

Moreland Community Historical Society

Winter 2014/2015

Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 2



Gail Miller, President
Matt Gross, Vice President
Karen Clark, Sec/Treasurer



Heritage Day



By: *Laurie Sidle*

Keeping its focus on military history, the Moreland Community Historical Society will celebrate the “Rebirth of a Nation” as it marks the 150th anniversary of the Civil War’s end for its fall Heritage Days.

This year, the society’s Heritage Days will stretch into two days as a featured stop on the Wayne County Farm Bureau Farm Tour. The event will run from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 10, and 1-6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 11 at the farm of Gail and Gwen Miller, 8594 James Road.

An appreciative group of World War II and Korean War veterans were featured at last year’s Heritage Days.

Gail Miller estimated about three dozen veterans visited

the one-day event, surprising organizers. “We were thrilled to get that kind of response from those veterans,” he said. “There aren’t many of those guys left.”

Miller attributed good attendance overall to the quality displays, including those that included memorabilia from Moreland residents. Some displays will return for this year’s Heritage Days, including the Marlboro Volunteers Inc., which brings U.S. military history to life with its mobile museum.

Returning this year will be Camp Chase Fifes and Drums, a leader in historical military field music since the early 1980s. According to the group’s website, Camp Chase Fifes and Drums is an authentic rec-

reation of a Civil War-period regimental fife and drum corps founded in 1983. The corps is named after the large Union Army training camp that was located near Columbus, Ohio, during the war. Members are from across Ohio and several neighboring states. Their music, played on authentic wooden instruments, comes from the military field music manuals utilized by the armies of America and Europe from the mid-18th century to the late 19th century.

Scheduled for Sunday only is the 73rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment Band, an organization dedicated to the preservation of Civil War-era band music. The group entertains and edu-

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Heritage Day (Continued)



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cates through various performances featuring period dress and instruments. The band will be part of a worship service that day.

Carolyn Becker Caskey of Paris, Ohio, will portray nurse Mary Bickerdyke, or "Mother Bickerdyke" as she was affectionately called by the Civil War troops. Bickerdyke, who was born in 1817 in Knox

County, was a widow in Illinois who entrusted her two young sons to fellow church members in order to leave home and care for wounded soldiers. While she is one of the lesser-known heroes of the war, she was so loved by the army that the soldiers would cheer her as much as they would a general when she appeared. At William Sherman's request, she rode at the head of the XV Corps in the Grand Review in

Washington D.C. at the end of the war

Also featured will be displays of period dress and a significant number of Civil War re-enactors.

Heritage Days is not only an educational event, Miller said. "For some folks it becomes a homecoming."



Parades



Over the summer, The Moreland Community Historical Society constructed a float to ride in the Wooster Memorial Day Parade, Nashville Memorial Day Parade, and the Fredericksburg Fourth of July Parade. With the help of many members, the float was decorated according to the WWII and Korean War theme. The back depicted a flag-bearing soldier with the words "THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE." The focal point was a historic wartime jeep which was decorated in honor of Moreland's two fallen soldiers. Patriotic decorations and Boston ferns completed the patriotic look of the float.

During the Wooster and Nashville parades, Kyle Miller pulled the float while Gail and Gwen Miller, Dave and Karen Mann and Stacie Miller rode. During the Fredericksburg parade, where the float won the "Most Patriotic" award, Matt Gress pulled the float while Stacie Miller and the Chris and Tammy Finney family rode and threw candy to the crowd. The Historical Society will be creating another float for this year's parades to promote the Heritage Day's Civil War theme. Chairman of the Float Committee, Tammy Finney, said "We look forward to many people helping us have an award-winning float again in 2015."



History of the Township House

History provided by Dave Mann



When the opportunity came about to purchase the Township House, it was an easy decision for the Moreland Community Historical Society to make. It seemed like a perfect fit to house historical artifacts of the surrounding community. After all, the house came with a nice history...

The Township House was built in 1897 by F.E. Langell for \$473.00. At that time, it was located at the corner of Millersburg Road and Hickory Alley on a small 25' by 35' lot. In June of 1928, the Township purchased a stove for \$17 and paid \$12.00 to have the house wired. The trustees also paid their first electric bill, a mere \$1.00 for a two month period.

In January of 1942, the Township started a contract with Morris Mellinger for

janitorial services. He was paid \$12.00 annually for his services. By 1948, his annual pay increased to \$20. Rodney Woodruff was hired for janitorial services in 1954 for \$50 a year. It remained at that pay for nearly twenty years until Mrs. Wayne Messmore's pay increased to \$60 annually in 1973.

In the spring of 1957, it was decided that a place to store equipment and materials was needed and the Trustees voted to purchase Lots 11 and 14 in the Village of Moreland for \$1,100.00, from Ella Bowen. In July of that same year, Mast Movers was hired for \$660.50, to move the Township House to its current location. The old lot was sold to Irvin and Esther Woodruff for \$50.00 but was paid back to Irvin in December for lawn damages that occurred during the move.

In 1963, the old equipment building was declared of no use to the Township and was sold to Dale Bricker for \$31.51. This made room for the new pole building that was built by Maysville Contractors for \$4,693.00. In 1970, the cinder storage building was finally constructed by Eli J. Shetler. In 1974, the old coal stove played out on election day and was replaced by a gas heater.

In 1976, a letter was read from the Bicentennial Committee concerning the planting of trees on the Township property. Eight trees were ordered, seven were planted in the Township Cemeteries and one was planted on the Township property.

After years of repairs, improvements and countless

paint jobs, the property transferred to the Moreland Community Historical Society in 2014. The society is currently working on returning the Township House to its original appearance, beginning with the outside portion, as well as, tearing down some of the old sheds located next to the house. The Moreland Community Historical Society is planning a Spring Open House with live music and food.



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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Single Annual Membership.....\$20.00
Family Annual Membership.....\$30.00
Individual Life Membership.....\$250.00
Organizational Annual Membership.....\$50.00

Applications are available on our website

Please make checks payable to Moreland
Community Historical Society



Visit us on the web!

www.MorelandCommunityHistoricalSociety.org



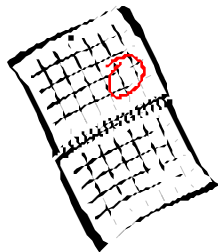
Mark your calendars...

The first membership meeting for 2015,
will be held **January 22, 2015**, at 7:00
p.m., at The Moreland United
Methodist Church

Featuring our special guest speaker:

Forest Chaney

Also on the agenda, is the election of
two new members to the board.



Hope to see everyone there!

Attention Charter Members:

We are taking the last orders for the Charter Member wooden plaques. They are available to all Charter Members for \$60.00 and can include multiple (Charter Member only) names. If you would like to place an order, or would like additional details, please contact Gail Miller.

