



The Tavern Log

A Publication of the Miamisburg Historical Society

February 2014

Volume XXIII 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 via e-mail to
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. & Sat., 1:00–4:00 pm

THE HERITAGE VILLAGE

Gebhart Tavern and Kercher Pioneer Home
Corner of Lock St. and Old Main, Msbg.
Sundays, May 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
Phone: (937) 859-5000

Website: www.miamisburghistory.org
Webmasters: Don McLaughlin, Jay Robinson



Don't Miss Our February Program!

Historical Society members look forward to our first program of the new year. It's a great chance to get out of the house and revisit life in old Miamisburg. Don McLaughlin has a seemingly inexhaustible supply of photos, and has put together another great slide show for our February program at Market Square. Don says that the show comprises old and new photos of people, places and "old stuff" around the Burg. Mayor Dick Church is our narrator. He never fails to make the evening a fun and thoroughly entertaining event.

We top off the program with Ron's Pizzas, always delivered fresh and hot, right on cue after the program. No worries about not getting enough to eat. There is always more than enough for everyone. Oh yes, did I mention - the pizza is **FREE!!**

Be sure to come early for this program, as it always brings a full house. All our programs are open to the public, so feel free to bring a friend.

It's Tax Time!

When filling out your Ohio income tax forms, please remember the tax "check-off" that allows Ohioans to opt to donate a portion of their state income tax refund to the Ohio Historical Society.



The Ohio Historical Society uses the donations to make grants that help fund local history and preservation projects. In 2012, the Fund received almost \$140,000 in this manner. Most donations are small, averaging \$8.00 to \$9.00, but the impact is big for organizations, such as ours, who may receive the grants.



From the President's Desk...

By Eric Cluxton

Hello everyone.

I am pleased to be selected as the President of the Miamisburg Historical Society. Having grown up in Miamisburg, this community has a special place in my heart. The many fond memories of family, friends and local establishments are very difficult to duplicate in other cities around the country. Miamisburg is truly a one of a kind!!

My first meeting as President of the Miamisburg Historical Society was held on the second floor of Market Square Building. Years ago, this building housed

The Mary Ann Shop. My grandmother, Mary Masters, owned and ran the business establishment. The shop name originated from grandmother's first name, Mary, and my mother's (Shirley Cluxton) middle name, Ann... Hence the Mary Ann Shop. Again, enjoyable memories of me walking with my twin brother, Roger, from Kinder Elementary School on Friday afternoons to visit mom and grandma at the shop.

It my pleasure to serve as President of the Miamisburg Historical Society. Together we will have great success and much fun.

Thank you for supporting this organization.



Vet's Committee Planning For Memorial Day Weekend

By Randy Staley, Veterans' Committee Chair

As we're still in the midst of a very harsh winter, the month of May sounds a long way off, but it's never too early to give folks a heads-up on our plans for this year's Memorial Day Weekend.

The **"Silver Taps"** ceremony will be held at the Market Square Building on Thursday, May 22 at 7:00 pm. This ceremony is open to the public, and dedicated to our military veterans and those serving today. On Saturday, May 24, at 8:00 am, the second annual **"Rocky's 5 K Run for Freedom"** will begin at Library Park.

On Saturday evening the **Victory Dinner/Dance** will be held at American Legion Post 165. On Monday May 26, American Legion Post 165 will conduct **Memorial Services** at three cemeteries and the Linden Avenue Bridge.

The **Memorial Day Parade** will start at 11:00 am from Linden Ave. Bridge and end at Library Park with **Memorial Services** following. The **Picnic in the Park** will be held after the Service with free hot dogs and ice cream. The Historical Society **Military Exhibit** at Market Square will be open after the "Silver Taps" ceremony on May 22. It will also be open on Sat., May 24 and Memorial Day.

Watch for further details in the April issue of The Tavern Log.

Society's Membership Total For 2013

Gary Petticrew, Membership Chair, has announced the Society's total membership for this past year has grown to 243 active memberships, which translates into 334 individuals and organizations.

We're very proud of our extremely active organization. It all stems from the Society's membership and your love of Miamisburg. Only with your support, are we able to preserve and share the history of our "One and Only" community.

Our thanks goes out to you, our members, for all your volunteering efforts, and your continuing support and membership. Don't forget to take advantage of the many free program and events that the Society offers throughout the year.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER!**Debra Blanton****NEW LIFETIME MEMBER****Jan Runkle**

The Society sends get well wishes to Judy Stamm,
one of our very hardworking and loyal volunteers.

We hope you're feeling better every day!

Do You Have Stories to Tell?

