



Historical Society News

Knowing where you've been, helps you see where you're going

A Periodic Publication of the North Baltimore Ohio Area Historical Society

Editor: Margaret E. Bobb

Autumn 2015

GREG TROUT DONATION TO THE NORTH BALTIMORE HISTORICAL CENTER



**Greg Trout and Historical Society President
Janice Emahiser**

Gregory L. Trout, a former resident of North Baltimore, recently donated \$10,000 to the North Baltimore Ohio Area Historical Society to be used to enhance and improve the Historical Center's collection.

Greg spent his early years in North Baltimore and began his formal education in 1953 at the Second Street school in Mrs. Judd's classroom. Among Greg's 84 classmates in the future class of '65 were Center volunteers Janice Emahiser, Jim Kuhlman, Pam (Lang) Seiler, and Margaret Bobb. Although Greg's family moved to Bryan in 1959, he remained in contact over the years with friends and former classmates and has fond memories of his years in NB. Although he was not able to attend the NBHS class of '65 50th reunion, he returned to Ohio in July to attend his high school reunion in Bryan and the NB Alumni Banquet. Greg graduated from Bryan High School in 1965 and earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Government from the University of California, Santa Barbara in 1969 and a Master of Public Administration, Insurance Regulation from California State University, Sacramento in 1978.



Greg is the CEO of Bickmore, a risk management consulting firm, and is responsible for the firm's strategic direction and overall operation. He resides with his wife, Melanie, in El Dorado Hills, California.

2016 MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Exciting things are happening at the N. B. Historical Center. This year we have added a number of significant artifacts to our collection including: Dr. Henry's surgical instruments, Dr. Foltz's medical journals, and the Mabar Chandler and Price Letterpress. (More about this in the Winter Newsletter!). In addition, we will be attempting to restore the Estey parlor organ to playing condition in the near future! Your membership helps us to continue the work of preserving the history of N. Baltimore and area.

All Individual and Patron memberships expire December 31, 2015. Renew your membership today!

New members are always welcome ...
Spread the word!

Membership form at the
end of this newsletter!



FINDING A GRANDMOTHER

By

Paula Miklovic

In September 2013, NBOAHS volunteer Paula Miklovic responded to an email from Kitty Burns Florey of Amherst, MA with information about Jacob Willick (1849-1931), who lived in North Baltimore with his family ca. 1920.

In May 2015, Kitty Burns Florey mailed the Society a copy of her new book, *The Quest for Inez: Two Ways to Find a Grandmother*, which tells the story of Kitty's maternal grandmother, Inez Willick (1888-1966) who was born and raised in North Baltimore. Kitty is the author of two non-fiction books and eleven fiction books.

The Quest for Inez is a two-part reporting of Inez's life—first part: the facts; second part: a fact-based fictional creation. Lastly, Inez's granddaughter, Kitty, gives her own biographical account.

The book includes photographs of individuals, family trees (true and fictional), a map of Northwest Ohio, footnotes, endnotes and acknowledgements to Paula Dean (Miklovic), Tom Boltz and Millie Broka in Ohio. The index lists four references to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, three references to Bowling Green, one reference to Henry Township, sixteen references to North Baltimore, four references to Van Buren and two references to the Wood County Courthouse.

We are pleased to have provided information useful to the author in telling her story, her mother's story and her grandmother's story. The book is available at libraries and online.

WHEN SANTA BECAME ST. NICHOLAS

By **Butch Biehler**

The North Baltimore News, December 21, 1950

When my folks lived in Hammansburg and we kids were little, Dad was our Santa Claus and he made a dandy. My mother would sew up one of her aprons for candy and nuts, popcorn and the like, and then Santa Claus had his regular pack on his back. That to me was the real Santa Claus. Same one every year, same whiskers, I am sure, for they were a little thin on one side.

He would bounce up on the front porch with bells ringing, and us kids would fly for our mother. He would dance around the room, (accidently drop some candy on

the floor) and if you picked it up he would switch you a little with one of his switches he had in his coat. Dad would go to the end to fool us and the deer tracks in the front yard might have been made by the calf that we put out in the road only to run back to the barn.

In Hammansburg lived a German family, the whole family worked hard, for they were very poor, so Mother and Dad got together some things for them and their children and our Santa Claus visited them.

Santa said he rapped on the door and asked (in German) if he could come in. They told him he could and Santa said the father went across the room and sat by his wife with the children about them. Santa made a little excitement with his candy and switch trick, then gave each one their presents. He said all the time the father and mother kept looking at him and at each other not knowing what to think.

Finally Santa asked them if they could sing some German Christmas songs and they told him they could, so the parents, children and Santa Claus sang together. Then Santa asked the children to say their night prayers and they did that and he bid them all a Merry Christmas and good night. Dad said it was the best Christmas he had in a long time.

The next day the little boy said to me, "St. Nicholas was at our house last night." And I said "Oh, go on, that was my Dad", and he said "NO, he talked German".

He never did believe me, for which I am thankful to this day. I hope everyone has a good Christmas and let us be sure that all little folks in our community can say "St. Nicholas was at our house last night."

Answer to Prime Land for Sale from Summer '15 Newsletter: The ad originally appeared in a *Weekly Beacon* issue in 1888. The land was being sold by Albert L. Pfau (President of the North Baltimore Bottle Glass Works) and was located in the area from Walnut St. north and from N. Main to Jewett streets!



Albert Pfau built his own home on N. Second St. It was considered to be one of the most handsome residences in the village. It was later owned by Richard Ody and sold at Sheriff's Sale to Frank Goldner for \$3010 in 1914. It remains in the Goldner family today.

**WHAT "FAMOUS" PERSON
LIVED IN THIS WATER ST.
HOUSE IN THE 1930's?**



E-mail answer to this question to:
mm_428mapl@yahoo.com or call 419-257-3579. First
correct answer will receive a Bob Evans or Cracker
Barrel gift card (your choice).

NBOAHS Officers and Board of Directors

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FRUIT CAKE
 Florence Hamlin

Check our website at
northbaltimorehistory.org
 for other history articles and Society news

- 1 c. sour cream
- 1 heaping c. brown sugar
- 1 egg
- Butter size of a walnut
- 2 c. flour
- 1 t. soda
- 1 c. raisins or currants
- 1 t. cinnamon
- ¼ t. nutmeg, allspice

Combine all ingredients and bake at 350 degrees.



**Approximately 50 people visited the Center during
the GOST 2015 Open House on July 25.**

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2016 Membership Application
 (January through December)

Name _____
 Street _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 Phone (optional) _____ Email (optional) _____

New Member **Renewal**

Individual	\$10	Make checks payable to NBOAHS
Patron	\$50	
Single life	\$200	Mail to: NBOAHS PO Box 174 North Baltimore, OH 45872
Couple life	\$300	
Donation	\$ _____	

All membership fees and donations are tax deductible.

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