

MAEYSTOWN VOLKSBLATT

Maeystown, Illinois

Maeystown Preservation Society

Historic Maeystown to Host Antique & Garden Show

Maeystown, Illinois, will host its annual Fruehlingsfest antique and garden show on Sunday, May 6, 2007. The show, which begins at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 4:00 p.m., will take place around the stone mill in the heart of town.

The Fruehlingsfest will feature more than 40 quality antique dealers from Illinois, Missouri, Michigan, Indiana, and Kansas, specializing in country, folk art, garden, and architectural antiques. In addition, various nurseries will be selling annuals, perennials, and herbs.

"Maeystown is the perfect setting for a quality antique and garden show like this," says John Rehling, event coordinator. "Antique and garden lovers will enjoy the festival, as well as anyone looking for a fun spring day in a country atmosphere."

This show, held rain or shine on the first Sunday in May, has rapidly become one of the best and most highly anticipated antique shows in the Midwest.

"The Maeystown Fruehlingsfest has become my absolute favorite show!!" says Tim Chambers of Missouri Plain Folk Antiques. "I sell every year at the Heart of Country show in Nashville and the Triple Pier show in New York City, but nothing compares to the Fruehlingsfest for fun, ambiance, and the ultimate setting for antiques. Really are quality dealers as well." Chambers is author of *The Art of the Game*, a coffee table book on antique game boards.

A variety of food will be offered at Fruehlingsfest, including bratwurst, barbecue, potato pancakes, kettle corn, funnel cakes, pretzels and strawberry shortcake. A creek-side wine garden, served by Ravissant Winery, will also be features.

For more information, call the Corner George Inn at 618-458-6660.

Some News from the Curator

Hope everyone had a great Christmas holiday and New Year's celebration. We at the museum are celebrating the many wonderful things that have happened in the past year or so. We are still busy making headway towards many goals we have set for the museum. We are excited to report on the following:

We purchased a computer, scanner, and digital camera. As you all know, we must be able to keep proper records of all items donated and on loan in our museum. We also must have proper records as to identification of old photos, old documents, history, etc. We have cabinets upon cabinets and boxes upon boxes full of Maeystown history just waiting to be catalogued and scanned into our computer, etc.

To do all of the above, we had anticipated purchasing an expensive computer software package specifically set up for museums to catalog their displays, documents, photos, etc. We are so grateful and happy to announce that David (Buzz) Asselmeier has spent timeless hours creating a software package that he is donating to the museum. It is software that can be

updated, adding additional features as we find the need. Buzz has named his software the Museum Inventory and Acquisition Software. It will also be able to record and keep track of membership rolls and member data. We are very appreciative to Buzz for this great donation that will make our lives much easier, information storage and retrieval much, much easier, and also save us a tremendous amount of \$\$ -- THANK YOU, BUZZ!

We have started going through wonderful old pictures, identifying them, and scanning them into the computer. We eventually will have all photos scanned and copies put into albums for all to enjoy at in the museum. Hopefully we will have these photos scanned and copied by end of summer and will be enlisting your help in identifying them. Won't it be exciting and fun to go into the museum and sit down with albums full of photos of you, your relatives or ancestors? One of my very favorite things to do is look at old photographs – history comes alive visually – what could be better!

Members of the committee have started reviewing the Bundy files – a monumental, time-consuming but exciting task.

We have met with various people to review their personal old items, photographs and records which they are helping us identify and allowing us to scan for the museum.

We had several old store cases repaired that were literally falling apart. These cases are in the upper level of the museum anxiously awaiting new displays. We have all sorts of ideas for new displays in the upper and main levels.

We always need more family histories, photographs, documents, and display items. If you have anything you would like to donate for future generations' enjoyment or would like to place "on loan" please contact me or any of the Maeystown Preservation officers, committee members, etc. We all happily pass information onto each other.

This past year has been a time of many surgeries and serious illnesses in our group. God willing and the creek don't rise (and I mean our Maeystown creek!), here's hoping this year will be healthier for everyone. Our best wishes go out to each and every one of you for a very happy and healthy 2007.

Nancy Uhl, Curator
277-8030

Who Are We & Where Are We?

Since it is membership renewal time and we were affixing labels to envelopes the thought struck me to do a brief analysis of our membership roll.

Several interesting facts appeared along with some questions. The Society has 225 members. The total number of life memberships is 50.

Most of our members are local, but we have a large number who live in out-state Illinois and Missouri. We also have members that live in 13 other states such as Kentucky, California, Kansas, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Tennessee, North Carolina, Arizona, Texas, Utah, Michigan, and Mississippi.

It is very apparent that many of the members are descendents of Maeystown settlers. There are obviously other people who are interested and are scattered around the country. Many of the names are quite apparent as being Maeystown families, but many are not, as people have married and there are simply people who care about Maeystown who are not tied here by family.

Since we are in the process of expanding our museum and adding family information, I thought it would be nice if we could have as many of our members as possible write us to say why you support Maeystown and also state who your Maeystown ancestors were, if you have some.

We will use this information in our museum files, but we are also interested to publish replies in the Volksblatt.

Please send you letters to:
Volksblatt Editor
David Asselmeier
MaeystownPreservation
Society
POB 25
Maeystown, IL. 62256

Want to Rent the Mill?

Do you need a place to have a family gathering, a birthday celebration, a shower, an anniversary or some other function?

As a member of the Society you are able to rent the lower level of the Mill for these functions.

The facilities are heated and air-conditioned and have full kitchen preparation services available. There are also restrooms. Tables and chairs are also available. Maximum number of people is 30.

A few of our members have utilized this benefit and you receive a discount as a member.

Renting up to four hours costs \$25.00 and \$50.00 for all day of 8 hours. There are cleaning and damage deposits that are refundable if not needed.

For more information, please call David Asselmeier at 618-281-7441.

Jars Needed

We are again asking for your help in obtaining pint and quart jars (pint especially) for apple butter. Jars have become quite expensive to purchase and we would like to use recycled jars

whenever we can. If you have any jars you would like to recycle (any quart or pint jars), please contact one of our board members - Dorothy Brandt, Joanne Goeddel Anita Muertz, Linda Green, Nancy Uhl, David Asselmeier, David Braswell, or Ron Upchurch. You can also call the Mill and leave a message there at 618-458-6464.

Membership Renewal Reminder

Membership renewals were mailed out with the November issue. There are still several people who have not renewed their membership for 2007. If you received a membership form with this issue of the Volksblatt that means you have not renewed your membership for 2007. If we do not receive your renewal by April 15, we will assume you do not wish to renew and will drop your name from our list.

Calendar

February 20	St. John Church (UCC) Fastnacht Pancake & Sausage Dinner German Music 5:00-8:00 p.m.
March 10 & 11	Spring Art Show 11:00-4:00 p.m.
May 6	Fruehlingsfest/Springfest Antique and Garden Show
May 25 & 26	Civic Association Homecoming 5:00 p.m.-Close
August 4	Trash & Treasures Village Yard Sale
October 14	Oktoberfest Craft, Antique & Food Fair
December 2	Old-Fashioned German Christmas