



# The Tavern Log

*A Publication of the Miamisburg Historical Society*

February 2017

Volume XXVI Issue 1

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*The Tavern Log* is published six times a year by the Society for its members.

### Submit material to:

Editor, *The Tavern Log*  
Miamisburg Historical Society  
P.O. Box 774  
Miamisburg, OH 45343  
or e-mail to [dewarrick@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dewarrick@sbcglobal.net)

*The Tavern Log* reserves the right to edit any material submitted.

### THE MARKET SQUARE BUILDING

4 N. Main Street, Miamisburg, OH 45342  
Open Wed. and Sat., 1:00–4:00 pm

### THE HERITAGE VILLAGE

Gebhart Tavern and Kercher Pioneer Home  
Corner of Lock St. and Old Main, Msbg.  
Sundays, June thru Oct., 2:00–5:00 pm

### BOARD MEETINGS

Held the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Market Square Building.

E-Mail Address: [MHSociety@att.net](mailto:MHSociety@att.net)  
Phone: (937) 859-5000

Website: [www.historicalmiamisburg.org](http://www.historicalmiamisburg.org)  
Webmaster: Tom England



## It's Happening Next Year Folks!

WOW! Time is moving right along. By this time next year we'll have entered into our city's Bicentennial year and we'll have special events going on each and every month to celebrate Miamisburg's 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

Come and be a part of the planning for this very special year for all of us who have ever called Miamisburg home. Upcoming planning meetings are in Council Chambers at the Miamisburg Civic Center.

**February 28 and March 28 at 7:00 pm**  
**All are welcome and encouraged to attend!**

## We're Planning the Society's 2017 Programs!

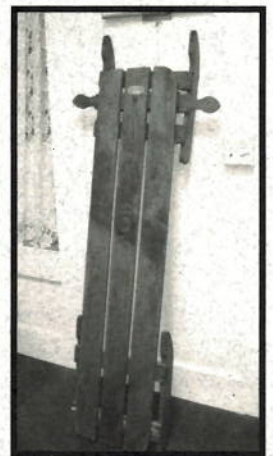
We'll be sending by email the details on our upcoming general programs at Market Square on February 23 and March 23 at 7:00 pm.

We want to keep you in the loop about what's going on at the Society! If you have not already submitted your email address, please do so. Don't be left out! Just send an email to [MHSociety@att.net](mailto:MHSociety@att.net) and let us know that you'd like to be included.

## Acme Bob Sled Donated to the Society

Stop in at Market Square sometime soon and get a first hand look at the wooden bob sled that was donated by David Reynolds of Kettering, Ohio. According to David, his father purchased the sled as a young man in the early 1940s. This sled is in pristine condition with the name "Acme Bob" stenciled and the company's metal plate attached.

Who would have guessed that the Acme Boat Co. in Miamisburg, also manufactured bob sleds? The company which was located in the triangular shaped, red brick building by the railroad tracks on Pearl Street, was known nationally and even worldwide for their canvas and wood, folding boats.



Our appreciation to DMSink (formerly Dayton Mailing Service) who supports the Historical Society by donating their printing and mailing services for each issue of *The Tavern Log*.

DMSink • 888 Dayton Street, Ste. 102 • Yellow Springs, OH 45387 • (937) 722-5056

## Historical Society Wins Award in December Holiday Parade

Again this year the Society has won the Media's Choice Award for our holiday parade entry. The parade theme was Holiday Memories and our entry was entitled "Bringing Home the Tree". Featured was a family riding inside our 1918 Willys Overland with the tree tied on top.

We're so blessed to have Greg Wartinger, who volunteers his time and great mechanical abilities to keep the old vehicle in running condition. And since he knows her so well, he also drives the car in parades or wherever needed. Pictured at right is the "family", Greg Wartinger, Judy Wuerstl and Carolyn Kilpatrick. The children are the sons of Tara and Tim Lewis, four year old, Hank, and five year old, Archie Lewis.



*Photo by Tim Lewis*



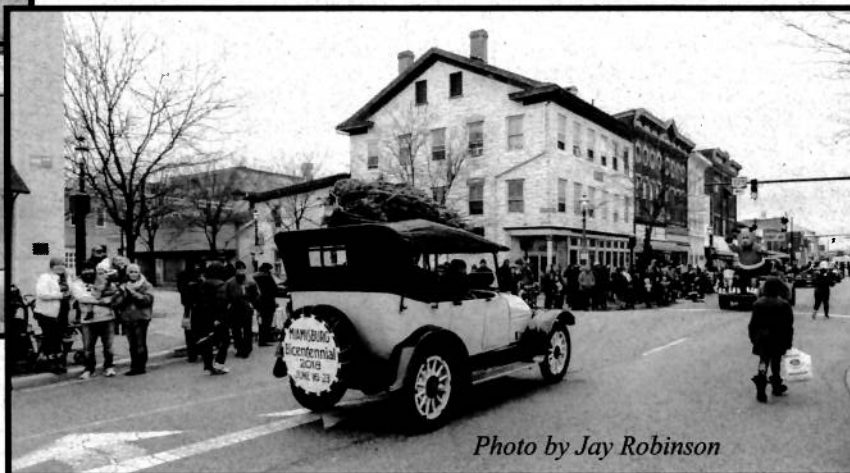
*Photo by Jay Robinson*

Great-grandmother to the Lewis boys, Bobbye Sweny, watches the parade, "all warm and comfy" from the sidelines.



