

Bainbridge Township NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1

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ISSUE 3

BAINBRIDGE HISTORY -- "THE OLD BAINBRIDGE STORE"

The first store owners in Bainbridge Township were Gamaliel Kent and his son Elehu. This store was a log cabin near Taylor May Road and Chillicothe Road. There were several stores through the years after 1811 owned by different proprietors. They were all typical general stores catering to the needs of the time with merchandise including groceries, dry goods, hardware, tools, boats etc. There was always a pot-bellied stove,

cracker and pickle barrels and benches where customers could sit and catch up on the "news".

The store which is most remembered, is the store which was built in 1846 on two acres at the northwest corner of Bainbridge-Solon Road and Chillicothe Road. Horses and the grocery wagon were kept in the barn which still stands west of the original site (most recently housed the Woodgrove Collection). The barn was also

used to store feed, fertilizer and other farm items.

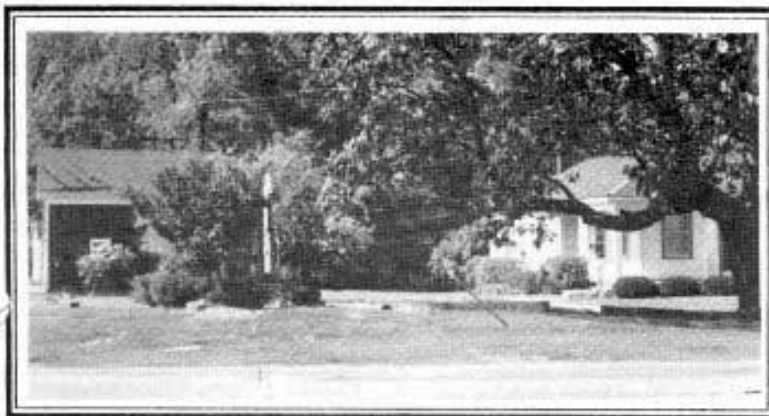
This store had many different owners through the years, and was finally purchased by Frank Jaros in 1924. The Jaros store, which became known as the "Old Bainbridge Store", was operated until 1941 by Mr. Jaros. It offered the usual items plus smoking supplies, patent medicines, school supplies etc. There was also a lunch counter which served 5¢ hot dogs, pop and ice cream.

After 1941, different proprietors owned and operated this store until 1971. In November of 1971, Lawrence Jaros sold the store to the State of Ohio as the state was acquiring the land for the NEW State Route 422. (Please note the year of purchase!) As per the wishes of the Jaros family the State of Ohio gave the building to the Geauga County Historical Society in Burton. It was moved there in December of 1972 where it is currently used to display historical items from Geauga County.

Many long time residents of Bainbridge still fondly remember the store. Students from the Bainbridge School (KIS) would walk to the store at lunch time and after school to buy penny candy or a pop. And yes, in those days there was a sidewalk that went from the school to the store. Also, it was the first convenience store in Bainbridge local that residents could stop in for milk, bread, groceries or meat from the butcher shop.



Left: Old Bainbridge Store" (Please note home to right and barn to left of store are some structures shown below.)
Below: Present site where the "Old Bainbridge Store" once stood.



BEHIND THE SCENES

Starting with this issue, the newsletter will contain a new feature. In the "Behind the Scenes" corner of the newsletter we will feature one or two township employees. The employee(s) names are drawn from a hat by one of the Township Trustees and is our way of introducing them to the residents of the Township so as to make you aware of what goes on "Behind the Scenes" in your township! In this issue we would like you to meet....

Charles Taylor



Charles (Chuck) Taylor has worked for Bainbridge Township since April of 1978. He is currently the Town Hall Superintendent and Cemetery Sexton. Chuck is a lifelong resident of Bainbridge Township, a graduate of Bainbridge High School and lives on Taylor-May Road which was named after his grandfather. He and his wife Alberta have been married for 39 years and have three sons who all graduated from Kenston High School and live in Bainbridge Township. Chuck's father was a Charter member of the Bainbridge Volunteer Fire Company and Chuck has been a member for 30 years. He is also President of the Men's Civic Club and a member of Bainbridge Action Unlimited. Chuck is in charge of maintenance of Township buildings and grounds (cemeteries) and scheduling of Town Hall activities.

