



The Tavern Log

A Publication of the Miamisburg Historical Society

April 2010

Volume XIX Issue 2

MIAMISBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY OFFICERS & BOARD

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Editor, The Tavern Log
Miamisburg Historical Society
P.O. Box 774
Miamisburg, OH 45343
or via e-mail to
dewarrick@sbcglobal.net

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

BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are held the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Market Square Building.

THE HERITAGE VILLAGE

Gebhart Tavern and Kercher Cabin
Sundays, May thru Oct., 2:00—5:00 pm

Website:

[http://miamisburg.org/
miamisburg_historical_society.htm](http://miamisburg.org/miamisburg_historical_society.htm)

Webmaster: Jay Robinson



Memorial Day Weekend 2010 "Lest We Forget"

By Randy Staley,
Veteran's Committee Chairperson

Our 6th Annual Memorial Day Weekend is rapidly approaching. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend our events. The May 27 General Membership Meeting will be at Market Square at 7:00 pm and honors our military veterans from the Revolutionary War to the present. Our military exhibit will be open at the Market Square Building during our regular hours and Memorial Day, 1:00 to 4:00 pm. The Victory Dance will be held at the Baum Opera House on Sunday evening, May 30 from 7:00 to 10:00 pm, with music provided by the Hauer Swing Band. Tickets are \$7.50 per person and set-ups are provided. Funds generated help support the weekend events.

Memorial Day, May 31, will begin with brief services at each cemetery.

8:45 am - Our Lady of Good Hope Cemetery	9:40 am - Highland Cemetery
9:15 am - Hill Grove Cemetery	10:15 am - Linden Ave. Bridge

The parade will begin at 11:00 am from the Linden Ave. Bridge, to First St. to Veterans Way (Central Avenue) and end at Library Park. The annual Memorial Service conducted by American Legion Post 165 will follow the parade. We will also have free hot dogs and ice cream after the services.

We hope you will pass the word on to your friends and provide your support by attending these events. **Remember - Fly Your Flag!**

Library Celebrates 100th Anniversary

A Centennial Celebration is being planned to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Miamisburg Branch of the Dayton Metro Library. On May 8 at 2:00 pm there will be an open house and program presented at the Carnegie Center and Miamisburg Library.

A little history - In 1908 the Monday Night Club, a local literary club, began a campaign to build a library in Miamisburg. Funding (\$12,500) was obtained from the Carnegie Foundation in December, 1908 and the library was built and dedicated on May 10, 1910.

Continued on Page 6



From the President's Desk...

By Ted Fink

As I sit down to put some thoughts together for this issue of *The Tavern Log*, the sun is shining, the temperature is finally considerably north of the freezing mark, the grass is slowly beginning to turn green and as our beloved Mayor Dick Church says, "Great things are happening in Miamisburg."

Well, great things are happening in the Miamisburg Historical Society as well. For starters our first general membership meeting of the year was a huge success. I am sure that the pizza donated by Ron Holp, of Ron's Pizza had something to do with the turnout. We had well over 80 people attending this session; several who were not members, but were there because they wanted to know more about us. Many signed up to volunteer for the various programs that were represented. For those who could not make it, we still need your help. If you're interested and could not make the meeting, let me know what you would like to do and I will put you in touch with the right person. Send me a note at the Market Square Building or e-mail me at tfink61@woh.rr.com.

Earlier this month I attended my first regional meeting of the Ohio Association of Historical Societies and Museums (OAHSM). These regional meetings are an opportunity to learn about different aspects of operating historical societies, museums and other organizations. We discussed fundraising, event planning and touched briefly on grant writing. It is also an opportunity to get to know those working with other local organizations and the types of activities in which they are involved. It was interesting for me to see how we stacked up against some of the other historical societies. Some are county-wide organizations; many of which have paid staff. I was pleased to see what a great organization we have, and the various projects we have undertaken over the past years, compared to others. Ours is an all volunteer force together with a lot of support from the Parks and Recreation Department of the City. We owe a special thank you to Doug Voss, who is always there to help.

Closer to home, I have been meeting informally, with the consent of the Historical Society Board, with Steve Kuhn, the Chairman of the Board of the Baum Opera House. I don't think it's any secret that the Baum is struggling to survive, as are many such organizations. The Baum is part of the rich tradition of this city, so we on the Historical Society Board thought it would be in the best interest of both organizations to work toward a more cooperative effort. We are not in a position, nor do we intend to provide financial support. Our hope for the future is that we can put together a committee composed of members of the Baum Opera House Committee, the Historical Society, the Miamisburg Merchants Association and local business and civic leaders to explore ways that these organizations working together can continue to revitalize the downtown area. I will keep you posted as things develop.



