Motion to accept Neil Kirby, second David Cline

### OLD BUSINESS

Proposal for sale of the Dryer property to include the requested lot split to transfer the driveway easement area to the golf club at the time of sale of the property. Also added are specific restrictions to hold the Golf Club harmless from responsibility for damage done by golf balls. Thanks to Julie Feist who re-did the proposal. Legal representation regarding the lot split will be handled by Kent Keitch, an attorney with Cooke, Demers & Gleason. Joe Ciminello is taking care of survey work necessary for the lot split and consulting with David Fisher.

A request for a leisure path connection at Dryer property was discussed with many questions. Most present seemed to favor transferring the necessary land to the City to allow for construction of the leisure path. Neil suggested that we ask City Hall staff for correct language used for leisure path land transfer to enable presentation and voting at the next meeting. It was also suggested that we get approval from Joe Ciminello prior to pursuit of this.

### EALY

Driveway improvement project was again discussed at length. A meeting with JCR Landscape Representative will occur Monday at 9AM at Ealy House. This is our opportunity to work out final details of the contract. All are invited to attend.

Monday workdays have been few, however, progress is being made with clearing the furnace room. Feel free to join us Monday as decisions are being made on the disposal of some of these items.

Estimates from Ron Davis for interior work will be forthcoming.

Discussion of areas to be addressed included the basement stair wall, store room at top of second-floor steps, attic duct work, basement windows repair, front and back porch preservation, & screening furnace using old doors.

The Worthington Historical Society Study Group #2 will visit March 20 at 10:30AM. We will need docents and should dust prior to the visit, Monday workday 3/17.

Hall Light Fixtures, previously approved, will be ordered tomorrow. John Ayres requested that the office light fixture installation be combined with the hall lights.

Ohio History Alliance membership information, including discount information passed around.

Helen announced that she has the brick order from the Founders Day committee. There will be only one brick order this year and members who wish to purchase bricks were urged act quickly so all bricks for the year can be obtained at this time.

Members who volunteered to provide refreshments for April are Sally Hess and Helen Pestel. May refreshment will be provided by Theresa Kempker and Liz Feicher.

*Marilyn Regrut, Sec. pro tem.*



Swickard baby bed  
and dolls



## "IT'S A JUNGLE OUT THERE!"

On Saturday, May 17, the community will celebrate Founders Day with more rides and more performances and events than ever before. What the "Jungle Out There" theme implies is anybody's guess, but we hope it will not be too wild in the Ealy House, which will be open for tours right after the parade. Our antique horse-drawn wagon will be in the big parade, which will start off at 11:00 a.m. The Grand Marshal will be one of our own members, Eileen Leuby, who will be honored for her leadership of the Chamber of Commerce for many years. The Chamber itself has been designated by the Founders Day Committee as the "Community Connection" of the year. Both Eileen and the Chamber will be further recognized in bricks added to the front walkway of the Ealy House.

Of course, our Society will also display various historic items in the Elementary School gym, including the Heritage Quilt, large old maps, vintage scrapbooks, photographs, and more. We are requesting more ideas and suggestions from our members. Closer to the time of the festival, we will be soliciting help at both the gym and the Ealy House.

Swickard  
antique card  
table and  
oil lamps



## New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society Treasurer's Report – January/February, 2014

<u>Income</u>	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Yard Sale – sale of table & chairs	\$ 25.00	
Memberships (C & S Buzza; J & R Thomas; J & J Merritt; Carol VanDeest)		\$ 70.00
Pamphlets		25.00
Total Income	\$ 25.00	\$ 95.00
<u>Expenses</u>		
AEP – (Ealy \$528.37,\$638.53;RTD\$6.21,\$6.21)	534.58	\$ 644.74
AT&T	29.66	30.87
Columbus-City Treasurer – Water & Sewer		29.30
Print Xpress (newsletter)		43.70
Westfield Insurance		1,098.00
Total Expenses	\$ 564.24	\$1,846.61
January 1 <sup>st</sup> Balance	\$ 25,223.81	
Income	120.00	
Expenses	2,410.85	
Balance February 28 <sup>th</sup>	\$ 22,932.96	
Hold for Quilt	1,500.00	
Vanguard Fund Balance 12/31/13	26,316.20	
Balance NACF Ealy Sustaining Fund 12/31/13	77,857.47	
Balance NACF Ealy Renovation Fund 1/21/10	closed	
Ameriprise (1/31/14)	139,832.73 (includes	
	\$ 9,319.18 (6.66452%) Memorial Money)	

Respectfully submitted, Helen Pestel, Treasurer

## A HUGE THANK YOU

The New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society wishes to extend sincere thanks to the City of New Albany for the funds provided to us this year following the recent grant application process.

**New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society**

**P.O. Box 219**

**New Albany, Ohio 43054**

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**[www.newalbanyplaintownshiphistoricalsociety.org](http://www.newalbanyplaintownshiphistoricalsociety.org)**

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**In this issue:**

Naomi & Jim Fodor, pp. 3-5

2nd & 3rd grades of 1930, p. 4

Founders Day plans 2014, p. 10

**John O'Connor & Debbie Moore**

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Westerville, OH 43081

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**Upcoming:**

Thurs. Apr. 3 — Society meeting at Fire Station

Thurs. May 1 — Society meeting at Fire Station

Sat. May 17 — Founders Day (see p. 10)

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