



## KCHS MEMBERS BANQUET

**Tuesday, May 3 | 6:00 pm | Kidron Mennonite Fellowship Building**

Volunteer Recognitions ▪ Door Prizes ▪ KCHS Annual Business Meeting ▪ Auction

All KCHS members are invited. ***This will be the only invitation issued.***

**RSVP by Thursday, April 21**

Phone: Kidron Heritage Center 330-857-9111 | Email: [kidronheritagecenter@gmail.com](mailto:kidronheritagecenter@gmail.com)



## Quilt Continues to Connect Friends and Family



*One of the more than a half-dozen articles in the April 2008 publication of the Mennonite Family History, "A Forgotten Friendship Quilt Creates Family Connections," written by LaVeta (Loganbill 1925-2008) and her husband David L. Habegger (1925-2020), relates significant information about a fascinating quilt currently on display in the Heritage Center. The information for this story was taken from the Habegger article. A copy of the July 2008 MFH is available in the Heritage Center library for research.*

A personalized friendship quilt was given to Barbara (Bixler) and Albert Loganbill on their 25th wedding anniversary in 1916 by family and friends in the Sonnenberg church community. Eventually, in 1981, the quilt was given to a granddaughter, LaVeta (Loganbill) Habegger who passed it on to her daughter, Rachel Pannabecker and husband, John, as a gift for their 25th wedding anniversary. The Pannabeckers donated the Friendship Quilt to the KCHS in 2020 (*Bit o' Vit* Fall 2020).

The priceless quilt was constructed by each contributor using a dark square with a variety of colored quarter-circle pieces on each corner. When the pieces were joined, the corners formed a Mill Wheel pattern. It appears that the seamstresses may have been given fabric as the colors are coordinated. In the middle of each square each seamstress embroidered their name, and sometimes the year. They often added decorative stitching along the edges of their corner pieces. Fifty-six blocks were used to form the quilt, which measures 76x86 inches. A guide with the list of names and their location on the quilt is provided with the display.

Albert and Barbara Loganbill were living near Geary, Oklahoma, when

they celebrated their 25th anniversary in 1916. When they moved to Rio Grande Valley in southern Texas nine years later, the quilt was kept in their belongings. Later it passed on to their daughter, Effie, who chose to give the quilt to her niece, LaVeta (Loganbill) Habegger, because of her interest in quilts.

Inspired by the family names on the quilt, LaVeta and her husband David made a number of family connections at reunions including Norman, Oklahoma (1991); Kidron (1994); McAllen, Texas (1996); Versailles and Fortuna, Missouri (1998 and 2005); Columbus, Ohio (2000); and Costanoa, California (2002).

When they visited the Kidron-Sonnenberg community in 1994, the Habeggers visited the ancestral farms and homes of Barbara (Bixler) Loganbill and her grandparents in the area of South Wenger and Zuercher Roads. In their MFH article, the Habeggers write, "To walk where these ancestors had worked and played was a moving experience. We also visited both the Sonnenberg and Salem Mennonite Church buildings, the latter being the place my grandparents [Albert and Barbara] were married. In the cemetery beside the Sonnenberg Mennonite Church we located the graves of our

**Continued pg 3 Quilt**

# Members Banquet Auction Items



Lamp made by David Spigel of Lorain, Ohio



D A Sommer plate



Wooden book made of five woods (lace, buckeye, poplehart, maple and Zirioté) that doubles as art by Steven B. Levine of Dayton, NJ



Kidron-Sonnenberg 150th anniversary plate



8.25" oval Shaker box made by Kevin Huth with waterfall bubinga, poplar and birch woods



Shaker box/tissue box made by Carl Huth



Vintage post office box converted to a bank by Bob Ingersoll



Black walnut chicken carved by Anthony Biggio.



1958 wooden box turned by E. P. Gerber



Kidron Cheese Factory salt and pepper shakers



Daniel Steiner family tree created by Sem Geiger, framed, 37"x33"



Afghan crocheted by Katie Amstutz, wife of Ezra "Solly" Amstutz, tricolored, like new, 62"x44"

Gift baskets from local merchants.

