



The Kidron Community Historical Society Newsletter

Annual meeting to spotlight archaeologist's future involvement with KCHS

The annual meeting of the Kidron Community Historical Society will be held at the Kidron-Sonnenberg Heritage Center on Tuesday, February 24, at 7:30 p.m.

Following the business portion of the meeting, Dr. P. Nick Kardulias, Professor of Anthropology and Archaeology at the College of Wooster will be the guest speaker for the evening. Dr. Kardulias recently met with a committee organized under the leadership of KCHS board member Fritz Sprunger. In the spring, Dr. Kardulias, with the help of College of Wooster students and KCHS members, will survey the Pioneer Cemetery to establish the boundaries and locations of individual grave sites. The Pioneer Cemetery, the first cemetery of Sonnenberg Mennonite Church, is located on the Lloyd Lehman farm.

Dr. Kardulias will not be excavating at the cemetery or disturbing the resting places. He will use a device called a magnetometer to locate disturbances in the soil which would imply a particular area was excavated in the past. He will address our members at the meeting concerning his other work and how he intends to proceed in the Pioneer Cemetery. Dr. Kardulias has generously agreed that any documented material that he gathers will be owned by KCHS.

Dr. P. Nick Kardulias received his B.A. from Youngstown State University, his M.A. from the State University of New York and his Ph.D. from the Ohio State University. He has been a professor at the College of Wooster since 1996. He is currently field coordinator of the Ohio State University Excavations at Isthmia in Greece. He is widely published and has received numerous awards including the 2002 AIA (Archaeological Institute of America) national award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching.

Refreshments and a time to socialize and speak with KCHS officers will follow the meeting. Plan to join us for an evening of learning and fellowship.



Gravestones in the Pioneer Cemetery.



A progress report from the Sonnenberg Village Planning Committee

While working at Sonnenberg Village last fall, we saw onlookers slow down on Hackett Road to watch as we completed the foundation for the Tschantz Log Cabin.

In November, people watched as we blocked Zuercher and Hackett Roads while moving the Lehman House. Many students and their teachers watched the Lehman House reach its new home. What an education for us all, of what it takes to preserve our history.

We enjoyed talking with those who stopped to see what we were doing or offer help. We welcome community help because Sonnenberg Village is all about our community. When the Sonnenberg Village project succeeds, it will be because we all believe in its value, for ourselves and future generations.

We are currently finishing a half-hour film about the 2008 building season that will appear on local cable. If you do not have access to Clear Picture or Armstrong Cable, contact Prudy Steiner at the Heritage Center to buy a copy. We will produce a film each year so that when Sonnenberg Village is finished we will have documented the entire process.

We are already making plans for the 2009 building season. The Saurer Blacksmith Shop will soon be dismantled. We will contact those who expressed an interest in helping with certain buildings to include them in the planning and building process. We welcome your interest in this project and welcome visits to see what's happening.

Recently Accessioned

Kidron Merchants and Tiny's Tigers uniforms, donated by Mel Wyss

"Payment Received" stamp used by Dr. C.R. Sprunger, donated by Donna Demian

Easel, T-square, and paintings, donated by the Merl Lehman family

Genealogy book *Ancestors of Evan Saurers*, donated by Keith Saurers

Plaque with a quote from Michael Nussbaumer (1684), donated by Leroy Nussbaum

"Helvetica Americana" map, donated by Heinz and Rosa Peter

1820's yarn winder, donated by Wayne Liechty

Toy satin dove and dry sink, donated by Ruth Gerber

Hans Johannes Steiner family tree, donated by Bud and Jean Steiner

Tribute to a departed volunteer

Dedicated volunteers are a treasure. The passing of Vernon Lehman has taken away a long-time KCHS worker.

Vernon began to volunteer at the Heritage Center when it opened in 1994 and logged more than 400 hours over the following years. Vernon also volunteered for several other local organizations.

Director Prudy Steiner remembers him as an interesting man who "had a good memory and could tell many stories. He knew the history of this area quite well."

Vernon's death on November 19, 2008, was a loss for all who knew him. He will be remembered as a man who gave generously of his time and energy to the community in which he spent his life.



Welcome New Annual, Lifetime and Heritage Club Members

Gene and Sharon Amstutz—
Bedford, Va.

Donald and Dianne Boldman—Avon
Lake

Beth Hampshire—Westerville
Harley and Margaret Himes—
Kidron

Charles and Wanda Hostetler—
Smithville

Ethan Lehman—Dalton

James and Bernadine Mast—
Millersburg

Kip and Carolyn Patterson—Colum-
bus

Phil and Myriam Raber—Dalton

Earl and Jane Sears—Tiskilwa, Ill.

Terry Strubbe—Wadsworth

Yearly memberships are due in January. Please renew before the Members Banquet in April. The year on your mailing label tells you when your next renewal date is. If it says "2009," your membership is due for renewal.

