

BAINBRIDGE TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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Bainbridge Township, Ohio

Fall 2007

Howard Family Farm now Main Campus of Kenston Schools



Land that was once pasture and potato fields now is home to the new Kenston High School. One would never imagine this in bygone days but you have to visit the school and the view looking south to appreciate the beauty of the property.

The history goes back to 1818 when William R. Howard and a friend from Washington in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, came traveling on foot and stopped at the house of John Fowler, who was an uncle of Howard's. The friend stayed a short time and then returned to Massachusetts. Mr. Howard stayed behind and liked the area and purchased land in lot fifteen, tract two, and in the spring went to work in Aurora for Moses Eggleston and other people. In the summer of 1919 he worked for a doctor in Hudson. In the following December his father died and he headed back to Massachusetts to settle his father's estate and get things in order to return to Bainbridge. In June of 1821 he married Martha Coddington of Washington, Massachusetts, and on the third of July, with their supplies loaded in a covered lumber wagon and pulled by oxen

they headed to Ohio. They were accompanied by Mr. Howard's mother and a younger brother and three sisters. They arrived in Bainbridge on the fifth of August the same year.

Shortly after arriving in Bainbridge, a son Artemus was born. Life in those days was really trying, enduring a long trip, putting together housing, supplying food and fuel and caring for a newborn added to the struggle. In 1834 a son, William and daughter Phylena were born followed by daughter, Martha. At the birth of her youngest child, Mrs. Howard was fifty years, six months old. Mr. Howard sold the family homestead to his son William in 1862 and moved to a smaller home near Chagrin Falls where he died in 1867.

Artemus grew up working on the family farm and like most lads as life goes on, he met up with Amanda Childs and this led to marriage. Life goes on and this means a new home and children would also follow. In 1849 a son was born and he was named Artemus after his father. Six years later a daughter was born and named Eunice.

Artemus Howard number two married Josephine Mary Haskins daughter of Commodore Perry Haskins and Cynthia Maria Warrella. Their children were Lina Howard, 1874-1956, Frank Leo Howard, 1876-1896, Reno Howard, 1879-1939, and Carl Perry Howard, 1889-1960. All of the Howard children grew up on the farm and as time went on, as in most families, they took different paths in life. Lina Howard married Howard Hurd. Reno Howard married Mary Corrine (Mattie) Andrews and had a son they named Wayne. Carl married Eva Wilema Reed and they had 3 children, Claude and twins, Vernon and Verda. The farm grew in acreage in the late 1800's and besides the dairy growing in number of cattle and milk production, they branched off into potatoes, apples along with the maple syrup production. Claude and



Potato digger/picker developed by Claude & Vernon Howard save workers from backbreaking picking. Left to right are Virgil Taylor, Dick Dumperth, Marion & Mildred Howard on the machine, Vernon Howard tossing out vine and Carl Howard on the digger & Claude Howard on the Tractor talking to Charles Haas County Agent.

Vernon were very inventive and when they needed a tool to make things easier they produced or modified it on the farm. Artemus Howard built the house that is still standing today that is across from



Lady sitting is Josephine Howard. Lady on right is Eva Howard, and the couple standing to the rear were Haskins family visitors.

the barn on the south side of the road. Much of the land has been sold off to the school system and other parcels ended up in the hands of Howard family descendants. Lina Howard Hurd ended up with the parcel on the NE corner of Snyder and Bainbridge road, and in the early 1900's they did hay rides for various groups and also

operated the sugar bush on the south side of the road.

Early maps show the W.J. Eldridge Cheese Company owned a strip of land on the south side of Bainbridge road from Snyder Road east to the Auburn Township line.



Reno & Mattie Howard on Left and Carl & Eva Howard on Right

Today the farm is still in operation. Apples and maple syrup are still harvested and sold by Paul Harris. Other products are also available from their family market at the farm.



December 2007

The plaque that is in the photo the beginning of this article stands at the Snyder Road entrance to the high school. The plaque gives the history of the Howard land that the school is on.



