

MAEYSTOWN VOLKSBLATT

Maeystown, Illinois

Maeystown Preservation Society

www.maeystownpreservationsociety.org

Spring Art Show a Success

The annual Spring Art Show on March 15 & 16 was a huge success despite snowy weather! After a weather-perfect Saturday with a large crowd in attendance, Sunday brought snow and a smaller but enthusiastic group of art lovers to Maeystown.

The featured artists this year were Rita Coats Engbring and her husband Jeff Engbring. Rita exhibited 45 paintings done primarily in acrylic. The lovely paintings were primarily of landscapes, birds and flowers. Her love of nature was evident in her work. Jeff exhibited several examples of his woodworking and of his steel and wood sculptures. His works ranged from hand carved bowls to a giant turtle table and smaller wooden carvings. Both Rita and Jeff were excited to see a lot of familiar faces from their hometown of Valmeyer and from Monroe County. However, they also met a lot of new people from as far away as St Louis and St Louis County.

Everyone enjoyed being able to talk with both artists throughout the two days.

The Spring Art Show was sponsored by Historic Maeystown and the Maeystown Preservation Society. Watch the Volksblatt for more information on the 2015 show as it becomes available!

Marcia Braswell

Save the Date

Saturday, June 14th will find the Monroe County Garden Tour winding its way to Maeystown. Stay tuned for more information!

New Event: Luncheon & Creekside Fashion Show on May 17

Advance reservations are required for Maeystown's newest event. On Saturday, May 17, Vici's Front Porch and Tea Garden will host a Luncheon and Garden Tea followed by a Creekside Fashion Show. The luncheon will begin at 11:00 a.m. with the other activities to follow. The luncheon will feature a delicious meal of soup, salad and savories prepared by Vici and served in the tearoom, followed by dessert and tea in the outdoor garden. Music will be provided for the dessert and tea by the St. Paul UCC Harp Ensemble. Following the music and dessert, the fashion show will feature new arrivals from The Clothes Line, one of Waterloo's newest shops. The cost of the event is \$28.00 per person (all inclusive). For more information or to make a reservation please call Vici at 618-539-3665 or e-mail her at teatime@htc.net. The village shops will all be open for business on the 17th, as well as the Preservation Society museum.

Marcia Braswell

Easter Tea for Me?

Saturday, April 19, was the perfect day to have a bunny hop sack race. It all began with a Bunny Breakfast at Vici's Front Porch & Tea Garden. Children enjoyed their very own bunny buffet that included egg nests, bunny scones, pastel deviled eggs, mini carrot cake muffins and more, while the adults were served a delicious brunch plate. They then had a picture taken by A Bushel & A Peck Photography and made an Easter picture frame at the craft table.

Others began decorating their own Easter cookies or entered the bunny hop sack race. When you completed all these activities you had time to play with a live bunny or pal around with the large costumed rabbit. The morning ended by all the children joining in an Easter egg hunt. The weather was perfect and so was the "Easter Tea for Me".

Anita Muertz

Rock Wall

The mission of the Maeystown Preservation Society is to preserve the history, culture, customs, architecture and structure of the village of Maeystown. We are eager to announce our next major project will be to completely restore the rock walls on our lots on Hanover Street. David Grimes plans to begin the restoration in May or June, depending on the weather. This site contains approximately one thousand square feet of rock wall and four sets of stairs. He explains that the rock walls and steps are going to be restored as closely as possible to their original condition. Stones will be removed in order and marked to be rebuilt accordingly. Photographic aids and on-site measurements will also be used. No mortar or cement will be used anywhere in the restoration. The earth banks behind the walls will be excavated as needed to permit the required lean-in of the finished wall. Periodic visits to refill and regrade the ground behind the walls will be necessary as the fill settles. This could take up to a year. Again depending on the weather, Mr. Grimes estimates the main part of this project to take two months from start to finish. We are anxious to watch the work as it progresses.

