

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 3, 2009. 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, Iowa, Kentucky and Kansas, specializing in country, folk art, garden, and architectural antiques. In addition, various nurseries will be selling annuals, perennials and herbs.

"The Maeystown Fruehlingsfest is permanently on my calendar," says Andy Culbertson of Quintessential Antiques. "We look forward to it every year, and I wouldn't think of missing it. It's a unique, entertaining day in a beautiful setting – appealing to hardened collectors and casual antique buffs alike, or for those just looking for an enjoyable way to spend a Sunday." Culbertson has been selling antiques at the Fruehlingsfest since 2004.

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.

"It's amazing how the Fruehlingsfest has become a full-day's destination and event," says John Rehling, event coordinator. "At most antique shows, people arrive early, shop quickly, and leave for other events. At the Fruehlingsfest, people tend to arrive early, shop leisurely, and stay the entire day to soak up the Maeystown magic. They relax at the wine garden, walk the

creek, explore the town, and revisit the show to see the new items dealers bring out throughout the day." The event is free, so attendees can check out the show as often as they like.

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 featured.

For more information, call the Corner George Inn at 618-458-6660 or visit www.maeystown.com.

Historic Maeystown to Sponsor Annual Spring Art Show

The annual Spring Art Show, sponsored by Historic Maeystown will be held on Saturday and Sunday, March 14-15, at the Preservation Society Rock Mill and at the Corner George Inn. The show will be held from 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. each day. There will be no admission charge.

This year's show will feature a group of five local artists. They will bring a variety of styles and mediums to the show. An interesting tapestry of paintings will be the result of their various backgrounds and experiences.

The artists to be featured are Susie Huebner Aycock, Annette DeBourge, Faith Mueller, Carol Roseman and Margaret Tempel. All of the artists are residents of Monroe County. All of the artists are new to the Maeystown show, with the exception of Susie Huebner Aycock, who displayed her work in a two-person show several years ago. Several of the artists will be in attendance during the show in order to visit with guests. The goal of the

Maeystown Spring Art Show is to showcase local artists. All members of the Preservation Society are encouraged to support the show with their attendance and to invite others to attend as well.

Marcia Braswell

New Life Member

Paul Steingrubby has made a donation to become a Life Member of the Society in memory of his mother, Cecelia Steingrubby.

Paul enclosed the following note with his membership fee:

"Greetings! I would like to make this donation in memory of my mother, Cecilia A. Steingrubby, who died January 28, 2002. She was a 4-H leader in the area for years. I believe she knew Dorothy Brandt. Mother was also organist and choir director at Immaculate Conception parish in Madonnaville, IL.

When I was eight years old, and my sister Ann, ten, we lived with the Ed and Meta Maey family for two months while our mother was ill. Gloria Bundy was about 19 years old at the time and introduced us to a lifetime interest in music. Best wishes."

Sincerely,
Paul Steingrubby

Another Note from a Friend

"I never get down there anymore, but I still LOVE being part of this group and also reading about "old days."

Lucille Quernheim

Donation to the Society

We are pleased to announce a special donation that has been made to the Society. One of our members, who wishes to remain anonymous, gifted to the Society 35 shares of Exxon-Mobil stock.

We are very appreciative on this wonderful gesture.

This is also an opportunity to mention to other members and to the general public that the Maeystown Preservation Society is a certified not-for-profit corporation under IRS Code 501(3) (c).

This means that contributions to us are deductible under tax law and that we are a certified organization authorized to accept donations such as stock, etc. Please keep this in mind for your future tax planning activities.

The mother of one of our members has donated shares of stock to the organization over the years. This was also Exxon-Mobil, which we still have.

We do not have plans to sell this stock or the ones recently donated and are putting them aside into a special brokerage account to have the beginnings of an Endowment Fund for the Society.

David Asselmeier

Membership Renewal Reminder

Membership renewals were mailed out with the November issue. There are still several people who have not renewed their membership for 2009. If you received a membership form with this issue of the Volksblatt that means you have not renewed your membership for 2009. 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.

