

# MAEYSTOWN VOLKSBLATT

Maeystown, Illinois

## Maeystown Preservation Society

[www.maeystownpreservationsociety.org](http://www.maeystownpreservationsociety.org)

### November & December Meetings

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, the Society will meet on Tuesday, November 15, instead of November 22. The meeting will be held at the Mill at 7:30 p.m.

As is the usual custom, no monthly meeting will be held in December. Looking forward to seeing you at our next meeting, January 24, 2012.

### 31<sup>st</sup> Oktoberfest

The thirty-first Oktoberfest was held on Sunday, October 9. Some vendors who have long been a part of the Oktoberfest believed this year was one of the largest crowds ever. Maybe it was the unseasonably warm fall day or the interesting variety of food, anything from potato pancakes to turtle soup. Then again it could have been the unique vendors who sold hand felted items, up-cycled jewelry, benches made from old beds, vintage fabric collages, repurposed barn wood furniture, watercolor paintings, words in pictures, carved Santas, wire trees, paper art, and too many more to mention. Perhaps it was because two new businesses opened, the Village Kaffeehaus/LiL' Red Roaster Coffee Company and the Maeystown Restaurant & Saloon, or the demonstrations of a blacksmith and hand-turned lathe. Possibly it was just friends who come to support Maeystown.

I want to believe it was just a wonderful combination of many things. Again, the Oktoberfest is made possible because of many: Preservation members, the Village of Maeystown, residents, and vendors. Thank you!

Anita Muertz

### Old Fashioned Christmas in Maeystown December 4

Maeystown will once again celebrate an Old Fashioned German Christmas on Sunday, December 4, 2011, from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The emphasis of the

celebration will be on German customs and carols, as well as the traditional music and food of the season.

Music will be provided throughout the day, including the Waterloo Strolling Brass Ensemble from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m., Carl Seavers and Jim Abbott on hammered dulcimers at the mill from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m., the Valmeyer High School Mixed Ensemble in the Corner George Inn ballroom at 1:30 p.m., the Valmeyer School Instrumental Ensemble at 2:15 p.m., a German Carol Sing in the ballroom at 3:00 p.m. and a traditional carol sing at the mill at 4:30 p.m., accompanied by Mardy Eisloeffel on accordion and Jim Abbott and Carl Seavers on dulcimer, during the lighting of the village Weihnachtsbaum.

Of special interest this year will be artisan Steve Ely of Johnston City, Illinois, displaying his Santas and more. Also of special interest will be a Christmas House Tour highlighting four Maeystown homes decorated in their Christmas finery. There is a nominal charge for the house tour. Tickets will be available for the tour at the Maeystown General Store.

St. Nikolaus will visit the village between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Carriage rides will be available to visitors from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Food will be in abundance during the festival. The Maeystown Women's Club will feature their popular Taste of Christmas in the mill basement. The Maeystown Restaurant and Saloon will be open for the day, and the St. John Choir will be selling the traditional Weihnachts-stew and bratwurst and wassail. The Village Kaffeehaus and the Sweet Shoppe will both offer special attractions for the day.

Shopping will also be available at the Maeystown General Store and Georgia Mae's Antiques and Collectibles. The Maeystown Mill and Museum will be showcasing their exhibits for the day.

Visitors to the village can pick up a list of specific times and places of events at the General Store when they arrive in the village. For more information, please call 618-458-6660.

Marcia Braswell

### Apple Butter Peeling and Cooking

The Society had two wonderful days for the peeling of apples for apple butter and for cooking it outside the next day.

A large number of volunteers turned out for peeling and cutting the apples on Friday, August 23. Twenty-two bushels of apples were peeled, cored and cut up. The cooking event on Saturday, September 24, brought out another large group of people to cook, stir and can the apple butter. In total, we produced 122 quarts, 282 pints and 44 half pints for sale.