Finally, one of my goals this year is to keep you informed on what's going on. The Board meets the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm on the second floor of the Market Square Building. Our meeting is open to the public, and if you are interested, please join us. Communication is a two way street. We on the Board also want to know what you want, and your ideas. If you have a suggestion on how we may improve what we are doing, or some worthwhile project you would like to see the Historical Society become involved in, please let us know. I can promise you that we will take it under consideration.

Bring a friend!

The Second Annual QUILT SHOW

*Don't miss
this show!*

Presented by the Miamisburg Historical Society
and the Material Girls Quilting Group

Friday and Saturday,
April 16 and 17

Hours: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm
Admission: \$5.00

Location:

Miamisburg First Church of God
446 North Heincke Road
Miamisburg, OH 45342

- Heirloom and newly made quilts on display
- Vendors with quilting patterns and merchandise
- Lunch served by First Church of God members
- Full size QUILT RAFFLE
- Quilting craft items for sale
- Plenty of parking

Visit the Historical Society Booth at the Spring Fling Festival

By Judy Knight, Board Member

The 30th Annual Spring Fling Festival is scheduled for May 22-23 at the Library Park, come rain or shine.

Once again the Miamisburg Historical Society will host a booth where historical photos of Miamisburg landmarks and events, books and other memorabilia will be available. Stop by and see how the Society can help you trace your ancestors. Learn about the programs we bring to the community and how you may become an active or financial supporter of this important organization.

If you would like to help at the booth for an hour or two, volunteers are needed and welcome. We always have fun sharing our story and you don't have to know everything about the area's history to participate.

Please contact Judy Knight at 746-7955 if you are interested.

How high is your Miamisburg IQ?

The April Pop Quiz:

The Market Square Building was built in 1851 in the style of the Pennsylvania market houses with open arches on the first floor. Local farmers and families brought in their produce and baked goods to sell in the open air market.

In what year were the arches bricked in?

A. 1873

B. 1896

C. 1921

Answer on Page 7

NOTICE!

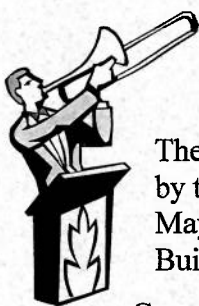
There will be NO
General Meeting
in April.

The Quilt Show
will be our "event"
for the month.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Shirley Brockman David M. Anderson
Marjory Cohen Slaven John & Phyllis Fornshell
Carol Medlar Houck Thomas & Lisa Chapman



Hauer Swing Band Performs May 4

The second of two practice sessions being held by the Hauer Swing Band will take place on Tues., May 4 from 7:00 to 9:00pm. at the Market Square Building (Miller-Chamberlin Auditorium).

Come and improve your dancing skills or just relax and listen to the great music provided by this outstanding band. The sessions are open to the public with a \$5.00 donation at the door. No reservations required. Proceeds support the Historical Society operating fund.

Applebee's "Dine to Donate"

By Barb Olekas, Ways and Means Chairperson

We have made arrangements with Applebee's (on St. Rt. 741) in Miamisburg for an easy fundraiser for the Society.

It's simple... just dine in or carry out anytime during the day or evening of Thursday, June 24 and 10% of the amount of your bill will be donated to the Miamisburg Historical Society. Food, soft drinks, appetizers and alcohol are included. If this day is successful, we can have four more "Dine to Donate" days set aside for us. The donation amount would add up quickly at 10% of sales.

We are currently having flyers printed that will be made available to each Society member and any other friends or family who would like to support us. You must present the flyer at Applebee's to have the donation go to our organization.

Let's make this day a great success.

See you at Applebee's on June 24 and bring some friends!

Sending Our Sympathy

Condolences go out to Les and Janet Wead on the passing in February of Les's sister, Wanda "Jean" Flory of Germantown. Jean was a member of the Miamisburg Class of '45.

Become a Member ...

and help preserve Miamisburg

I would like membership in the category checked:

☐ Student \$5.00
☐ Individual \$15.00
☐ Family \$25.00
☐ Sponsor \$50.00
☐ Patron \$100.00
☐ Life \$500.00 (per person)

Total enclosed \$ _____

Please make check payable to:
Miamisburg Historical Society

☐ I am a new member

☐ I am renewing

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

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

(please mail to:)

Miamisburg Historical Society
P.O. Box 774
Miamisburg, OH 45343-0774

Heritage Village News

By Judy Wuerstl, Heritage Village Volunteer Coordinator



A special "Information & Refreshments Meeting" was held in the Gebhart Tavern at Heritage Village on Saturday, March 20. Hosted by Judy Wuerstl and ably assisted by Carol O'Connell, Mary Pat Golden, Marilyn Shade and Karen Izor, the goal was to recruit volunteer docents. The meeting was considered a success. Out of fourteen who attended, thirteen decided to become volunteer docents.