## Sonnenberg Village 15-year Anniversary Celebration

The Wayne County Historical Society Community Band will perform on the grounds of the Sonnenberg Village on July 20. Bring your own lawn chairs. In the event of rain, the band will play inside the Welcome Center.

## Heritage Center

### Heritage Center 2022 Season Opens April 2

There are three displays in the current Heritage Center exhibit: 1) Early Kidron Home Life, 2) Kidron's Weather Observers, and 3) Creative Kidron: Artists Past and Present.

### Heritage Center Volunteers

Volunteer docents are needed. A 30-minute orientation is provided for new volunteers.

### Kidron-Sonnenberg Pioneer Homes

Several homes in the Kidron-Sonnenberg community will mark their construction 200 years ago with celebrations this summer.



Homestead of Daniel B. and Katherine N. (Hofstetter) Bixler, located northeast of Kidron on South Wenger Road. Irvin and Bonnie Gerber raised their family on the farm that is currently owned by H. and A. Hershberger. LaVeta and David Habegger included visits to LaVeta's ancestral farms in their reunion trip to Kidron in 1994. Photo: David Habegger, 1947. Research credit: Leora Gerber and Kent Richard.

## New Members

James and Linda Kirchofer, Wooster  
Marilyn Lehman, Albany OR  
Steve Parker, Canton  
Greg and Michelle Steffen, Apple Creek

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**KCHS Members Banquet: Tue., May 3 | 6:00 pm**  
Kidron Mennonite Church Fellowship Building

**Sonnenberg Village 15-Year Celebration: Wed., July 20 | 7:00 pm**  
The Wayne County Historical Society Community Band

**Sonnenberg Village Homecoming: Sat., August 13 | 10 – 4:00**

**Sonnenberg Village Beet Festival: Sat., October 15 | 10 – 2:00**

## Sonnenberg Village

# Nussbaum-Gerber Barn Reconstructed

Usually the Sonnenberg Village work crew takes December through April off to make plans for reopening and to develop a list of work projects. That was not the case this year because there was too much happening in the village. Except for the heavy snow days, work continued on most Tuesdays.

Work continued on the Nussbaum-Gerber Barn in spite of the challenging January weather. The framing was raised and the siding attached. The Abe Troyer LLC work group is currently working on interior flooring. A metal roof is scheduled to be added by Miller Roofing. Most of the work will be completed by the end of May with the addition of the bank for the barn. Kidron Electric will complete the wiring. In the summer *Bit o' Vit*, we expect to announce the opening and dedication of the Nussbaum-Gerber Barn.

Meanwhile, work in the basement of the Welcome Center is nearing completion. A complete woodworking shop has been set up and is now operational. The rest of the basement has been cleaned, redesigned, and painted to allow for rental events in the basement. Already several events have taken place with the use of the updated area. Rentals of the Welcome Center have increased through the winter months.

The Moser Buggy/Print Shop is also in a state of reconstruction. The building was covered for the winter and



**The Nussbaum-Gerber Barn has a new life and a new look in Sonnenberg Village.**

work continued inside. Adding the metal roof is on the agenda.

The smithies working in the Saurer Blacksmith Shop have been busy as well. They have received the rebuilt motor from Hackworth that drives the line shaft back and are planning to have all areas of the blacksmith shop up and running in early summer.

Reservations for rentals in Sonnenberg Village may be made by contacting Dick Wolf at 330-857-9111 or emailing [kidronheritagecenter@gmail.com](mailto:kidronheritagecenter@gmail.com).

## Sonnenberg Village to Celebrate 15 years: 2008-2022

It is hard to believe that it has been 15 years since the Geiser Family contacted Wayne Liechty with an offer of the Tschantz Cabin and some ground on Hackett Road to relocate the cabin. After surmounting hurdles from the EPA and other government offices, we were able to rebuild the cabin in its present spot in Sonnenberg Village.