We're always on the lookout for stories of old Miamisburg. Do have a story or photos that would be of interest to our readers? Please e-mail to Diane at dewarrick@sbcglobal.net.

If your submission is appropriate for *The Tavern Log*, we will make every effort to include it. Deadline for the next newsletter is March 24.

We Send Condolences

The Society sends sincere sympathy to Mae Boyer and family, on the passing of her husband of 65 years, Charles Boyer. He was a World War II veteran and retired from NCR after more than thirty years of service.

He was a long time member and supporter of the Miamisburg Historical Society and will be greatly missed by his family and many friends.

Membership Application

I would like membership in the category checked:

- ☐ Student Membership \$5.00
☐ Individual membership \$15.00
☐ Family Membership \$25.00
☐ Sponsor Membership \$50.00
☐ Corporate Sponsor* \$50.00
☐ Patron Membership \$100.00
☐ Lifetime Membership \$500.00
☐ Society Friends

Donation

Total enclosed \$ _____

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

Method of Payment:

- ☐ Check ☐ MasterCard
☐ Visa ☐ Discover



Credit Card # _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Please make check payable to Miamisburg Historical Society.

- ☐ New member ☐ Renewing member
☐ This is a gift membership. *Also mark either 'new' or 'renewing'.*
 (List gives name, address and phone on separate paper and attach.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

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

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

Our "Winter Wonderland" Float Was Beautiful!

By Carol O'Connell, Holiday Float Project Coordinator

The 2013 Community Holiday Parade float theme was "Holiday Movies". For our float, we selected the 1947 film, "Winter Wonderland". Our float would feature the 1800's sleigh that was donated to the Society by John and Diane Warrick. John reminisces that when he was about six years old, he and his father rode in the sleigh through the snowy fields around Germantown, pulled by their farm horse, "Old Ned".



John & Diane Warrick in family sleigh.

Gary Petticrew e-mailed the members asking for a trailer on which to build the float. Lee Hieronymus answered the plea with a 16' flat bed trailer and pickup truck, with Lee as the driver. Before work on the float could begin, the sleigh had to be moved from the barn at Heritage Village. Wayne Burgett loaded the sleigh onto his pickup truck with the help of Jim Bornhorst and Judy and Don Wuerstl, and it was transported to the Bornhorst complex.

Our sponsor for the float was Miamisburg's Ace Hardware. Manager, Lyle Anthony and associate, Doug Campbell, not only provided the materials (lights, snow/cotton, trees and mountain stream), they also constructed the float. All the work was done at the warehouse and garage of Jim and Laura Bornhorst, who provided the generator for the lighted stream and trees. In keeping with our snow theme, Randy and Melanie Staley donated green garland which was sprayed white and used to trim the edge of the float.

It was a BEAUTIFUL float, one we thought would surely win a prize, but the Holiday Parade was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Since we didn't get to "parade" our float, we decided to display it at the Rotary Pancake Day at the high school the following Saturday. With the help of Joe Stanton, we were approved and ready to go, but alas and alack, the weather once again interfered.

Before the float was dismantled, John and Diane Warrick, came to the warehouse and boarded the sleigh in their 1940's winter finery and lots of photos were taken by Laura Bornhorst. A few days later Judy, Diane and I dismantled it. We packed the materials and returned them to Ace Hardware where they are stored. The 2014 parade will have the same theme, so we will have everything needed to reassemble the float.

In the meantime, Larry Suttman, Curator, has rearranged the floor displays at the Market Square Building to make room for the sleigh, which now has a safe and dry permanent home. We are fortunate to add the sleigh to our archival treasures. Stop by when you get a chance and see first hand this picturesque mode of winter transportation from the 1800's.

Kudos to Ace Hardware and all who donated time, labor, facilities, vehicles and materials, while exhibiting a positive *esprit de corps* for the event.

Would you like to be involved with the 2014 Community Holiday Parade this coming December? It's not too soon to volunteer to chair the Society's float entry. Call Carol at 384.0761.



Carol O'Connell and Judy Wuerstl dismantle the float.