ELECTION INFORMATION

The 1988 general election will take place on Tuesday November 8th. If you are not going to be in town or if you are unable to vote in person, there are absentee applications available at the Geauga County Board of Elections or at the Bainbridge Library. In order to vote by absentee ballot you must return the completed application to the Board of Elections by November 5th. You must have been a registered voter on or before October 11, 1988 if you wish to vote in this election. If you have any questions regarding the election; if you do not know your precinct; or do not know where you are to vote, call the Board of Elections at 564-7131.

POLLS WILL BE OPEN FROM 6:30AM to 7:30PM TUESDAY NOVEMBER 8th.

"BIG TOW" SUPPORTS CAUSE

As some of you are aware, "junk cars" are becoming a problem for the Zoning Department in Bainbridge Township. Inoperable and unlicensed cars fall into the category of "junk cars". These cars are in violation of the zoning resolution and residents can be cited, fined and possibly taken to court to remove them.

The Geauga County Unit of the American Cancer Society is sponsoring what they refer to as "The Big Tow". This event allows residents to have their junk cars towed for FREE! The American Cancer Society will receive \$25.00 for each complete car towed (must have a title). The deadline for "The Big Tow" is October 31, 1988, so don't delay!

Why not get rid of that junk car you have been meaning to get towed and support the American Cancer Society at the same time? Now's your chance - call 338-1566 to make arrangements to tow that car!!

HALLOWEEN IS COMING!



Are you ready for the ghosts, goblins and witches????? This year in Bainbridge Township, Halloween will be celebrated on Monday October 31st, between the hours of 5:30PM and 8:30PM. The following are a few tips for parents to help make your children's Trick-or-Treating as safe as possible:

- Be sure they wear a costume that is easy to walk in, and easily seen.
- Use reflective tape on costumes so children can be easily seen by oncoming cars.
- Remember face masks are sometimes hard to see out of, make-up may be a better alternative.
- If you do not accompany your children, be sure they are in a group.
- Plan their trick-or-treat route ahead of time, and be sure you know which streets they will be on.
- Remind them to walk on the side of the street facing the traffic.
- Have the children wait to eat anything until they get home so you can sort and check their treats.

IF YOU PUT IT UP, PLEASE TAKE IT DOWN!

Please remember that sign posts, utility poles and intersections should remain free of signs and litter. If garage sale signs or any other type of informational signs are placed in these areas they should be removed promptly. Let's keep Bainbridge Township litter free. Also, if signs are placed at intersections, please be sure that the sign does not obstruct the vision of motorists who are traveling at the intersection.

THANK YOU!



The winter season is rapidly approaching. Although the winter snow is beautiful, it brings with it many travel problems. To help combat the travel problems, the Township Road Department has seven snow plowing vehicles, each having one plow route. These seven plows must cover the 75 miles of roadway in Bainbridge Township (remember to double this number for plowing in both directions).

On some occasions the snow comes so fast that the roads will become covered again before the plow driver has finished his entire route because an average route takes approximately four hours to complete. When the snow is heavy these drivers are working 12, 18, or sometimes 24 hours a day in order to keep the roads as clear as possible for the residents and so that emergency vehicles will be able to pass.

Sometimes heavy snows come unexpectedly during the middle of the night and it takes approximately one hour for Road Department personnel to be advised of the situation and respond to plow the roads. Residents must be aware that roads cannot be cleared immediately and therefore they must exercise care and common sense. Residents should also be reminded to be patient when snow plows are attempting to clear roadways, especially the hazardous areas such as Bainbridge-Solon Road at Fields Road. The snow plowing trucks are large and need room to maneuver in order to get the job done as quickly and safely as possible. Also, while plowing around curves and on narrow roads, the plow drivers must stop, put their truck in reverse, and back-up. It is for this reason that we ask you to **KEEP YOUR DISTANCE.**

On some roads a salt mixture is used to melt the snow. This is mainly used at intersections and on hills. Salt is not used on the total length of all roads in order to prevent environmental damage to the water ways in the township. Salt can cause serious damage to nature life and for this reason cinders are used to aid in combating slippery roads. Cinders are a little bit dirtier in the spring, however, they do not cause any environmental problems.