Information Needed

Elizabeth Rau Schaefer, of Providence, Rhode Island, is looking for information about her great grandfather, Jacob Jobb. Jacob was born on June 4, 1845, in Belheim, Rheinpfalz, Germany and died on August 8, 1919. He was the son of Georg Ludwig Job and Margaretha Huhnerfauth.

Jacob and his family came to the United States in 1852. Any information about their lives in Belheim (perhaps the name of their church) or about their voyage, including the name of the ship, would be greatly appreciated. The family settled on a 40-acre tract in Cape Girardeau, Mo.

When the Civil War began, Jacob enlisted in the Union Army. He served as a private in Co. F, 29th Regiment, Missouri Infantry Volunteers and was discharged on May 20, 1864. He learned the saddle trade during the war and later moved to Maeystown. (Jacob changed the spelling of his name to "Jobb" after the war.)

He bought the lot in Maeystown formerly owned by Philip Doll and built a rock house and, on the adjoining lot, a saddle shop. His first marriage was to Elisabeth Altes. She died. In 1873, he married Gertrude Becker. They had six children, including Clara Louise Jobb, who is Ms. Rau Schaefer's grandmother. (Clara's husband was William August Rau, of Cape Girardeau.)

Jacob was the first mayor of Maeystown. He was buried at St. John Cemetery. His son, George P. ("Dave") continued the business. George's daughter was Georgia Mae Green.

Jacob's sister, Sibilla Jobb-Hoffman, is also buried at St. John Cemetery, as well as Clara Louise. Any information or photos of Jacob, Sibilla, Clara Louise, William August Rau or other family members would be greatly appreciated.

Elizabeth Rau Schaefer's address is: 75 Irving Avenue, Providence, RI 02906. Her e-mail is

eraul@verizon.net and her phone number is 401-861-1777.

Do You Know?

Even though this does not involve Maeystown, it does involve the good old days. One of our members is interested in information and pictures about the old Fischer's Pavilion located in New Hanover, Illinois. Contact Ron Upchurch if you have any of these items at 618-939-7439.

Maeystown Doctors

Maeystown was very fortunate to have several doctors in the early days. The first one I know about (although there were probably some before this one) was Dr. August Wilhelmj. The Wilhelmjs were a prominent family in the history of the town. Dr. August had his office in the 13-room three-story house on Main & Hanover Street, later referred to as "The Globe." The building was an elegant, well maintained house at this time and for many years until the Wilhelmj family all left the area and by and by the house was in a state of disrepair. In 1919 the doctor and his wife Laura built a brick home which is presently the St. John parsonage and he opened his office in his home. However, shortly after the completion of the new home, Dr. Wilhelmj lost his eyesight and was no longer was able to fulfill his duties as a doctor.

I am not sure just who followed him but Dr. Alvin Maey began his medical practice in the basement of the home on Main Street now occupied by the Carrons and formerly owned by Corena Fauss. He and his wife, Anna and their three children resided in the upper part of the house. Dr. Maey was very caring and would often sit with the family at the bedside of a critically ill patient all night. If a patient could not get to his office he would make house calls often walking if the roads were impassable. Most babies were

delivered in the home by Dr. Maeys as going to a hospital to have a baby was unheard of unless there were complications. After leaving Maeystown, Dr. Maeys and his family moved to Columbia, Illinois, in 11933 where he continued his practice. One of his sons, Alvin Jr., is still living and served as judge in Monroe County for many years.

Dr. O.C. Helming and his wife Barbara moved into the same house and he had his office in the basement area also. His wife organized the first Girl Scout troop in the Maeystown community. I don't think they had any children.

After Dr. Helming left Maeystown he moved to Waterloo to continue his practice. Dr. Clyde Cable took over his practice and resided in the same house and had his office in the basement. He had one son, Billy, but I don't remember much about him. I don't think he was here as long as the rest of the doctors.