Miamisburg Historical Society & Community • 2014 Calendar of Events

Jan.	8 Maintenance Liaison Meeting – 2:00 pm 16 MHS Board Meeting – 6:00 pm <i>No General Meeting in January</i>	July	9 Maintenance Liaison Meeting – 2:00 pm 17 MHS Board Meeting – 6:00 pm 30 Articles Due for August Tavern Log <i>No General Program in July</i>
Feb.	12 Maintenance Liaison Meeting – 2:00 pm 20 MHS Board Meeting – 6:00 pm 27 MHS General Program – 7:00 pm “Old Photos and Pizza”	Aug.	13 Maintenance Liaison Meeting – 2:00 pm 21 MHS Board Meeting – 6:00 pm <i>No General Program in August</i>
March	12 Maintenance Liaison Meeting – 2:00 pm 20 MHS Board Meeting – 6:00 pm 27 MHS General Program – 7:00 pm 28 Articles due for the April Tavern Log	Sept.	6-7 Starving Artists Show - Library Park 10 Maintenance Liaison Meeting – 2:00 pm 18 MHS Board Meeting – 6:00 pm 24 Articles Due for October Tavern Log and Reports Due for the Annual Report 25 MHS General Program - 7:00 pm
April	9 Maintenance Liaison Meeting – 2:00 pm 9 Veterans Committee Meeting – 7:00 pm 17 MHS Board Meeting – 6:00 pm 24 MHS General Program – 7:00 pm	Oct.	8 Maintenance Liaison Meeting – 2:00 pm 16 MHS Board Meeting – 6:00 pm 19 Old Time Craft Day - Heritage Village, 2:00-5:00 23 Historical Society Annual Meeting and Canal Days Dinner 26 Closing Day at Heritage Village
May	4 Opening Day at Heritage Village 14 Maintenance Liaison Meeting – 2:00 pm 14 Veterans Committee Meeting – 7:00 pm 15 MHS Board Meeting – 6:00 pm 16 Taste of Miamisburg – 5:00 pm 17-18 Spring Fling Parade & Festival 22 MHS General Meeting (Silver Taps) – 7:00 pm 22, 24, 26 Veteran’s Exhibit at Market Square Building 26 Memorial Day Parade – 11:00 am 28 Articles due for the June Tavern Log	Nov.	12 Maintenance Liaison Meeting – 2:00 pm 20 MHS Board Meeting – 6:00 pm 27 Turkey Trot, Thanksgiving Morning <i>No General Program in November</i>
June	11 Maintenance Liaison Meeting – 2:00 pm 11 Veterans Committee Meeting – 7:00 pm 19 MHS Board Meeting – 6:00 pm 21 Msbg. High School Alumni Dinner/Dance 26 Historical Society Picnic – 6:00 Location to be announced.	Dec.	1 Articles due for December Tavern Log 5 Holly & Ivy Gala 7 Christmas at The Tavern – 2:00-5:00 pm 10 Maintenance Liaison Meeting – 2:00 pm 13 Community Holiday Parade 18 MHS Board Meeting – 6:00 pm <i>No General Program in December</i>

The Heritage Village is open to the public on Sundays, May through October from 2:00 to 5:00 pm.

Growing Up In Miamisburg (My Early Work Experiences)

Excerpts from a memoir written by Warner Forbes (1914 - 1995)

I believe I may have been the first person to sell snacks at football games. Mother would pop corn, put in sacks and I would take a basket full and go through the stands at Harmon Field, selling it for 5¢ a bag.



When I was about sixteen I gave up passing the Dayton Herald and took up the job of passing the Sunday Cincinnati Enquirer. The entire town was my route and it had to be done by car. My friend, Walt Miller, would go along just for the fun of it almost every Sunday. Occasionally his brother Karl (also my good friend) would come along too. After we had completed our route, we always stopped at Silberman's Drug Store where Carl Silberman ran it on Sunday mornings. Carl was about two or three years older than I. Carl always left for the restroom when we got in, and left us in charge of the store. We would each get a cigar and a *Paris Nights* or some similar magazine and put them in our paper sack. I recall mother finding one I had stashed under the carpet in my bedroom. She lectured me pretty good.

The Cincinnati Enquirer did not have a newsboy's day like the Dayton papers. We didn't think that was quite fair, so we decided to have our own. We went around before daylight hammering on peoples' doors and shouting "Newsboy's Day". It is a wonder someone didn't shoot us. I recall hitting up Dr. Hartwell, a dentist, for his contribution. He came to the upstairs window in his nightshirt and responded by saying he would see me in Sunday School. He kept his word and contributed.

I believe it was in the summer after my graduation that I got my first regular job. I worked for a time in Therman Waters' filling station which was located where the Peerless Mill Inn is today. I don't remember much about it except having to hand pump the gas up into a glass cylinder and then it was gravity fed into the car's gas tank. There was a pit over which you drove your car for an oil change. It cost 15¢ a quart and was kept in 50 gallon drums from which you pumped it. Just a summer job.

I think it was late in 1933 when I got a job at Rost's Bakery. My primary job was cleaning the pans and the big mixers, but there were other duties too. One of the jobs I hated most was helping the baker unload the bread pans from the oven. It was my job to pick up the ten loaves of hot bread that had come out of greased pans and put them on a rack to cool. They did not permit you to use gloves because the grease would make the gloves black and that would transfer to the bread. You soon learned to keep alternating the fingers that were in contact with the bread to keep from burning them. Another problem with this job was that sometimes you had to put icing on the cakes. If you happened to damage a cake, it was taken out of your pay.