Claude & Vernon Howard dumping sap



A while back I was looking through a book, "**Abstract Of Title To and Incumbrances**", on one of the Takacs properties, and I stumbled on something I was looking for a long time—the origin of the name of Snyder Road.

Research back to 1798, Connecticut Land Company, 6093 acres, all of tract No. 1 Bainbridge Twp to Samuel Lord and then Lot No. 6 to Asa Foote, 1827 and many deals back and forth between many of share holders and then November 29, 1836 to John Demerit. Demerit purchased 123 1/4 acres for \$493.00. Feb 9th, 1856 John Demerit and wife Polly sold that same land to Mark Mathews for \$3722.00. 25 years later John & Sarah Snyder with their Children, Mary 9 and Harvey 4, from Perry Twp. in Ashland, County, Ohio, left the family farm where he was raised and set out on their own to purchase the Demerit property. They moved in May of 1881.

John and family continued to farm on the property until TB struck in March of 1884. The surrounding neighbors all helped his wife Sarah with work on the farm until his death in May of 1884. Sarah rented the farm to John's younger brother Jacob.

Item 4 in John's will directs his said wife if she desires to sell his farm of about 133 acres in Bainbridge Township, and purchase with a part of the proceeds a house and lot in Chagrin Falls or some other village where there is a good school and invest the balance of the proceeds in such manner as may seem to her best interest, but not withstanding the right to sell said farm the means of support, maintenance and education specified shall be a lien on the land until sold, and afterwards the proceeds thereof. He nominates and

appoints his wife Sarah Snyder and his brother Jacob M. Snyder Executors. When the property was probated, Sarah disqualified herself to act as Executor since she had recently married Samuel Facey. Sarah relinquishes her authorizing and empowers Jacob M. Snyder as Executor to make such sale selling one-half of the property to pay the debts.

The property, 130 1/2 acres, was purchased by John & Thirza Facey whom came with their son Samuel from England. John then transferred 80 1/2 acres to Sarah Facey and her new husband Samuel Facey. 7 acres of this property is in Russell Township.

This is all we can find of any mention of a Snyder that lived on this road and we believe the name came as a tribute to John Snyder who died here in May 4, 1884 and is buried in Rarick Cemetery on Bell Road in South Russell which was the nearest cemetery at the time.

Bainbridge.

John Snyder, of South Russell, but lately of this town, solved the great mystery of death, yesterday. It was the dreaded disease consumption that "cut him down" in a few months.— He left off work about the 1st of March, and rented his farm to his brother. The deceased left a wife and two children to mourn his loss, and they have the sympathy of the neighbors in their bereavement.

There is a camp of Gipsies in town, that makes themselves disagreeable to the community, being impudent, and trespassing upon inclosed fields, and making threats, if any one asks them to take their horses out of the enclosure. A.

May 3.

Article from Geauga Republican, May, 1884

Coming up BHS January 9th, 2008, movies from the 1950 Civic Club Picnic

Parts of old movies taken at the early Civic Club picnic were put on DVD and will be shown on our meeting night..

Some 3500 people jammed the Bainbridge Township school ground, just south of the center on Chillicothe Road Sunday to witness the 7th Annual Bainbridge Community Picnic sponsored by the Civic Club.

The parade a feature of the celebration was a milelong, featured a new \$4,000 rescue truck equipped with a two-way radio, a horse show, a concrete mixer truck and Kiltie band music.

Joseph J. Mach, of Chillicothe Road, was chairman of the picnic and William A. Burns, also a resident of Chillicothe road, was in charge of the parade.

The parade was led by the Chagrin Falls unit of the national Guard, the 3641st Ordnance Co., and included Post 383 of the American Legion, Chagrin Valley Post 2832 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Dads of the V. F.W., the Bainbridge Riding Club, Inc., the Bainbridge Boy and Girl Scouts and 4-H Club, the fire department and the Youngstown All-Girl Kilt Band.