*Photo by Jay Robinson*

Thanks to all who helped or took part in allowing the Society to be represented in this year's parade. It's a great way to publicize our organization and perhaps draw some interest in what we do.



*Photo by Jay Robinson*

See the Tavern Log in COLOR on our website - [www.historicalmiamisburg.org](http://www.historicalmiamisburg.org)

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**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

**Drew Fox**  
**Sandra Leyes Russell**  
**Annabelle Leyes Clinger**

**Membership Renewals**  
**During December and January**

Jane Bailey	Tom Zimpfer
Keith Basinger O.D.	John & Karen Critzer
James & Jeanette Belvo	Larry & Julie Chmiel
Dan & Kim Casson	Joyce Horner
Richard & Judi Church	Richard & Joyce Petticrew
A. Kendall & Cindy Clay	Earl Gorsuch
Robert Frey	Jack Stone
Dean Goodwin	Billy Ring & Karen Basso
Debbie Hodge	Robert C. & Judy Bowman
Kim & Mary Izor	William & Brenda Russell
Michael Kindle	Vickie Shortal
Gene & Pat Paff	Greg & Jean Wartinger
Ken & Sandi Phipps	Daniel W. Lake
Daniel Shell	Matthew Hetzel
Tom Silberman	Canopy Creek Farm
Chuck & Bobbi Sweny	JLCreations
John & Diane Warrick	BarryStaff Inc.
Larry & Marty Williams	Star City Brewing
Herman & Charlene Hiehle	Masters & Associates Insurance

**We're Sending Out Get Well Wishes**

**Charlie Case Loueda Schultz**  
**Rolla Broerman Jerry and Sherry Barrett**

**Our Sincere Condolences**

We're very sad to announce the passing of Joe Steffen on January 3. Joe was a 1954 graduate of Miamisburg High School and president of his class at Sinclair Community College. He was employed by E. F. McDonald Company, and later at Honda of America until his retirement in 2000. Joe was a faithful member of Trinity Church.

He was always interested in Miamisburg history as he was a descendant of the Schuster family, a prominent family here for many generations. Joe served for quite a few years as Curator at the Historical Society. We'll always be grateful for his sincere interest and all his contributions of information and artifacts. Our sympathy goes out to his wife, Marsha, his daughter Tracie Atkinson and family, and all of his friends.

**Membership Application**

I would like membership in the category checked:

<input type="checkbox"/> Student Membership	\$5.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership	\$15.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor Membership	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Sponsor*	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron Membership	\$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime Membership	\$500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Society Friends	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div>

Donation

Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\* Corporate Sponsors will be given a small size ad in the bi-monthly newsletter, *The Tavern Log*.

Method of Payment:

☐ Check ☐ Cash

NOTE: We are no longer accepting credit cards.

Please make check payable to Miamisburg Historical Society.

☐ New member ☐ Renewing member

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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Would you enjoy volunteering?  
 Please note your areas of interest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to: Miamisburg Historical Society  
 PO Box 774  
 Miamisburg, OH 45343-0774