Please welcome these new volunteers to our team:

Mary & Kim Izor
Judy & Doug Stamm
Peggy Critzer

Sherry Kahler
Annie Gilkison

Jay & Angie Robinson
Judy Frizzel

Joyce Zimpfer
Bob Barr
Bud Colvin

Also, an announcement of "Cleaning Day" at the Heritage Village, scheduled for Friday, April 23, resulted in several individuals agreeing to come and help. Each spring we get together to do some general cleaning at our cabins in preparation for the upcoming "open" season. Of course, **more** help is needed and always appreciated, so if you would consider joining the fun, please contact Judy Wuerstl at judywuerstl@yahoo.com or 866-1784.

**Opening day at Heritage Village is Sunday, May 4 from 2:00-5:00 pm.
Mark your calendars and help kick off another successful season.**

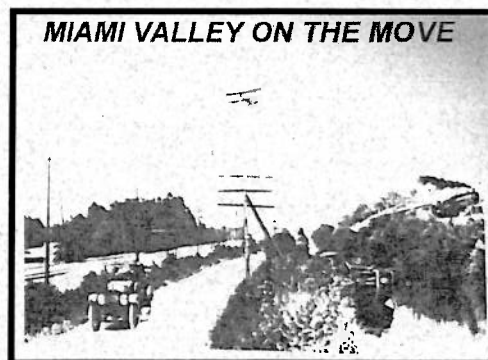


March General Program Features History of Transportation

Nancy Horlacher, Local History Specialist at the Dayton Metro Library, gave a great presentation and slide show on the history of transportation here in the Miami Valley. Despite the cool rainy evening, many of our members and friends turned out for the March general program.

Ms. Horlacher began the presentation by showing the popular picture which we offer in our gift shop of the six modes of transportation. This picture was taken between Miamisburg and West Carrollton

along the "Hamilton Pike", or old Route 25 as it is now known. She described how early settlers came to this area by boat and also by land on horseback or horse drawn wagons.



The many modes of transportation from the early days to the present were described in her presentation. From canoes and canal boats, horse drawn stagecoaches and Conestoga wagons, electric and rail trains to buses, automobiles and airplanes; they all were part of the settling and growth of our area. Examples of these early modes of transportation may be now seen at the Carillon Park Museum.

Our thanks to Ms. Horlacher for her wonderfully informative presentation. Hers was just another of the historically inspired programs that we offer free of charge at our general meetings. For further information, she may be contacted at nhorlacher@daytonmetrolibrary.org.

MHS Class of '60 Classmates Join Historical Society

As the Miamisburg Class of '60 prepares to celebrate their 50th Reunion at the Alumni Meeting in June, they have included in their invitations an opportunity for classmates to join the Historical Society. What a fantastic idea! All the credit goes to Lynn Chamberlin Miller who composed a letter that was included with other reunion information mailed to class members. A portion of the letter is as follows:



"Many of our class are already members and devote volunteer hours because they really believe in what the Historical Society represents. Please consider being a part of Miamisburg's past and continuing historic endeavors so that our great grandchildren and great-greats can learn, discover and be proud of their family and community heritage, and the dedication of the alumni!"

The MHS Class of '60 classmates will be able to keep in touch with the happenings in the Burg through *The Tavern Log* newsletter, while at the same time supporting our organization. Perhaps future MHS classes will continue this practice. So far we've added several new Class of '60 members and hope to receive even more new memberships in the coming months.

Following is a total list of MHS Class of '60 members, who now belong to the Historical Society.

Stan Bernard	Sue Barry Tacas	Carol Medlar Houck	Marjory Cohen Slaven
Lynn Chamberlin Miller	Donna Hottle VanBuren	Pam Robinette Sparks	Roy & Sandy Stephen Bayer
Janet Kessing Smith	Bonnie Goodwin Van Zandt	Gary Wilson	Beverly Morningstar Myers
Bill Stalder	Larry Williams	John Fornshell	Gary & Nita Long Petticrew
			Judy Schoenburger Wuerstl

Congratulations to the Miamisburg Class of '60 on the 50th Anniversary of their graduation.