In heavy snow conditions the snow is thrown from the snow plows and may cause mailboxes to be knocked over or damaged. (See Issue 2 of the Bainbridge Township Newsletter for proper mailbox installation.) Very rarely does a snow plowing vehicle actually strike a mailbox, most often it is the snow being thrown that causes the problem. Also, when there are heavy snow conditions, and the roads are being plowed, the snow will accumulate at the end of driveways. There is virtually nothing the plow drivers can do to prevent this from occurring.

These are some of the problems encountered during the well known "Geauga County" winters. When you see a snow plow keeping your roads clear, give them a "thumbs up" sign to let them know they are doing a good job during the difficult weather conditions and that their work is very much appreciated!

Help Your Safety Forces Help You!

It is important for residents to have their address numbers large and clearly posted on mailboxes or on a sign posted at the end of driveways so that Fire and Police personnel can easily locate the address in the event of an emergency.

NEWSLETTER "NEWS"



The time has sure passed by quickly. It is hard to believe that this is the third issue of the Bainbridge Township Newsletter. The STAFF would like to pass along some information which may be of interest. Originally the Newsletter was to consist of four pages, however, we found that up to this point there has been enough information to publish six pages. Each issue involves approximately 100 hours of composing, coordinating and preparation for mailing and distribution, along with several hours of "news gathering". There are approximately 3,300 issues delivered by mail to residences and businesses in the Township. The cost of printing and mailing is averaging \$900.00, or \$1.08 per year per household (27¢ an issue). The STAFF is enjoying its work on the Newsletter and appreciates your many positive comments. If there are any suggestions for articles or questions that can be answered, please contact one of us. Also, if there are any residents interested in having a Newsletter mailed to a college student or resident that is out of the area for an extended period of time, let us know. These names can be added to our mailing list. The only requirement is that the person be a resident of the Township. There are always a few extra copies available at the Township Offices.



The next issue of the Bainbridge Township Newsletter is scheduled for delivery on or around January 15, 1989. For this reason the Newsletter Staff would like to extend HOLIDAY WISHES to all.....

HAPPY THANKSGIVING
MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY AND SAFE NEW YEAR!

**46th Annual
Bainbridge
Firefighter's
Dinner/Dance
to be held at
Sea World
on Saturday
Nov. 12, 1988**

**Dance to 50's & 60's Music
Raffles and Door Prizes!**

Hors d'oeuvres at 6PM
Dinner at 7PM
Dance at 8PM

**For Ticket Information
Call 543-9873**

If you are unable to attend
but would like to make a
donation to the Bainbridge
Volunteer Fire Company
Send it to: P.O. Box 243,
Chagrin Falls, OH 44022

THE FIRE COMPANY NEEDS YOU!

The Bainbridge Township Volunteer Fire Company was created and chartered in 1942 when Bainbridge was a small farming community. In 1950, Bainbridge was the first township in Gasuga county to provide rescue service for its residents. The funding for the fire department operation was provided by donations from a door to door campaign and an annual "Fireman's Ball". All of the manpower was volunteer and the equipment was purchased with the donated monies. The firemen were notified of an emergency through a special telephone tie to each of their homes and a siren located at the fire station.

As the community changed into a suburban residential area, the need

for extended service and equipment necessitated the placement of a tax issue on the ballot in 1973 for additional and continuous funding. At that time all of the fire equipment ownership was placed in the hands of the township trustees. The manpower has continued to be provided by the Bainbridge Township Volunteer Fire Company through a contract with the Bainbridge Township Trustees.

In 1987 there were 34 active members of the fire company. These men and women responded to a total of 772 calls of which 220 were fire and 552 were rescue. To provide continuous prompt service from 6:00AM to 6:00PM, two paid personnel are on duty Monday through Friday as the majority of the members are employed outside of the community.

**THE FIRE COMPANY NEEDS
VOLUNTEERS.** Men and women, sixteen

years of age or older, are encouraged to join and experience the rewards and self satisfaction of serving your community. All training and equipment will be provided by the Fire Company.

For more information please stop at the Bainbridge Fire Station, Monday through Friday between 6AM and 6PM or call 543-9873.

Thank you for your support - we would like you to be a part of our organization!!

GET PHYSICAL



**Exercise Your Right
AND VOTE!!!**