

MAEYSTOWN VOLKSBLATT

Maeystown, Illinois

Maeystown Preservation Society

www.maeystownpreservationsociety.org

Upcoming Oktoberfest 2017

The Preservation Society will host this year's Oktoberfest on Sunday, October 8, from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Fortunately several of our members who originated the first Oktoberfest are still actively helping us today to celebrate in the 37th annual event. More than sixty art, craft, antique and food vendors will be featured. Throughout the day the village specialty shops, bed and breakfast and museum will be open. Please join us for a unique day in a quaint autumn setting.

Anita Muertz

Join Us As We Make Apple Butter

Friends of Maeystown will peel apples and stir apple butter at the 1859 Maeystown Preservation Society Rock Mill on Friday and Saturday, September 22 & 23, in preparation for the thirty-seventh annual Oktoberfest on Sunday, October 8. Apple peeling will take place at the mill between 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. on Friday, September 22, and apple stirring will begin at 6 a.m. and go until 3 p.m. on Saturday, September 23. Friends of Maeystown willing to help peel apples or donate two hours of stirring time are asked to call or e-mail David Braswell at 618-580-5875 or cornrgeo@htc.net.

Maeystown is located 8 miles southwest of Waterloo, IL. From highway IL #3 in Waterloo turn west on IL #156 go three quarters of the way around the traffic circle, then exit right onto Lakeview Drive/Maeystown Road, go 8 miles to the Maeystown turnoff.

David Braswell

Apple Butter Sponsors

Interested in sponsoring the making of apple butter? We are seeking either individuals or groups to sponsor apple butter making at the annual cooking.

A donation of \$100 will entitle you to be recognized in the paper and at the Oktoberfest, a free quart of apple butter with your name on the label, and a year's membership to the Society. Best of all, your sponsorship will also entitle you to have a special label prepared for numerous jars of apple butter noting the name of the sponsor.

If you wish, you can organize a crew to participate in the preparation of apple butter. We will be happy to provide you with all the knowledge, assistance, and all needed ingredients and equipment.

If this is of interest to you, please contact Linda Green (618-458-5698) or Anita Mertz (618-458-7463).

Oktoberfest Coming . . . Country Store Needs You!

Oktoberfest is just around the corner. HUGE thanks to you all for your help and support in the past. The revenue we receive from Oktoberfest is our yearly operating money for the rock mill. We could not be successful without you! How can you help? Just bring those delicious home-baked goods or other home-made or home-grown items (vegetables, flowers, homemade gift items, etc.) to the mill on Saturday, October 7, or Sunday morning, October 8.

We need **LOTS** of volunteers to work in the Country Store starting at 7:30 a.m. to help set up our booth, throughout the day to work at the booth,

and after closing for clean-up. Please call Jean Rahn at 618-458-6436 if you can help in the Country Store. Thank you!

Fruehlingsfest 2017 We Had the "Shine"

Sunday, May 7, turned out to be one of those picturesque spring days you think of spending out in the country by a quaint creek. That's what this year's Fruehlingsfest was like. As you know we advertise, "rain or shine". And we had the "shine", a glorious friendly crowd, and more antique vendors than ever. Walking through the festival grounds early Sunday morning, I came by Greg's booth. He is the antique dealer always located in the final vendor spot next to the creek. Last year during the Saturday night downpour, his area was the most heavily flooded. He looked at me and chuckled saying this year he came prepared. Right in front of his booth was an eight foot canoe and next to it stood a free standing three foot cross. It almost looked ominous! I laughed thinking there was no way someone would purchase an eight foot canoe and drag that home from the Fruehlingsfest. I was wrong! Around noon, I was able to check out the festival grounds again. Coming up to Greg's booth, I noticed that not just the canoe was gone, but so was the cross. Not sure if there was significance in that... All I do know is that this year we had no rain, much sun, and no clean up drama from a flood!

Anita Muertz

Mark Your Holiday Calendar

Don't forget to mark your holiday calendars for Sunday, December 3. That's the date for our annual Old Fashioned Christmas. Plan to make a German paper star, take complimentary carriage rides, taste a Christmas dessert sampling, watch a woodcarver at work, visit the Christkindlmarkt, join in a German carol sing, or view a quilt show.

You may wish to listen to a variety of music like strolling musicians, hammered dulcimers or performances by local ensembles. End the day with a traditional carol sing and lighting of the village Weihnachtsbaum. More activities will be offered in a posted schedule or call 618-580-5875 for more information. It's always a unique holiday event.

Landmarks Illinois Grant

(Information taken from Landmarks Illinois' press conference.)