Special thanks to the people listed below for helping. Apple peelers: Lynn Koehler, Pat Gleason, Terry Schuchman, David Braswell, Anita Louise Poole, Patrick Poole, Linda Coats, Linda Green, Wip Hesterberg, Jean Knobloch, Harvey Ries, Susan Barker, Joe Siekmann, Loretta Siekmann, Viv Horn, Gloria Knoke, Jean Rahn, Mary Lou Galle, Kathy Adams, Ron Upchurch, Marlou Schewe, Christy Muertz, Julia Muertz, Pam Rehling, Carol Bay, Marge Francois, Marion Knobloch, Virginia Humphrey, Barbara Curtis, Mary Jo Kalka, Patricia Lewis, Andrea Degenhardt, Ann Luna, Kevin Oliver, and Tracy Oliver. Apple butter cooking: Adam Ritzel, Andrew Juelfs, Anita Muertz, Ann Luna, Anthony Tepen, Bill Tutka, BJ Henerfauth, Brad Finnerty, Chris Green, Chris Muertz, Christy Muertz, Connie Turner, Dave Henerfauth, David Braswell, David Muertz, Dorothy Brandt, Elise Finnerty, Fay Ross, George Obernagel, Gloria Knoke, Gracie Poole, Hannah Finnerty, Harvey Ries, David Asselmeier, Jason Crouch, Joan Braswell, Joe Siekman, Julia Muertz, Julie Eggers, Kathryn Finnerty, Ken Knobloch, Kevin Eader, Lillie Poole, Linda Green, Loretta

Siekman, Mike Taylor, Rick Eggers, Robbie Schulz, Ron Upchurch, Rosemarie Upchurch, Marcia Braswell, Sandy Tutka, Tiffany Green, and Vici Eader.

If your name is missing please contact David Braswell at 458-6660 or at [cornrgeo@htc.net](mailto:cornrgeo@htc.net). We will publish it in the next newsletter.

### Kettle Sponsors

The Society would like to thank the people who sponsored kettles for the making of apple butter. The sponsors were David & Shirley Asselmeier, Lynn Bersche, Joanne Goeddel, George & Linda Green, Ray & Nancy Reed, George & Nancy Uhl, Robert & Jackie Zeitinger, the Ross Family in memory of Lillian & Fred Pieper, and the Schmuck Family in memory of Charles Kuergeleis.

### Country Store Thank You!

A HUGE thanks to all of you for the time and effort that went into making/growing/bringing the wonderful baked goods and craft items for the Country Store.

Another HUGE thanks to all of our tireless workers for helping clean up the Mill, set up the tables and tents, and then do it in reverse on Sunday afternoon. Another HUGE thanks to everyone who worked in the Country Store on Sunday. Oktoberfest is a great success every year because of you!

Nancy Uhl

### Raffle Winners

The following persons were winners in the Oktoberfest Raffle:

1<sup>st</sup> Prize – Maeystown Fly-Over – Harvey Ries, Columbia, IL

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – Night at Corner George – Sharon Brockmeier, St. Louis, MO

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – Old Time Photo of Bickelhaupt Blacksmith Shop – H. Quernheim & Co. – Waterloo, IL

4<sup>th</sup> Prize – 2 Quarts of Apple Butter – Jim Schmuck – Chesterfield, MO

5<sup>th</sup> Prize – “Grace in the Past, Faith for the Future” book, Susan Thurston, Columbia, IL

6<sup>th</sup> Prize – Preservation Society Maeystown Mill & Morsels Cookbook – Donna Mueller – Valmeyer, IL

7<sup>th</sup> Prize – Sal’s Wartburg Inn - \$25 Gift Certificate – Audrey Roeber – Valmeyer, IL

8<sup>th</sup> Prize – Maeystown Restaurant & Saloon - \$25 Gift Certificate – Trent Knobloch – Valley Park, MO

9<sup>th</sup> Prize – Maeystown General Store - \$25 Gift Certificate – Nancy Voelker, Maeystown, IL

10<sup>th</sup> Prize – Village Kaffeehaus – Teapot and Tea – Col. Milton Hoffman – St. Louis, MO

Thanks to all who supported our raffle. Special thanks to those who donated prizes: Maeystown Restaurant & Saloon for the Gift Certificate, Anita Muertz for the Maeystown General Store Gift Certificate, Arnie Juelfs, for the Village Kaffeehaus Prize, David & Marcia Braswell for the Corner George Gift Certificate, David & Shirley Asselmeier for the Framed Picture, and Sal’s of Wartburg for the Gift Certificate.

