

SURVEYOR



P.O. BOX 30174

CINCINNATI, OHIO 45230

Issue 29, Volume 24

ANDERSON TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

May, 1996

ATHS meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month, 7:30 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Bartels Road, unless otherwise noted.

Mt. Washington Bicentennial Celebration & Parade June 14 & 15

A festival in Stansbery Park and a concert, games and other activities will kick off the festivities commemorating the 150th anniversary of the founding of Mt. Washington. The big parade on Saturday, June 15 at 10 a.m. Mt. Washington School on Mears Avenue will be the staging area. The parade route will go up Mears to Beechmont to Corbly and end at Eastern Hills Language Academy.

ATHS will be represented by our old wagon and cart. Member who wish to ride or march in costume should call Al Wettstein (474-0255) or Judy Radcliffe (474-5377). In addition to the parade, ATHS plans to have a booth at the celebration with memberships, books and Dinner for 8 raffle tickets for sale. A crew for cleaning and applying linseed oil to the wagon and card are also needed. Call Al to volunteer.

Mt. Washington's 150th Anniversary Celebration hours are 4 - 10 p.m. on Friday, June 14, and 10 a.m. - 10 p.m., Saturday, June 15. Watch the local papers for more details of events and activities.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Wednesday, June 5 - 7:30 p.m.

The Milford Historical Society will present a "Walking Tour of Milford", given by president of their society.

July 3 - Annual Picnic - 6:30 p.m.

Judy and Bob Radcliffe are planning a fish fry with tasty helpings of halibut at our annual picnic in the air-conditioned brick house. Bring a dish to share and your own place setting. Drinks will be provided.

August 7 - They're Playing Our Song at Showboat

A musical comedy by Neil Simon and Marvin Hamlisch is a romantic show about an established composer and an aspiring young lyricist. Professionally, the duo works great, but there's conflict on the home front. Of course, there is a happy ending, eventually.

We have 30 tickets at a group rate of \$9. Call Lyn Scheper (232-1559) to reserve your seat no later than July 22. Our annual Showboat Majestic theater party is in lieu of an August meeting. Free parking is reserved on the public landing for patrons, right in front of the Showboat.

September 4 - 7:30 p.m.

Ron Makin will talk about Disappearing Outhouses as well as finalizing Country Store.

In Memoriam

James Coldiron
&
A. Willis Cobb
(age 105)
Charter Member

A Century and Older

By Red Lowery

In the past 50 years, there has been lots of construction, road improvements and progress. In many instances the result was the demolition of old homes and other structures. In surveys of "historic" homes taken by Marjorie Frame in 1975 and by the (then) Miami Purchase Assn. in 1985, 200 existing homes qualified as being more than 100 years old.

In Newtown, there are about 75 such sites. Mt. Washington has 35 listed. A number of qualified sites in California were ignored or overlooked by the surveyors. And more in the township were overlooked because the original building was concealed by remodeling and did not appear to be that old. Undoubtedly there are many more built before 1896 that now could be listed.

In 1996, there are 2 sites that have reached the 200 year age: the Miller-Leuser House and the "Sutton" house, long-time home of Sarah McGee, in Mt. Washington.

Information about these places, showing location, date built, original builder/owner, description, comments, small photo and current occupant are on file in the ATHS Research Library. Twenty structures have been added and we need more information about these and other candidates. If you think your house or a friend's qualifies, call Red Lowery (474-0519), ATHS Research Department expert.

FOR YOUR VIEWING PLEASURE!

The Miller-Leuser Log House
will be Open to the Public
Every Sunday from 1-4
in June, July and August
at no charge.
Donations are welcomed.

Looking for Movie Stars: As part of our 200th year, lifelong residents of the Township are asked to write stories of the events that happened in the township and mail them to ATHS. Or call the society and arrange for an oral history recording. You could be a "star" on public access TV.

MAY 4 FLEA MARKET NETS OVER \$400

Judy Radcliffe organized our second annual flea market, Saturday, May 4, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Many people rented spaces totaling \$270 in income. Mae Donovan sold most of her things, while Flo Makepeace had a good say selling plants. Sue and Betty Wettstein were featured in the Journal. Helen Sweet sold ATHS donations from the screened porch and Darrel Sweet sold books, netting over \$120 for the Society.