Anita Muertz

Historic Maeystown to Host 2nd Annual Paint Out October 18

Maeystown will be host to the 2nd Annual Maeystown Paint Out on Saturday, October 18, from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Following the very successful Paint Out in May of 2013, the event will move to October to allow plein air artists the opportunity to paint Maeystown's beauty in the fall. Artists from the entire Monroe County and metro St. Louis area are invited to attend. For more information, contact Marcia Braswell at mbraswell@htc.net or 618-458-6660.

Our Own Picnic Tables

Each year we rent picnic tables for the Oktoberfest. Christy Muertz suggested we should have our own tables and save money by doing so. She has contacted several home improvement stores and lumber companies to see if we could get any kind of donation or matching funds. Several of our members have already donated money to help finance this project. This now has become a family project. Christy was able to get funds for three tables and her husband Chris has just completed building them. Christy has made it her goal to get eight tables built. If you are interested in helping to finance this project, please contact Linda Green. Your donation is tax deductible!

Anita Muertz

Canning Jars

The Society thanks everyone for all the donations of jars for apple butter. This really helps us out by not having to purchase so many jars. They are expensive. We do, however, have a substantial supply of QUART jars on hand - enough to last a few years. We do, however, still need PINT jars and HALF PINT jars. If you have some, contact one of the officers or you can

call the Mill Museum at 618-458-6464 and leave a message. We will contact you.

Meeting Changes

There will be no monthly meeting of the Society in the months of June and July. Meetings will again resume on Tuesday, August 26, at 6:30 p.m. at the Mill to begin preparation for the Oktoberfest.

Maeystown Telephone Directory

Have you ever seen a telephone directory without telephone numbers? The Society now owns one. We were fortunate to purchase it at a local auction. It contains only seven pages and is approximately three and one fourth inches by six and a half inches. The cover identifies it as a "Telephone Directory" from the Maeystown Telephone Co. and printed by Waterloo Times Print. Since there were no telephone numbers at that time, it simply contains the names of people and businesses from Maeystown and Brownsburg who had telephone service. We are able to date it prior to 1903. At that time Brownsburg opened a post office. It was necessary to change the name of the village because of the similarity to Brownstown, Brownsville and other Illinois post offices. (The name was changed to Fults in honor of Jacob Fults who homesteaded land nearby.) The directory is interesting to read with 100 listings for Maeystown and 57 in Brownsburg. There are many familiar names and even a few misspelled like Schulz and Valentin. Some of the businesses include: Diehl Brothers, Maey & Pape Station, Ivy Mercantile Company and Limestall & Bradshaw (General Store). We are anxious to add this to our museum. If you have information about where the Maeystown Telephone Company would have been located at that time or even who operated it, please contact us.

Anita Muertz

Deaths

Roy Bickelhaupt

We were informed that Roy Bickelhaupt died May 19, 2013. He was preceded in death by his wife Grace. Survivors include his daughter Nan Gerike of Olathe, Kansas; grandsons Matthew and David; sister Mary (Paul) Mueller of Waterloo, and nieces and nephews. Roy was a Life Member of the Maeystown Preservation Society.

William Schmidt, Jr.

William Schmidt, Jr., a member of the Maeystown Preservation Society, died on November 6, 2013, at the age of 83. He is survived by his wife Mary Kay and his children, Connie (Charles) Lutz, Rhonda (John) Mauer, and Wendy (Perry) Skaer. His sister Ruth Matzenbacher and grandchildren and great-grandchildren also survive him.

Calendar

May 23 & 24	Civic Association Homecoming 5:00 p.m. to Close
August 2	Trash & Treasures Village Yard Sale
August 17	Maeystown Fire Dept. BBQ and Car Show
September 26	Apple Peeling Rock Mill 8:00 – 2:00 p.m.
September 27	Apple Butter Stirring Rock Mill 6:00 – 3:00 p.m.
October 12	Oktoberfest 9:00 – 4:00 p.m.