### Membership Renewals

It is that time of the year when it’s time to renew memberships for the year 2012. Enclosed with this newsletter is a renewal form for your existing membership for 2012. We would appreciate it if you would review this and renew your membership as soon as possible. It will save the Society both time and expense if renewals are made promptly to avoid future follow-ups, postage and duplicate forms. We thank you for your support and understanding.

If you are a Life Member of the Society you did not receive a renewal

notice, but you have received an envelope to be used if you wish to make a donation to the Society. We again thank our many Life Members for their support over the years.

### Museum Improvements

If you were at the Oktoberfest or have been to the Mill lately you hopefully have noticed the significant make-over at the front of the Mill. We extended the concrete sidewalk along the street and have added a large flagstone area by the entrance to the Mill. We have also added a native stone bench. A new sign regarding the history and settlement of Maeystown has also been placed on the top of a native stone post.

We also added landscaping and a light to illuminate the Mill. We have had numerous comments about how nice the improvements are. The area was constantly occupied by many people during the Oktoberfest.

To see some pictures, please go to our website that is noted on top of page 1 of the newsletter.

David Asselmeier

### Maeystown Post Office

You may have either heard or read in the newspapers about the potential closing of the Maeystown Post Office and other offices at Renault and Fults due to budgetary restrictions of the United States Postal Service. Local public hearings have been held regarding the closings and everyone is awaiting final word on which ones will close.

This would be a sad event should the Maeystown Post Office be closed. There has been a post office in Maeystown since June 1, 1860 - over 151 years!!! It was first called Maeysville. Jacob Maey was the first postmaster. Several years later the name was changed to Maeystown, due a

similar name of Maysville of another Illinois town.

Jean Rahn, retired former Maeystown Postmaster, recently donated to us two original framed documents from the U. S. Government noting these facts. Thank you Jean.

On the same subject, another one of our members, Elaine (Klostermann) York of Salt Lake City, recently donated an item to us that she had purchased on E-Bay. (Yes, there are Maeystown items for sale on E-Bay!!!) The donation is a Registered Letter Receipt for a registered letter and return receipt sent from the Maeystown Post Office on March 29, 1894, to Hargadine-McKittrick Dry Goods Company in St. Louis and sent by Jacob Maey.

Thanks also to Elaine York.

David Asselmeier

### Smithsonian Display

Monroe County and the Waterloo Museum Society have been selected as one of the six cities in Illinois to receive the Smithsonian Traveling Exhibit called "The Way We Worked." The exhibit will trace work as an essential element of American culture and work force over the last 150 years. The exhibit itself will be at the Waterloo Museum from June 2 through July 14, 2012. It will be a county-wide event with the towns of Waterloo, Columbia, Valmeyer and Maeystown all participating. Local displays and programs will be held in each town and each town will be responsible for a display at the Smithsonian exhibit in Waterloo. This will be a significant event for the county and we are happy that the Maeystown Preservation Society and our Mill and Museum were invited to be a part of this.

David Asselmeier

### Maeystown Celebrates Der Vierte Freitag!

Historic Maeystown has sponsored several "der vierte Freitag" celebrations this fall. The German title, "der vierte Freitag", literally means "the fourth Friday". So on the fourth Friday evenings of July, August, September and October, the shops and restaurant have opened their doors and have sponsored special events for both adults and children, including carriage, stagecoach and hayrides, face painting, craft activities, games, food specials, music, special sales in the shops and more. The Preservation Society Museum has also been open during these evenings, staffed mostly by volunteers.

There will be no special fourth Friday celebrations during the winter months, but look for them to return in the spring of 2012!

Marcia Braswell

### Death

Roger Buettner

Roger Dale Buettner of Fults passed away September 22, 2011, at the age of 54. He is survived by his wife Pamela and sons Brad, Randy and Kevin. He was buried in St. John Cemetery in Maeystown.

### Calendar

December 4	Old-Fashioned German Christmas 11:00-5:00 p.m.
February 21	Fastnacht - St. John United Church of Christ 5:00-8:00 p.m.
March 17 & 18	Spring Art Show 11:00-4:00 p.m.
May 6	Fruehlingsfest/Springfest 9:00-4:00 p.m.