Since then, we have added six more buildings and are in the process of restoring two more. We have also added

gardens, an arboretum, and two ponds. It has been a busy 15 years.

To mark the occasion, we have planned a special band concert on July 20 by the Wayne County Historical Community Band and will include more music to our usual Homecoming in August and our Beet Festival in October.

Check the dates on page 2 "Upcoming Events", visit us this summer, bring your lawn chairs to

the concert, and see how Sonnenberg Village has grown.

Without the support of our volunteer craftsmen, our staff, and the generous donations of people in the Kidron-Sonnenberg community and other folks who love Kidron, none of what you see would be possible.

A special thanks goes to those families who have entrusted the restoration of their homes and buildings to us. We hope you like the results.

### Quilt continued from pg 1

great-grandparents."

Two unexpected connections to the quilt brought delight to the Habegggers. The first occurred when they displayed the quilt in their Wichita, Kansas, home. Joanna Gerber was a guest, and when looking over the names on the quilt, exclaimed, "Fairy Amstutz. That is my grandmother!" Joanna is the daughter of Fairy's son, Ellis (Edna) Gerber. A number of years ago the quilt was included in an exhibit at The People's Place Quilt Museum in Intercourse, Pennsylvania, and subsequently featured in Rachel and Kenneth Pellmans' book, *A Treasury of Mennonite Quilts* (1992, page 49).

The second connection occurred when one of Effie's granddaughters, Barbara Hart, who was living in Anchorage, Alaska, noticed the quilt when browsing through quilt books in a bookstore and recognized the name of her great-

grandparents in the write-up.

The Habegggers and Pannabeckers hope the treasured "friendship quilt will continue to create links among descendants of the families named on the quilt." The Kidron Community Heritage Center is delighted that the quilt is back in Kidron where it originated, and honored to have it in their collection and include it in the current exhibit.

Visit the exhibit in the KCHS Heritage Center and possibly find names of your ancestors. The Heritage Center is open on Saturdays, 11-3:00 or by making an appointment with Dick Wolf, HC director, at 330-857-9111.

*Mennonite Family History is a quarterly periodical covering Mennonite, Amish and Brethren genealogy and family history. For subscription information, send inquiries to Mennonite Family History, 219 Mill Road, Morgantown, PA 19543-9516 or email [mast@masthof.com](mailto:mast@masthof.com). Telephone 610-286-0258.*

Kidron Community Historical Society  
P.O. Box 234  
Kidron, Ohio 44636

330-857-9111

kidronheritagecenter@gmail.com

www.kidronhistoricalsociety.org

Address Service Requested

Nonprofit  
Organization  
Postage Paid  
Wooster, Ohio  
44691  
Permit No. 228

SPRING 2022



## Kidron-Sonnenberg Heritage Center

13153 Emerson Road • Kidron, Ohio

OPEN APRIL through OCTOBER • SATURDAYS • 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

CLOSED NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, JANUARY, FEBRUARY, and MARCH

The Heritage Center is closed November through April, but welcomes appointments to visit the museum and Sonnenberg Village.

Call and leave a message at 330-857-9111 for information or to schedule an appointment.

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.

### Administration

Board President .....	Art Neuenschwander	Board Member .....	Diane Sommer
Board Vice President .....	Steve Gerber	Board Member .....	Fritz Sprunger
Board Treasurer.....	Richard Nussbaum	Heritage Center Director .....	Richard Wolf
Board Secretary .....	Gloria Kaufmann	Sonnenberg Village Project Director .....	Ray Leisy
Board Member .....	Diane Miller	<i>Bit o' Vit</i> Editor.....	Judie Nussbaum

### Kidron Community Historical Society Membership

Annual memberships are due in January and expire on December 31. Contact the Heritage Center if uncertain of your membership status.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership \_\_\_\_\_  New  Renewal

Membership Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_ General Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like a receipt?  Yes  No *Thank you!*

Individual Annual Member ..... \$20

Husband and Wife Annual Member..... \$35

Organization Annual Member..... \$50

Individual Life Member ..... \$300

Heritage Club Member ..... \$1000 or more

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