Welcome to Our Gift Shop

By Mary Pat Golden
Gift Shop Manager

The Miamisburg Historical Society Gift Shop offers unique gift items, including some wonderful books about Miamisburg, copies of vintage photographs of the city, woven throws featuring Miamisburg sites and cutouts of the city's notable buildings by Cats Meow. **This spring we are adding some new Miamisburg items including tote bags, glass beverage mugs and magnets.**

The Gift Shop is located in the Market Square Building and is open from 1:00 to 4:00pm on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Many of the items from the Gift Shop may also be purchased at the Gebhart Tavern, which is open on Sundays, 2:00 to 5:00pm from May through October. Our Miamisburg gift items will also be available at the upcoming Quilt Show in April and at our booth at the Spring Fling in May.

Library Celebrates 100th Anniversary

(Continued from Page 1)

A committee has been organized and planning is underway to commemorate this event in a meaningful way. The committee is looking for past members of the library staff and also memorabilia from the library or remembrances you may have to contribute to the celebration.

Please contact Cara Kouse (496-8946) at the Miamisburg Branch Library or any member of the committee if you have information to share. Sharon Angel, Monday Night Club (866-8946), Bobbye Sweny, Miamisburg Historical Society (866-3507) or Doug Voss, Miamisburg Parks and Recreation (847-6475).

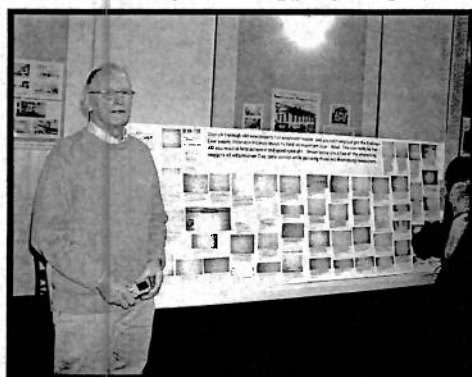
Plan on attending the celebration of our library which has been such a great asset to Miamisburg residents and a landmark in our community.

February General Meeting Draws Large Crowd

The Society started off the year with a bang at our first General Meeting. It was great to see a record number of people in attendance. In addition to the pizzas donated by Ron's, there was a large display of Lawrence Benner memorabilia that was assembled by Don and Saran McLaughlin.

Also on display was a collection of interesting, and sometimes humorous, old Miamisburg News clippings dating back to the early 1800's that were researched and compiled by Larry Suttman. These clippings are currently on display at the Market Square building. Janet Wead, from the Material Girls Quilting Group, displayed the beautiful handmade quilt that will be raffled off at our Quilt Show in April. Our thanks to everyone who contributed to make this meeting so successful.

*Larry Suttman with
Miamisburg News clippings display.*



Janet Wead with quilt.



*Visitors enjoy the Lawrence
Benner memorabilia display.*



Help Support Our Society by Joining the "Good Neighbor Club"

By Barb Olekas, Ways and Means Chairperson

Dorothy Lane Markets offer a program called "The Good Neighbor Club" which contributes a percentage of the amount of your purchases to our Historical Society. In order for this to take place you will need to register one time at the Dorothy Lane service desk for the Miamisburg Historical Society. At that point you will receive a Club Card.

When you use your Club Card it will automatically be registered to the Society's account. After your expenditures total \$500, anything over that amount, 1% will be given to the Society.

This operates on a yearly basis. You do not have to re-register each year, but the \$500 "deductible" starts over at the beginning of each new year. If enough people enroll in this program, the yearly check could be sizeable. It is a painless way to make a donation and in no way affects the price of your purchase.

Any questions, please call Barbara Olekas - 855-6590, or speak to a representative at Dorothy Lane Market.

Pop Quiz Answer

The correct answer is A. (1873)

The building served as an open air market for only 22 years. In 1870 there was a movement to close the market which had become, according to the news of that time, "a public garbage receptacle, a stench and a public nuisance."

By 1873 the market house had been remodeled and the arches bricked in. The downstairs now included two business rooms in front, a council chamber and a jail in the rear.

Each issue of *The Tavern Log* is duplicated and prepared for mailing, courtesy of:

**E.C. Ruffolo
308 Mound Avenue
Miamisburg, OH 45342
(937) 388-0477**



Miamisburg Historical Society
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Announcing a New Event at the Gebhart Tavern

By Mary Pat Golden

***Mark your summer calendars for an evening with
"Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Gebhart" in their Tavern on August 21, 2010.***

You have a personal invitation to step back in time and join Daniel and his wife for dinner in the Tavern as it would have been in the early 1800's.



You'll hear all about life in early Miamisburg and enjoy an historically authentic meal just as it would have been served two centuries ago.

"Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Gebhart" will personally greet you as you enter their establishment. In addition to hors d'oeuvres, dinner and dessert, you'll also be treated to musical entertainment reminiscent of the era. Although not required, you're invited to wear your own period attire to add to the ambience of the event.

Watch for further details in the June issue of the Tavern Log and act quickly to make your reservations as seating will be limited.