## Miamisburg Historical Society & Community • 2017 Calendar of Events

<b>Jan.</b> 19 MHS Board Meeting – 6:00 pm <i>No General Program in January</i>	<b>July</b> 20 MHS Board Meeting – 6:00 pm 28 Articles Due for August Tavern Log <i>No General Program in July</i>
<b>Feb.</b> 16 MHS Board Meeting – 6:00 pm 23 MHS General Program – 7:00 pm	<b>Aug.</b> 17 MHS Board Meeting – 6:00 pm <i>No General Program in August</i>
<b>Mar.</b> 8 Veterans Committee Meeting – 7:00 pm 16 MHS Board Meeting – 6:00 pm 23 MHS General Program – 7:00 pm 29 Articles due for the April Tavern Log	<b>Sept.</b> 9 Artisan Festival at Riverfront Park 21 MHS Board Meeting – 6:00 pm 22 Articles Due for October Tavern Log and Reports Due for the Annual Report 28 MHS General Program – 7:00 pm Annual Membership Meeting and Election
<b>April</b> 12 Veterans Committee Meeting – 7:00 pm 20 MHS Board Meeting – 6:00 pm 27 MHS General Program – 7:00 pm	<b>Oct.</b> 7 Society's German Fest (Tentative Date) 19 MHS Board Meeting – 6:00 pm 22 Old Time Craft Day - Heritage Village, 2:00-5:00 (Closing Day at Heritage Village) <i>No General Program in October</i>
<b>May</b> 10 Veterans Committee Meeting – 7:00 pm 18 MHS Board Meeting – 6:00 pm 25 MHS General Meeting (Silver Taps) – 7:00 pm 26 Articles due for the June Tavern Log 25, 27 Military Exhibit at Market Square Building 27 Rocky's 5K Run for Freedom – 9:00 am 27 Victory Dinner/Dance at American Legion 29 Cemetery Services beginning at 8:45 Memorial Day Parade – 11:00 am Services & Picnic at Library Park after parade	<b>Nov.</b> 11 Vet's Day Service, Library Park – 11:00 am 16 MHS Board Meeting – 6:00 pm 23 Turkey Trot, Thanksgiving morning 29 Articles due for December Tavern Log <i>No General Program in November</i> 
<b>June</b> 4 Opening Day and Ice Cream Social at Heritage Village – 2:00-5:00 pm 7 Miamisburg's Taste of Summer 14 Veterans Committee Meeting – 7:00 pm 15 MHS Board Meeting – 6:00 pm 17 Msbg. High School Alumni Dinner/Dance 22 Historical Society Picnic – 6:00	<b>Dec.</b> 1 Holly & Ivy Gala 3 Christmas at the Tavern – 2:00-5:00 pm 9 Community Holiday Parade <i>No Board Meeting or General Program in December.</i>

This year the Heritage Village is open to the public on Sundays, June 4 through October 22 from 2:00 to 5:00 pm.

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## Annual Statehood Day – March 1

This year's annual Statehood Day event at the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus is on Wednesday, March 1 - 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The featured keynote speaker at lunchtime will be the president and CEO of the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, Ohio, Mr. Greg Harris.

The next round of History Fund grant recipients will be announced. For more information about this event and details on how to register, go online at [www.ohiohistory.org/statehoodday](http://www.ohiohistory.org/statehoodday).

## ? Did You Know ?

We all know about the Miamisburg Mound and the Adena Native American culture who built it, but did you know there was an additional mound, although an entirely different shape, built right here in Miamisburg? These same Native Americans also built a huge earthwork that completely surrounded their village. That enclosure measured from three to twelve feet high, and up to fifty feet wide at the base.

Can you guess where it was? Yes, it's long gone now, but at one time this mound surrounded what is now our downtown area. It's said to have run from Sycamore Street (or the Ray Bell Bridge), going southward along the river down to about Mays Avenue on the south side of town. It then turned east a couple of blocks, and ran back north, probably between what is now our First and Second Streets. At one time, huge trees and bushes grew on the mound. The clay used in building this mound was used again centuries later, as it went into the making of bricks for the houses and buildings in Miamisburg.

So the next time you're in downtown Miamisburg, think about how you're treading the same steps the Adena walked many centuries ago.

*(The Adena culture was prevalent in Ohio from 1,000 BC, well through the second century AD.)*

## WELCOME New Committee Co-Chairs

We're very pleased to announce that beginning immediately, Bronwyn Peck, director at the Baum Opera House Association and Michelle Collins, of the Miamisburg City Council, will be serving as Co-Chairs of the Historical Society's Ways and Means Committee.

These two very capable people bring with them lots of energy and new ideas to enable the Society to move forward into the future with renewed vitality.

Thanks to both of them for volunteering their time and talents in serving the Society and the community.

## Our Sympathy to the Rettich Family

We'd like to extend our deepest sympathy to Society member, Judge Robert Rettich and family on the passing of his mother, Patricia 'Patsy' Rettich of Germantown. She was a lifetime member of Emmanuel's Evangelical Lutheran Church, and passed away after a brief illness on December 24. Patsy is also survived by her husband of 66 years, Robert "Bill" Rettich, Jr.

Our sincere condolences go out to the Rettich family and friends.

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### We Wanted You to Know!

We recently received a letter from Justin Kohnen, an owner of **Star City Brewing**. If you'll remember, Star City Brewing is located in the old Peerless Mill Inn building at 319 S. Second Street. He let us know that each month they raise money that goes to benefit a local nonprofit cause or charity. They've asked us if the Society would be interested in becoming a recipient of these funds in February.



**WOULD WE EVER!!**

**Thank you so much,  
Star City Brewing.**

**We think you're awesome!**



### We're Looking For Some Friendly Folks

We could sure use your help in greeting visitors down at Market Square on either a Wednesday or Saturday afternoon from 1:00 to 4:00pm. You'll find out that it's fun and interesting talking to visitors who drop in to share their Miamisburg history or to see what we have on display that month. Plenty of good stories are told and for sure, the love of our city is shared. We also have lots of Miamisburg related memorabilia in our gift shop to point out, or you could give visitors a tour of our historic building.

We promise you'll be home in plenty of time for dinner. Give it a try... You just might love it!

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