Landmarks Illinois is a membership-based nonprofit organization serving the people of Illinois. Their grant programs provide monetary assistance to significant structures or sites in Illinois that are under threat of demolition, in imminent deterioration, in need of stabilization, in need of structural or reuse evaluation, or need to be evaluated for landmark eligibility. Christy Muertz wrote a grant for the Maeystown Preservation Society requesting \$2500 to be used in the restoration of the Maeystown stone bridge. In June, Landmarks Illinois announced grant funding for a dozen historic preservation projects in Illinois. Maeystown Preservation Society received one of those grants. At completion of the restoration, Landmarks Illinois will give the grant payment to the Preservation Society who will turn it over to the village of Maeystown for payment of the bridge

restoration. Thanks and congratulations Christy!

Anita Muertz

2017 Most Endangered Historic Places in Illinois

(Information taken from Landmarks Illinois' press conference.)

Launched in 1995, Landmarks Illinois' Most Endangered Historic Places in Illinois list calls attention to threatened historic sites in need of assistance in the form of responsible stewardship, creative reuse plans and/or advances in public policy. This year's list includes structures demonstrating the challenges local and state governments face to maintain and invest in their real estate and infrastructure at a time when funding is limited and budget cuts continue.

Bridges are part of our state's history, and especially in smaller communities, historic bridges are often tied to local identity. While ongoing investment is needed to maintain these bridges, funding has decreased often resulting in funds being targeted for demolition or replacement. We are announcing that the Maeystown Stone Bridge is one of the iconic historic sites that define our Illinois communities and our state heritage, therefore being worthy of placement on the 2017 Most Endangered Historic Places in Illinois.

Anita Muertz

Creekside Concert

George Portz and His Friends of Bluegrass will visit Maeystown on Saturday, September 9th from 5:00-7:00p.m. for a Creekside Concert sponsored by Historic Maeystown. Vici's Front Porch will have barbecue available for eating in or taking out. There will be no admission charge but freewill donations will be gratefully accepted to cover the expenses of the concert. Attendees should bring their own lawn chairs.

George Portz is well known in the Metro St Louis area and beyond for his many years of providing folk concerts throughout the area. He is also known as the founder of the Fort Kaskaskia Bluegrass Festival that was held for many years in September. Please join us on September 9th!

Marcia Braswell

Invitation Just for the Ladies

Ladies, you are invited to Frauenabend or Ladies' Night, Friday, November 17, from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. This is your evening for shopping, pampering, eating and fun. Bring a group and join us for a menu of soups, salads and desserts being served at Vici's Front Porch and Tea Garden. As you enjoy your complimentary carriage ride, luminaries will guide you to vendors waiting for you in the Corner George Inn, the Rock Mill and participating shops. We are so pleased to have some unique new vendors as well as some familiar faces. For more information please call 618-458-7000.

Anita Muertz

German Life Magazine

German Life magazine is written for those interested in the diversity of German, Austrian and Swiss cultures. It is printed bi-monthly by Zeitgeist Publishing Inc. located in La Vale, Maryland. The publication is devoted to solid reporting on cultural, historical, social and political events. The June-July issue is dedicated to the German-American side of things...those towns and cities that have the passion, heart and dedication to keep the traditions and soul of Germany alive in the United States. Maeystown is privileged to have been chosen as one of those towns. One of the magazine's contributing authors wrote the article, "Maeystown, Illinois - German at the Core" which is published in the June-July issue. Some free copies

of this issue of German Life are available at various locations in town. THANK YOU German Life!

Anita Muertz

Plein Air Event a Success!

It was a beautiful, but warm, day in Maeystown on Saturday, June 3. Thirteen artists gathered to paint plein air---or in the open air---and to capture the beauty of the Maeystown landscape on canvas. Artists of all ages chose their respective subject and proceeded to translate what they saw into beautiful and creative paintings---all very different and all beautiful. Some of the artists ate lunch at Vici's while some chose to eat at The Tavern. Historic Maeystown provided coffee and pastry at the Mill during the registration hour. All in all, it was a very successful event and brought several new artists to town. We hope to repeat the event in June of 2018. Thank you to the residents who graciously allowed the artists to sit on your properties and to all who helped make the event a success.

Marcia Braswell

Canning Jars Needed

It won't be too long before the Society will be making apple butter. The Society is in need of pint and ½ pint jars. If you have any jars to donate, please call Linda Green at 618-458-5698.

Death

Norma Sopp

Norma Sopp, 102, of St. Louis, Missouri passed away Friday, April 28, 2017. She was born in Maeystown and was a Maeystown Preservation Society Member. Norma was preceded in death by her husband Oliver and her daughter Linda. Surviving are her daughter, Linda (Mike) Frisch, grandsons and great-grandchildren. A large extended family and countless friends also survive Norma.

Calendar

August 20	Maeystown Fire Dept. BBQ & Show Us Your Ride 9:00-4:00 p.m.
September 22	Apple Peeling 8:00-2:00 p.m.
September 23	Apple Butter Stirring 6:00-3:00 p.m.
October 8	Oktoberfest 9:00-4:00 p.m.
December 3	Old Fashioned Christmas 11:00-5:00 p.m.