My hours at Rost's were from 5:00 am until 1:00 pm Tuesday through Friday. On Saturdays and Mondays, I had to come in at midnight of the night before and work through the night until 1:00 pm the next day. After working all night Sunday, by Monday morning, I was dead on my feet. When it got too bad, I would make some comment favoring Franklin Roosevelt, and Walter Rost would get so mad he would send me home. Finally one of the other employees tipped him off to what I was doing.



*The Rost Building
S.E. Corner
of Central & Main*

I also got a job at Hoffman's Pool Room on Saturday afternoons, racking pool balls, collecting money from the card tables (5¢ per game) and helping out at the soda fountain. There was no alcohol served there.

Thank You to Our Corporate Sponsors!

We'd like to send out a special 'Thank You' this month to our Corporate Sponsor members, who help to support the Historical Society. We've gathered a great group of businesses, but would love to add lots more to the list. To become a Corporate Sponsor, fill out the Membership form on page three of this newsletter and mail it to the Society, along with your dues for 2014.

We'd like to give our Corporate Sponsors more of an individual identity. If you have a corporate logo and would like to have it appear on your ad in *The Tavern Log*, please mail it to the Society, attn: Diane Warrick, (address on first page) or e-mail to dewarrick@sbcglobal.net.

See the Edward Jones example below.



Masters & Associates Insurance 24 E. Linden Avenue Miamisburg, OH 45342 (937) 866-3361	Edward Jones® MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING 10 S. Main Street Miamisburg, OH 45342 (937) 859-1955	William L. Johanan, Jr. P.E. 5982 Kodiak Run Drive Miamisburg, OH 45342 (937) 866-9065 General Engineering Services
Nestor Insurance Agency 8 Mound Avenue Miamisburg, OH 45342 (937) 866-1278	Place Your Ad Here! Join the Miamisburg Historical Society as a Corporate Sponsor Member	Fox Motors 9 South Second Street Miamisburg, OH 45342 (937) 866-3227
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Transamerica 77 W. Elmwood Dr., Ste. 307 Dayton, OH 45459 Ron Snell, Representative	Classic Stitch 30 W. Linden Avenue Miamisburg, OH 45342 (937) 247-3900 Ad/Promotional Products • Embroidery	American Legion Post 165 35 N. Main Street Miamisburg, OH 45342 (937) 866-5493



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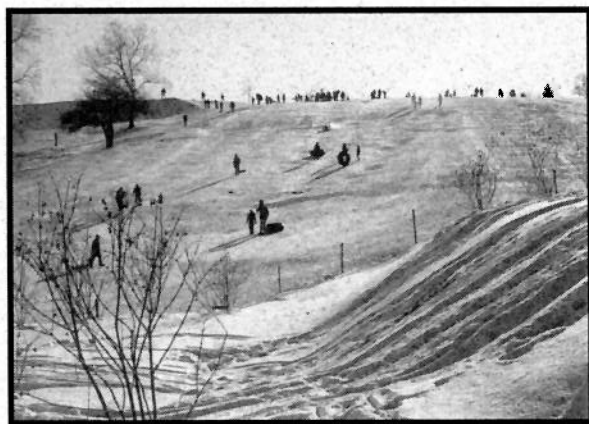
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There Are Some Things That Never Change

The photo at right was taken at the Mound Golf Course in 1985. It could have been taken in winter of 1945 or even today in 2014, for many generations of Miamisburg kids, and adults too, have been sledding on this hill.

When school was called off because of snow, we couldn't wait to meet our friends and head out to the golf course. We flew down the hill with sleds, inner tubes or even pieces of cardboard. Occasionally some of the high school boys would show up with something as outlandish as a car hood, which attracted a lot of attention, but didn't really work all that well. And talk about safety issues!



In good conditions, the quick trip down the hill could be quite an exhilarating and bumpy ride. The trip back up was exhausting and required some recuperation when finally reaching the top. If you grew up in Miamisburg, chances are good that you sped down this snow covered hill many times over the years. I'd be willing to bet that you also remember trudging back home afterward, dragging your sled and completely worn out, with frozen toes, soggy gloves and a sore tailbone... but all things considered, it was well worth it, wasn't it!

Our sincere thanks to Dayton Mailing Service who so generously donate their printing and mailing services for each issue of *The Tavern Log*.

Dayton Mailing Service • 100 S. Keowee Street • Dayton, OH 45402 • (937)222-5056
