The Tavern Log

A Publication of the Miamisburg Historical Society

April 2011 Volume XX Issue 2

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

Submit material to:
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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 Pioneer Home
Sundays, May thru Oct., 2:00–5:00 pm

E-Mail Address: MHSociety@att.net

Website:
http://miamisburg.org/miamisburg_historical_society.htm
Webmaster: Jay Robinson

Memorial Day Weekend 2011 "Lest We Forget"

By Randy Staley, Veteran's Committee Chair

The Veteran's Committee's wheels are turning and the cogs are falling into place for the 7th Annual Memorial Day weekend. Mark your calendar or check out the Historical Society website at www.miamisburg.org/miamisburg_historical_society.htm and scroll down to the calendar.

The Thursday, May 26th General Meeting will once again feature 'Silver Taps', our own Hometown Ceremony honoring our veterans, at 7:00 pm in the Miller-Chamberlin Auditorium at the Market Square Building. This year's speaker will be Mark Kucharski, President of the Dayton Chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America. 'Ski' is a Vietnam Veteran who served on the Library Park 'Moving Wall' Exhibit Committee as a speaker, and a very moving speaker for our Children's Program 'Veterans Day 2010'.

Continued on Page 3

Star City Bottling Company to be Featured at April General Program

By Laura Bornhorst, VP and Program Chairperson

The Miamisburg Historical Society's April Program on Thursday, April 28th at 7:00 pm will feature a presentation on the Star City Bottling Company, a well known historic Miamisburg business. Ted Hiehle and his cousin, Ed Hiehle, will be giving the presentation about their family business with photos on our big screen and highlights from 1903 until the bottling company closing in 1968.

Ted and Ed's fathers were co-owners of Star City Bottling and they have many photos and other memorabilia from the company. Society members and guests are welcome to bring their own collections of Star City items and share your memories of the company. Refreshments will be served. (We wish it could be Star City pop.) Any questions, call Laura at 866-7133.

From the President's Desk

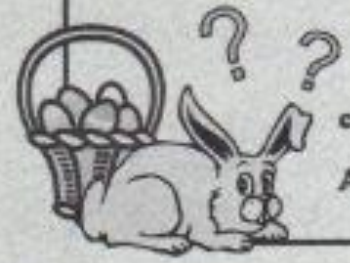
By Ted Fink

How does the old saying go? "Spring has sprung, etc..." Well, it is spring, at least according to the calendar, but as I look out the window it's snowing, and the weather forecast for the next several days calls for cloudy, cold weather. The current weather situation reminds me of my days in Minot, North Dakota. Well, hopefully by the time you get this edition of *The Tavern Log*, the last remnants of winter will be behind us, spring will be in full bloom, and we will be looking forward to summer. As we look toward spring and summer, I am excited about the many activities in which the Miamisburg Historical Society will be involved. The Children's Education Program will be in full swing, Heritage Village will be open to visitors and guests, there will be the Fashion Show and Tea and we will again have a booth at the Spring Fling.

As we look forward to the coming year, the Historical Society Board has been active, taking a number of issues under consideration. The main issue is the completion of the Heritage Village Project. At our last board meeting, John O'Gorman, representing the Kercher Cabin Task Force, presented a proposal to complete the existing project. Both John and Mayor Dick Church reported that the anticipated funding from a state grant did not materialize, and we will need to complete the project from our own resources. We had requested $150,000 from the State of Ohio to complete the Kercher Cabin project, and to construct a transportation museum on the sight of the old King Property, which is a part of the Heritage Village. When our request was rejected, the Board agreed that we would need to complete the project on our own, which will require a major fund raising effort on the part of the membership.

John reported that the cost to complete the existing project is $50,000. That figure includes the cost of installing handicap accessible walkways and stair rails. Completion inside the Kercher Cabin includes lighting improvements, the installation of a heating unit, and construction of shelf and storage units. Additionally, we must retire our existing debt remaining from the purchase of the King Property. Mayor Church and Lee Hieronymus have agreed to help with this effort. A major portion of this funding will have to come from us, as members of the Society. In the near future, I will be contacting you by mail, asking for your support. I am confident that if everyone gives just a little we will be able to complete what we started several years ago, and retire our existing debt.

It is my opinion that the Miamisburg Historical Society is a unique organization in this area. As I have said many times, we are an all volunteer organization, but just look at what has been accomplished over the years to create a first class operation. We have now an opportunity to complete what we started and continue our legacy for the future.



How high is your Miamisburg IQ?

The April Pop Quiz:

In what year was the community of Miamisburg founded?

A. 1811 **B. 1818** **C. 1823**

Answer on Page 5

Memorial Day Weekend 2011 *(Continued from Page 1)*

The Grand Opening of our Military Exhibits will follow the 'Silver Taps' Program. The regular hours of the exhibit will be on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Memorial Day from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Special group tours may be made by appointment by calling Lester (Turk) Wead at 866-1604, Randy Staley at 885-4458, or leave a request at the Market Square Building at 859-5000 or e-mail MHSociety@att.net.

The Annual Victory Dance has been moved to SATURDAY, May 28th, 7:00 to 10:00 pm at the Baum Opera House. On popular request, Hauer's Big 16 piece Band will provide the best sound for dancing and listening in the Dayton area. Tickets are $10.00 per person, BYOB. Set-ups and snacks are free. This event helps support our weekend events. If you want to practice your dancing with the band, they will also be playing at the Market Square Building, Tuesday, May 3rd, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Charge at the door is $5.00 per person.

Miamisburg's observance of Memorial Day began on May 31, 1868, with a parade, memorials at each cemetery and at Library Park. One hundred and forty three years later on Monday, May 30, 2011, the tradition continues. A brief memorial service, including Taps, will be conducted by American Legion Post 165 at each local cemetery:

8:45 am Our Lady of Good Hope Cemetery	9:40 am Highland Cemetery
9:15 am Hill Grove Cemetery	10:30 am Linden Avenue Bridge

The Parade will begin at 11:00 am from the Linden Avenue Bridge, to First Street, North to Veteran's Way (Central Ave.), East to Fifth Street and Library Park. The annual Memorial Service, conducted by Post 165, will follow in the Park including music by our Viking Band. Once again our Picnic in the Park will start after the services with **Free Hot Dogs and Ice Cream**. Please bring your family and neighbors..... AND

DON'T FORGET, FLY YOUR FLAG!

2011 Season Begins for Children's Education Program

By Judy Wuerstl, Children's Education Chair

An enthusiastic Children's Education Program committee held a meeting on March 24 to discuss our upcoming season. We talked about the programs we offer and the ones we would like to develop. May is very nearly scheduled full and we are getting ready for the children, with excitement.

We do have a great need for tour guides for our wonderful Heritage Walks. The children do love these walks, and so do we. We think you would find this to be fun and fulfilling. It is a great way to instill a love and appreciation of our Miamisburg history in the 3rd graders. Please do consider becoming involved. If you would like to "tag along" on one of these walks, please contact me at 866-1784.

"Thru the Years in Miamisburg" Vintage Style Show and Tea

By Barbara Olekas, Ways and Means Chair

Mothers bring your daughters, daughters bring your mothers! This year we have decided to showcase clothing of members of the community as early as the 1900's thru the 1980's. We will have clothing from Mrs. Bobbye Sweny, Mrs. Harriet Hieronymus, Mrs. Erma Hoops, Mrs. Edna Gabriel Olekas, Mrs. Gladys Forbes, jewelry from Mrs. Anna K. Wantz, Mrs. Staley and many more. This clothing will be worn by live models. We hope to have some granddaughters modeling their grandmother's clothing.

Bring your favorite tea cup for tea or coffee. Hats and gloves are not mandatory, but are fun to set the mood. There will be a prize for the prettiest hat and one for the most unusual. There will be door prizes too. We will be holding a raffle again this year. Some of the items are a Victorian painting, 2 Vera Bradley purses, a beautiful Victorian hat box and many other items. Raffle tickets are $1 each or 6 for $5. Light refreshments will be served at 2:30pm. (Doors open at 2:15pm.) The style show will begin after luncheon is finished.

We will be having male servers for the first time this year; we know they will be a huge hit with the attendees. Maybe some surprises here.

Please join us for an entertaining afternoon, a light luncheon, lovely clothing, fellowship and just a fun time.

"THRU THE YEARS... in MIAMISBURG" Vintage Style Show and Tea
Market Square Building, 4 N. Main Street, Miamisburg, Ohio

Sunday, May 1, 2011 2:30 pm
(Doors open at 2:15 pm)

Our purpose is to entertain you, to share the past, enjoy light lunch, great tea, and to raise funds which go to the operation of the Historical Society.

Tickets: $15 Per person

Any questions or for tickets, call Barbara Olekas at 855-6590, Jeanette Belvo at 866-5439 or contact any of the other committee members– Virginia Kinderdine, Nita Petticrew, Joyce Zimpher, Judy Stamm, Judy Knight, Kathy Kosic or Rolla Broerman. Tickets may also be purchased at the Market Square Building. Please support your Miamisburg Historical Society by attending this fun event!

This Is Your Newsletter!

Do you have news you'd like to share with our membership? A bit of local history, a family celebration, a graduation, marriage or a death announcement?

Please submit your information to Diane at dewarrick@sbcglobal.net. If space allows, we will make every effort to include it in *The Tavern Log*. We do reserve the right to edit any material that is submitted.

YOUR HELP IS URGENTLY NEEDED!

The need has become critical for additional volunteers to help out at the Market Square Building on Wednesdays or Saturdays from 1:00 to 4:00 pm.

Please consider volunteering 3 hours of your time, once or twice a month. It is possible that we may be forced to reduce our 'open' days to only one per week, or even two per month unless more volunteers are forthcoming.

NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED!

Call 859-5000 and leave your name and number, or e-mail MHSociety@att.net.

We're Thinking Spring and Planning...

A GARDEN TOUR

Sunday, June 12th
2:00 – 5:00 pm

We'll be touring the gardens of:

Stan and Rosalie Bernard
Tom and Joyce Zimpfer
Kerry and Melinda Kline
Pat Bell

...and more to be added.

Mark your calendars and we'll publish the details later in the spring.

Correction to 2011 Historical Society Events Calendar

On the 2011 Historical Society Events Calendar which was printed in the February issue of *The Tavern Log*, an error was made on the date of our summer picnic. The correct date should be Thursday, July 28. Further details to follow in the next newsletter.

Pop Quiz Answer

The answer is "B" 1818.

In February, 1818, four settlers from Pennsylvania, Jacob Kercher, Emanuel Gebhart, Dr. John Treon and Dr. Peter Treon offered for sale 90 lots in a new community by the name of Miamisburg. The plat was bounded by Commercial Street (Ferry St.) on the north, Race Street (First St.) on the east, Walnut Street (Linden Avenue) on the south and Water Street (Miami Avenue) on the west. By 1832 the community had become a village and 100 years later Miamisburg had achieved city status.

Look For Our Booth at the Spring Fling Festival

By Judy Knight, Spring Fling Booth Coordinator

The 31st Annual Spring Fling Festival is scheduled for May 21-22 at the Library Park, come rain or shine. Stop by and see the Miamisburg Historical Society booth where historical photos of Miamisburg landmarks and events, books and other local memorabilia will be available.

The Historical Society can help you trace your ancestry and offers monthly programs including the moving 'Silver Taps' Program in May, a summer picnic in July, the Canal Days Dinner in the fall and the Holly & Ivy holiday celebration. Learn about these programs and others 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 the Miamisburg story, but you don't need to know everything about the area's history to participate. Please contact Judy Knight at 746-7955 if you are interested.

Over 70 Attend February General Meeting

Our 2011 General Programs began with a great start as over 70 people attended the meeting in February. Ron's Pizzas were stacked high and everyone got more than their fill. Thanks to Laura Bomhorst for organizing this program which was a huge success.

Mayor Dick Church narrated the slide show of old Miamisburg photos from the 40's, 50's and 60's. The photos in the show and also those displayed on tables were supplied by Don McLaughlin and Jim Cogan. Great job, guys! The show brought back so many memories. (Don took many of the photos himself at the age of 15 when he was working at Beachler's on Main Street.)

Star City Bottling Co. display

Ted and Charlene Hiehle set up a display of early bottles from the Star City Bottling Company and other local businesses. Ted's family owned and operated Star City Bottling Company in Miamisburg from 1917 until they closed in 1968.

President Ted Fink and Randy Staley spoke to the crowd and outlined our very serious need for volunteers on Wednesdays and Saturdays at the Market Square Building. We may be forced to open only one afternoon per week unless more volunteers are willing to step up. Les Wead and Randy Staley have been the primary volunteers on our 'open days' for many years, but due to illness and being out of town, they are no longer able to 'hold down the fort' without more help. The situation has become critical and we are in dire need of your assistance. Please consider volunteering your time one or two afternoons a month. It's only three hours and you'll find out it's fun!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

James D. Cogan, Jr.

Carol Loy Butzer

IMPORTANT! Don't be left out...

As we strive to modernize our means of communication with members, we're asking for your e-mail address.

***The Tavern Log* is published every two months, and at times there are additions or changes to our calendar of events. Having the capability of informing our members of Society activities on a more timely basis will be a big plus for everyone.**

Please e-mail the Society at MHSociety@att.net. Give your name and current e-mail address so we may add it to our membership group mailing database. Please remember to keep us updated if your address changes.

We want to keep you in the loop!

Sending our Condolences

The Society wishes to extend deepest sympathy to Quill and Phyllis Abney and their entire family on the passing of their son, Michel Abney who passed away on February 15. Mike, who resided with his wife, Mary, in Ward, Arkansas, was a 1967 graduate of Miamisburg High School and a member of St. Jacob Lutheran Church.

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and help preserve Miamisburg

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_____ I am a new member

_____ Lee Knewing

Name _____

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City _____

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

_____

_____

(please mail to:)
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