Dr. Lafayette Green along with his wife and family followed and moved into the house now occupied by Florence and Wip Hesterberg. Dr. Green had his office in what are now the Hesterberg kitchen and his waiting room in the living room. He was a good doctor, and like the others, made house calls when necessary. He practiced medicine in Maeystown quite a few years but I do not know where he went when he left here, but I do know that his son Richard married Georgia Mae Jobb later on and they lived in the Jobb home.

The old time doctors often did not get paid for their services but sometimes would be given meat or vegetables or some other food item as payment as most people were poor and had large families. Often they received nothing but a thank you for their services. Medical insurance was unheard of. There were dreadful diseases such as diphtheria, scarlet fever, typhoid fever, whooping cough, malaria, measles and the whole household was quarantined to prevent the spread of the disease. Quarantine

signs were put on the premises so no one would enter the house unless they just had to. About the only hospital around was St. Mary's at East St. Louis and later Christian Welfare in East St. Louis where people went for surgeries. So much recognition should be given to these very dedicated physicians in Maeystown and as well as the old time doctors in other cities in the area. Most of the time they could pinpoint the problem, give the patient medication and cure the illness for a minimal fee. Sending someone to a specialist was rare. If one telephoned a doctor back then you were able to speak to the doctor himself and he took time to listen, unlike the phone system we have today where you rarely get to speak to the doctor and after the automated system instructs you to punch this and that on the phone and you finally think you will be connected to the doctor's nurse a recording of the nurse tells you that she is currently with a patient and you should leave your name, date of birth, and phone number and she will call you back usually at the end of the day.

The old time doctors were so very caring and patient with each individual who needed their services and went beyond the call of duty. I am not criticizing the medical profession today, it is just that times have changed, they have more patients, they are subject to lawsuits and most of them want a social life on weekends so they advise you to go to the emergency room although you often can call their exchange and they will tell you where to go to get help. Our population has also greatly increased.

If anyone knows more about the early doctors, please feel to contact me.
Florence Hesterberg

Maeystown Community High School

We noticed this article in the "Yesterdays" column of the Waterloo Republic Times taken from their

archives of the Waterloo Republican of August 16, 1933.

"Maeystown Community High School, abolished by an election last spring, was sold Saturday at public auction. Proceeds from the sale are to be divided among the school districts within the boundaries of the former district."

We are interested if any of our readers know who bought the high school building(s). Even at that early time, these were portable buildings that could be moved.

If you have this information, please contact David Asselmeier at 618-281-7441 or send information to Maeystown Preservation Society, Post Office Box 25, Maeystown, Illinois 62256.

Deaths

Richard Schein

We have been notified of the death of Rick Schein, a Life Member and long-time supporter of the Society and Maeystown. He passed away on January 3, 2009, at State College, Pennsylvania. A memorial service was held January 10, 2009. He is survived by his wife Cinny and family.

For several years the Scheins owned a vacation home on Franklin Street in Maeystown.

Ella Wegman

We have been notified of the death of Ella Wegman on October 9, 2008. She was a member of the Society for many years.

Marlene Seyler

Marlene Seyler, nee Trost, of Sun City, Arizona, died December 25, 2008. She is survived by her brothers LeRoy, Wayne and Richard. Mrs. Seyler grew up in Waterloo, moved to Glendale, California, and retired to Sun City, Arizona. Marlene was a Life Member of the Society.

Calendar

February 24	Fastnacht St. John Church 5:00-8:00 p.m.
March 14 & 15	Spring Art Show 11:00-4:00 p.m.
May 3	Fruehlingsfest/Springfest Antique & Garden Show 9:00-4:00 p.m.
May 22 & 23	Civic Association Homecoming 5:00 p.m. to Close
August 1	Trash & Treasures Village Yard Sale
September 25	Apple Peeling Rock Mill 8:00-1:00 p.m.
September 26	Apple Butter Stirring Rock Mill 6:00-3:00 p.m.
October 11	Oktoberfest 9:00-4:00 p.m.