Hot dogs, brats, desserts and soft drinks were donated and sold making an additional \$50. Helpers included Bob Radcliffe, Al Wettstein, Mary Brafford, Alice Massey, Jane & Bill Hornschemeier, Barb Christman, Jane & Bob King, George Wuest, Josephine McCabe, Red Lowery, Ruth Deimling and many others.

Thanks to all who made this first in a series of 200th anniversary celebration events a huge success.

Society Welcomes Talent & Donations

The following people have given generously of their time and efforts to help maintain the ATHS properties:

Bob and Robby Radcliffe, removed the dead tree in front of the Log House. Bob also made electrical repairs and hung fluorescent light fixtures. Albert Motz, our neighbor, and Ron Makin removed, fixed and re-mounted our mailbox. Lynn Bellamy made extensive repairs to the side doorway to the Log House. Now we need a volunteer to cut down the old door Jack Massey has found to replace the very precarious door that is there now. Judy Johns & her daughter are updating our pamphlet and most likely our Country Store flyer. Mae Donovan has been weeding and planting flowers around ATHS grounds. It looks very nice, Mae! Bob King wired the upstairs for phones. Tom Landers is again donating his grounds services. Our cabin and a testimonial appeared in his color brochure.

We also need volunteers for the parade on June 15 and for our booth from 4-10 p.m., June 14, and all day on Saturday, the 15th. Call Al Wettstein.

Facts on Hats a Huge Success

Did you know that the "ideal" Gibson Girl measurements were 40-17-42? Body enhancements such as "peacock breasts" that were tied onto the body helped achieve these outlandish proportions.

In 1900 hats had 24" brims and up to 36" plumes. Eventually in 1913 the outlawing of hat pins longer than 12" and the use of exotic birds and feathers lead to the demise of such outlandish headware.

Also, to help the war effort, in 1917 a plea for scrap metal lead to the collection of 28,000 tons of steel - enough to build two battleships - all from the stays in ladies corsets. No wonder the Roaring 20's features dropped waist dresses with no figure definition!

The term "mad as a hatter" was a result of an inordinate amount of brain deterioration from inhaling the fumes produced in the felting process of hats.

The demise of the hat was brought about by the introduction of hair spray in the mid 50s. Millinery sales dropped 56% the year after hair spray was marketed.

Happy 50th Anniversary - Alice & Jack Massey

Membership Dues Drive - May 1

Please make your payments payable to: ATHS and mail in the enclosed dues payment envelope. Carol Vorhees is our new membership chair (232-1166).

NOTE: Postal regulations require that all bulk mailings must be identical. We cannot send envelopes to selected individuals. *Therefore, every one will receive a dues envelope along with this issue of the SURVEYOR.* If you joined on the Bicentennial Special or are a lifetime member, we apologize. Please disregard the enclosed envelope and simply disregard it OR bring it to a meeting for recycling.

Dinner for Eight Raffle Takes a New Twist

The ATHS Board had decided to raffle our annual Dinner for 8 separately. In a few weeks we will have ONLY 100 raffle tickets at a cost of \$5 each available. When the 100 tickets are sold, the winner will be picked and a dinner date set. This change is to create a "feature" event for our bicentennial celebration. We will be selling raffle tickets at the ATHS booth during the Mt. Washington celebration June 14 & 15 as well as at other functions. Anyone wishing to purchase a chance for this dinner may send their check to:

A.T.H.S.
P.O. Box 30174
Cincinnati, OH 45230-0174

Your numbered ticket stub will be returned to you. Remember, there will be only 100 chances sold. So your odds of winning are very good!

The Country Store raffle will still be held during the fall. Prizes are yet to be determined. Cost will be \$1.

B&B Lunch Cruise

The B&B Riverboat lunch cruise has been rescheduled for Saturday, May 18. The 15 members who paid \$17 for their gourmet buffet luncheon are already reserved a place. Any additional interested members should call Helen Sweet (474-5678) to add your name to the list. Let Helen know if you need to be set up in a car pool. Boarding time at the Covington Landing is 11:30 a.m. The cruise departs promptly at noon and will be back at 2 p.m.

Amy Lowery is recovering at home after a hospital stay.