Thanks to our October, November and December Volunteers

Ada Amstutz

Esther Falb

Anna Gehman

John Gehman

Roger Geiser

Dave Gerber

Glenford Gerber

Leora Gerber

Ann Groh

Glen Groh

Carolyn Haas

Carol Haven

Gail Johnson

Eldon Kornhaus

Eileen Lehman

Shirley Lehman

Keith Martin

Glenn Miller

Bill Moser

Clarence Neuenschwander

Bernice Nussbaum

Bessie Nussbaum

Curt Nussbaum

Delvin Nussbaum

Gloria Nussbaum

Heinz Peter

Rosa Peter

Ella Rohrer

Fritz Sprunger

Janet Sprunger

Bud Steiner

Jean Steiner

Clayton Steiner

Ruth Steiner

Walter Steiner

Cindy Strubbe

Sandi Suttle

Meg Wilkins

Carol Yoder

Coming soon to a computer near you

KCHS will soon be online thanks to the efforts of volunteer Olin Geiser.

Olin has been designing a website that will allow visitors to download current and past issues of the Bit o'Vit newsletter, find information on upcoming events, monitor the progress of Sonnenberg Village, and check on what is happening in Kidron.

The site should soon be available at www.kidronhistoricalsociety.org.



2009 annual exhibit "Good fences make good neighbors"

The KCHS annual display takes its title from the Robert Frost poem *Mending Wall* (printed below) and will explore the fences of Wayne County. This display will coordinate with a visiting exhibit—*Between Fences*—from the world-renowned Smithsonian Institute. *Good Fences* curator Allyson Leisy is looking for your help to create the display. If anyone has old photographs of fencing examples (house, garden, pasture, etc.) that you would be willing to share for the upcoming exhibit, please contact Prudy Steiner (330-857-1927) with questions or to arrange to drop them off by **March 1, 2009**. Copies will be made and originals returned to their owners.

Announcing two contests

Writing: Submit your essay or poem on why you think "Good Fences make Good Neighbors"

Categories:

- *Best Adult
- *Best High School
- *Best Middle School or Younger

Art: Submit your photograph or drawing of any fence in Wayne County

Categories:

- *Best Adult
- *Best High School
- *Best Middle School or Younger

Prizes will be awarded in each category. All entries must be submitted to the Kidron-Sonnenberg Heritage Center by March 16. Contact Prudy Steiner to make arrangements.

Mending Wall by Robert Frost

Something there is that doesn't love a wall,
That sends the frozen-ground-swell under it,
And spills the upper boulders in the sun,
And makes gaps even two can pass abreast.
The work of hunters is another thing:
I have come after them and made repair
Where they have left not one stone on a stone,
But they would have the rabbit out of hiding,
To please the yelping dogs. The gaps I mean,
No one has seen them made or heard them made,
But at spring mending-time we find them there.
I let my neighbor know beyond the hill;
And on a day we meet to walk the line
And set the wall between us once again.
We keep the wall between us as we go.
To each the boulders that have fallen to each.
And some are loaves and some so nearly balls
We have to use a spell to make them balance:
'Stay where you are until our backs are turned!'
We wear our fingers rough with handling them.
Oh, just another kind of out-door game,
One on a side. It comes to little more:
There where it is we do not need the wall:

He is all pine and I am apple orchard.
My apple trees will never get across
And eat the cones under his pines, I tell him.
He only says, 'Good fences make good neighbors'.
Spring is the mischief in me, and I wonder
If I could put a notion in his head:
'Why do they make good neighbors? Isn't it
Where there are cows?
But here there are no cows.
Before I built a wall I'd ask to know
What I was walling in or walling out,
And to whom I was like to give offense.
Something there is that doesn't love a wall,
That wants it down.' I could say 'Elves' to him,
But it's not elves exactly, and I'd rather
He said it for himself. I see him there
Bringing a stone grasped firmly by the top
In each hand, like an old-stone savage armed.
He moves in darkness as it seems to me~
Not of woods only and the shade of trees.
He will not go behind his father's saying,
And he likes having thought of it so well
He says again, "Good fences make good neighbors."

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January 2009



Board Members

President Wayne Liechty
 Vice President
 Treasurer Richard Nussbaum
 Secretary Gloria Kaufmann
 Membership Chairperson Leora Gerber
 Board Members Glenn Gerber, Fritz Sprunger, J. Augspurger
 Director Prudy Steiner
 Bit o' Vit Editor Kris Nussbaum

The Kidron Community Historical Society of Kidron, Ohio, founded in 1977, operates under the nonprofit charter granted by the State of Ohio. Your tax deductible gifts will help secure the future of the Historical Society and give you a part in preserving the heritage of this unique community. A reminder will be sent when annual memberships become due each January.

Membership Fees

Individual Annual Member \$15
 Husband and Wife Annual Member \$25
 Organization Annual Member \$35
 Individual Life Member \$250
 Heritage Club Member \$1000 or more

**Annual memberships are due every January.
 Thank You!**

Name _____
 Address _____

 Type of Membership _____
 General Donation _____

Send your checks to: Kidron Community Historical Society • Box 234 • Kidron, OH 44636

Upcoming Events

KCHS Annual Meeting
February 24, 7:30 p.m.
Kidron-Sonnenberg Heritage Center

Members Banquet
April 28, 6:30 p.m.
Kidron Mennonite Church Fellowship Building

Sonnenberg Village Homecoming
August 2009

CommuniTree Auction
October 2009

***Kidron-Sonnenberg
 Heritage Center***

13153 Emerson Road • Kidron, Ohio
HOURS

CLOSED JANUARY, FEBRUARY and MARCH
APRIL–MAY, SEPTEMBER–DECEMBER

Thursday and Saturday
 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

JUNE–AUGUST

Thursday, Friday and Saturday
 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Call 330-857-9111
for group tours or special arrangements