Recipients of the oldest couple award were Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Zeithaml, 83, and 81, of Lake Lucerne, who will have been married 63 years July 28th. Introduced to each other at grade school in Czechoslovakia, they married in Cleveland and now have seven children, 17 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

Oldest woman present was Mrs. Zeithaml. Her husband was edged out of the oldest man award by Frederick Hall, 84, of Brewster Road. A group of 13 persons won for the Francis E. Yaxley family of Snyder Road recognition as the largest family.

Above article from July, 1950 Chagrin Valley Herald

Need a gift for someone from your home town? Bainbridge Twp. Historical has a nice mug with a picture of the historical Bissell House on it for \$5.00 and also has a unique 10" frisbee that folds into a pocket pouch 3 1/2" x 4" for \$2.00. Call Carol Malz at 543-5266 to purchase



Historical Society New Members

Richard Roddie
7340 Jackson Road
Chagrin Falls, Ohio 44023

Patti Willson/Greg Marous
9299 Charles Drive
Chagrin Falls, Ohio 44023

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all of our new members. I urge you to contact me or any of our board of directors with any questions or concerns that you may have. Thank you for joining Bainbridge Township Historical Society.

Carol Malz, President

Visitors Are Welcome at BTHS Meetings

One of the best ways to increase your knowledge of your local community is to become active in a local historical society. The Bainbridge Township Historical Society supports a variety of programs designed to expand and amplify your abilities to enlarge your family history information. We cordially invite you to attend our meetings as a visitor and share in our hospitable atmosphere. As a further enticement, we serve GREAT refreshments!!! Plan to attend our next meeting.

Officers 2007-8

President
Carol Malz
440-543-5266

**Vice President
&
Program Chairman**
Donna Yuse
543-3199

Secretary
Harriet Novy

Treasurer
David Pfouts

Membership Chairman
Marge Cook
440-338-5375

Editor & Publisher
Bill Takacs

Meetings of the Bainbridge Township Historical Society are held the second Wednesday of the month (September through June) at 7:30 p.m. in the Burns-Lindow Building at the corner of Route 306 and Bainbridge-Solon Road.



Town Hall—Circa 1914
Now—Burns Lindow Bldg

Other News

Excerpts from Our Letter of 501 (c) (3)

Dated: Oct 17 2007

Dear Applicant:

We are pleased to inform you that upon review of you application for tax exempt status we have determined that you are exempt from Federal income tax under section 501 © (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to you are deductible under section 170 of the Code. You are also qualified to receive deductible under section 170 of the Code. You are also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers of gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Code. Because this letter could help resolve and questions regarding your exempt status, you should keep it in you permanent records.

Organization exempt under section 501 © (3) of the Code are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined that you are a public charity under the Code section (s) listed in the heading of this letter.



Bainbridge Historical Christmas Party
December 12, 2007

Burns/Lindow Bldg. 6:30 P.M.

Bring a main dish, salad or dessert to pass and their own place settings. Bring a wrapped white elephant gift to use in a game.

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* **Just a Reminder—Annual dues are Payable in September but no later than December-\$10.00 for singles, \$20.00 for family. Life Membership-\$100.00. Make checks payable to *Bainbridge Township Historical Society*. Pay Marge Cook at the meeting or mail to her at 116 Leaview Ln., Chagrin Falls, OH 44022.** *

Check out our web page www.bainbridgemory.org

December 12th, 2007: Our annual Christmas Party—Potluck dinner, 6:30 P.M. Bring a main dish, salad or dessert to pass and their own place settings. Bring a wrapped white elephant gift to use in a game.

January 9th, 2008: Bill Takacs will show a movie of the Bainbridge Civic Club community picnics dating the early 50's in Bainbridge.

February 13th, 2008: Julia Newton will speak on the History of the Old Community Church in Bainbridge.

March 12th, 2008: Rebecca McFarland will present to us pictures and talk about the Cultural Gardens of Liberty Blvd.

April 9th, 2008: Pat & Joe Ballmann—A slide presentation of Solon scenes and personalities from the past. Joe & Pat are curators of the Solon Historical Society.

Winter Meeting Schedule

Bainbridge Township Historical Society Newsletter
Marjorie Cook
116 Leaview Lane
Chgrin Falls, Ohio 44022

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL - PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY
