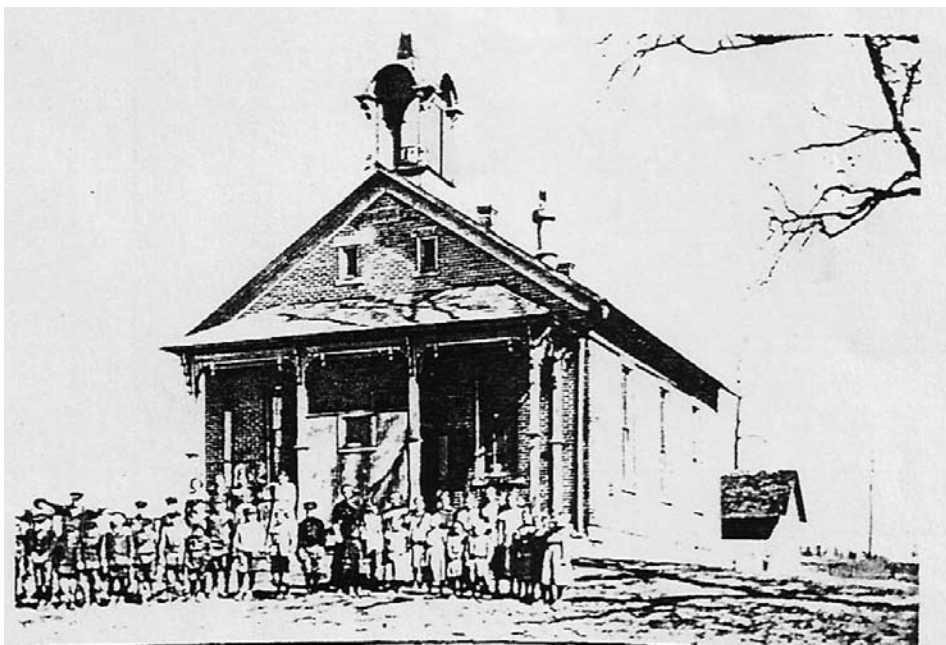




Boone's School Reunion



Students attending Boone's School gathered for this photo dated 1915.

Boone's School bell rang until 1951 when the new Kidron Elementary School opened its doors to students in the southwestern section of Sugarcreek Township. On Friday, October 26, 2:00-4:00 p.m., former Boone's School students, their families, friends and any other interested persons will gather at the Kidron Community Historical Society for a reunion.

Former students will be recognized and a brief review of Boone's School history will be presented. The KCHS will display the photos and memorabilia in their collection, and there will be informal storytelling.

Guests attending the reunion are encouraged to bring photos and memorabilia and share their stories. Friendship quilts given to two teachers, Sylvia Tschantz Pannabecker and Clinton G. Sprunger, will be on display, and a photo of former students attending the reunion will be taken. Refreshments will conclude the afternoon.

More than 35 former students were invited to the reunion planned by Jim and June Bixler, Fritz Sprunger, Leora Gerber and Prudy Steiner. RSVPs are appreciated, but not required. Call the KCHS at 330-857-9111 (leave your name and phone number if no one is available to answer), or send an email to kidronheritagecenter@hotmail.com.

Boone's School Notes

Boone's School stood under an oak tree east of Kidron at the intersection of what is now Emerson and South Wenger Roads. The brick schoolhouse was built in 1891-92 on the farm of Thomas Boone, who is reported to have been a descendant of the famous Daniel Boone.

In the mid-1800s, pioneer children attended school in a structure across the road from the site of the last Boone's School. It is presumed students walked across fields and on a wagon path as no road was noted on maps of that day.

A wooden frame building served as the school during the time between the first log structure and the brick schoolhouse.

Like many schoolhouses at the time, Boone's School also served as a community center. Many community sings, literaries and even voting took place in the schoolhouse.

Teachers in the 1900s included Calvin Hofstetter, Sylvia Tschantz Pannabecker, Elrena Tschantz Keiser, Elmer Ober, Vernon Sprunger, H. H. Scott, Clinton G. Sprunger, Paul Badertscher, Martin D. Moser, Esther Eberly and Bessie Coffman.

In the spring of 1951, there were three students in the last eighth grade class at Boone's School: David Gerber, Don Hofstetter and Loretta (Snively) Beichler. The newly-built Kidron Elementary School opened that fall.

Sonnenberg Village

Work in the Sonnenberg Village progressed this summer with the help of many volunteers. The group working on the Lehman House will have the exterior finished before winter. New windows have been installed in the upstairs, the downstairs windows have been repaired and refinished, and two coats of paint have been applied to all exterior surfaces.

Another group working on the inside of the house have installed new electric wiring in the second floor and work is beginning on the first floor. The hallway and three rooms upstairs have been plastered. New plumbing and a furnace will also be installed.

Others have been working on the Saurer Blacksmith Shop. Most of the equipment has been moved back into the shop. Under the direction of a blacksmith who is interested in working in the shop, the equipment is being repaired to operational status and a chimney will be installed.

The pond has been completed with a grant of \$50,000 from the Muskingum Watershed District. Seeding is completed, and trees will be planted in the spring. A dry hydrant has been installed with the help of the Kidron Fire Department for our use as well as area residents, should it be needed. The flood and water control work done by B. E. Hofstetter Trucking and Excavating has been completed to the satisfaction of the EPA.

Bids have been accepted for moving the Sonnenberg Church which will be used as a Welcome Center, and for attached restrooms. As soon as weather permits, the church will be moved and the restrooms constructed.

New Annual, Lifetime and Heritage Club Members

Kevin and Rosetta Myers
Orrville OH
Ann Tschantz
Smithville OH

Annual memberships are due for renewal on January 1. Check your mailing label to see if your membership is up-to-date. See page 4 for renewal information.

2012 Exhibit

Sonnenberg's Attic



E.P. Gerber turned one piece of Philippine mahogany wood into a carved, eight-page book with hinges. Four pages contain carved and hand-painted fraktur-style artwork, while the other four hold hand-painted scenes from his lifetime. Gerber learned to paint at age 80 through a correspondence course.

Gerber's book is one of many items in the 2012 exhibit of KCHS holdings that have not previously been displayed. The exhibit will run through December 29 during museum hours, or by appointment.

Sonnenberg Village Homecoming

Many people who attended the fifth annual Sonnenberg Homecoming in August also toured the Lehman House and Spring House, the Tschantz Cabin, and the Saurer Blacksmith Shop. Vic Schantz and Friends played jazz-style music



Bill Sommer talked with visitors in the Saurer Blacksmith Shop.

in the Tschantz Cabin while guests at the Lehman House were greeted by Cindy Strubbe, one of those who have been working on the restoration. Bill and Curt Sommer were in the Saurer Blacksmith Shop telling of their memories of the days when Floyd was the smithy. In the tent, UpRiver performed folk music, and the Akron Black Stockings took the field to play old-time baseball games with local Amish and English teams.



The Akron Black Stockings beat the Amish team and the English team defeated the Black Stockings. Playing on the English team were Glenn Weeman, Curvin Steiner, Will Gerber, Steve Weeman, Zach Kooker, Darren Gerber, Brian Steiner, Jordan Nussbaum, Wynn Steiner and B J Gerber.

The Lehman House Remembered



In 1976, the Wayne County Historical Society recognized the Lehman House, then located three miles northeast of Kidron, as one of the pioneer homes in Wayne County. According to the Wayne County Recorder's Office, the succession of ownership for Sec. 21, Twp. 16, Range 11 (120 acres), is as follows: 1830–



1847–Abraham Lehman to Isaac E. Lehman. 1881–Isaac E. Lehman to Christian Hofstetter. 1909–Christian Hofstetter to John C. Hofstetter. 1919–John C. Hofstetter 80 acres

to Reuben R. Lehman. 1963–Reuben R. Lehman to Lloyd D. Lehman.

The timber frame Lehman House with mud-filled walls was built on a sandstone foundation. It has two doors off the front porch as well as the commonly-used entry to the kitchen. Large by Sonnenberg standards, the house features an enclosed center staircase, expansive rooms, and a full second floor, attic and basement.

Lloyd and Esther Lehman donated the house to the KCHS and it was moved to Sonnenberg Village in 2008 where it is being restored.

Members of the Reuben Lehman family, and others who have worked on the Lehman House, gathered at Sonnenberg Village on August 10, 2012 to see the improvements that have been made and to recall their memories.

On entering the kitchen, Lloyd noted that the cot was missing. He explained that inside the door along the wall under the window was a cot that he, as a little boy, and his father used most days to catch a quick nap after lunch. Sometimes Lloyd would get up while his dad continued sleeping.



Reuben Lehman's family who gathered at the Lehman House in August included front: Ethan Lehman, Audrey (Lehman) Willis, LaVera (Lehman) Geiser, Celia Lehman; middle: Lloyd and Esther Lehman, and back: Ellis Lehman, Anna Marie Lehman and Roy Lehman.

When Ellis Lehman was inspecting the bedrooms upstairs, he was reminded of some of his relatives who stayed in the guest room, sometimes for weeks at a time. He mentioned Cora (Lehman) Miller, Lavina Lehman and Mary Ann Hofstetter. He also remembered that the boys slept three to a bed, no doubt keeping warm during the night in their unheated room.

Anna Marie Lehman remembered how the winter winds blew snow into the attic; they would sweep it up and carry out so it wouldn't melt and seep through the floor. She remembered one of the first jobs in the morning was to pump water into buckets in the kitchen for daily use. There was a big kitchen table with a bench behind it to give everyone a place to sit at the table. The adjoining summer kitchen was where most of the cooking was done in summer.

LaVera (Lehman) Geiser vividly recalled the old-fashioned living room with exposed wooden beams in the ceiling and flowered paper on the walls. She could

still see Grandpa sitting in his rocking chair in the corner of the dining room, and Grandma working in the kitchen. There was a long porch on both sides of the house where she loved to swing on the old-fashioned swing.

Other recollections included the four to five large rooms downstairs and four upstairs, the attic that housed items that weren't used often, like empty canning jars, a Conservo and boilers. The basement was where the laundry was done and canned goods stored. Wood and coal were also stored in the basement when the furnace was added later. And in the living room was a pump organ that once belonged to Aunt Mary Ann Hofstetter.

Rachelle (Lehman) Kornhaus has collected memories and photographs of the Lehman House and compiled them into a book titled "From Pioneer Farm House to Historical Icon." She intends to have a copy made for the Kidron Historical Society so people can see how things used to be in the Lehman House.

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FALL 2012



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Individual Annual Member \$15
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 Individual Life Member..... \$250
 Heritage Club Member\$1000 or more

Annual memberships are due in January.

Thank You!

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.

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

Kidron-Sonnenberg Heritage Center

Physical address: 13153 Emerson Road • Apple Creek, Ohio 44606

JUNE – AUGUST

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

APRIL – MAY

SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER

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

CLOSED JANUARY, FEBRUARY and MARCH

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