



N. B. 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

Autumn 2016

THE PARLOR ORGAN IS BACK ...



**Left: Parlor organ keyboard and sound board.
Right: Tom Holycross of Lima Pipe Organ with recently restored organ.**

Restoration of the parlor organ is now complete and the organ is back "home" and ready to make beautiful music again!! Our thanks to Tom Holycross of Lima Pipe Organ for doing such a great job of restoring this piece of North Baltimore history and to the Walter family for donating it to the Historical Center several years ago.

2017 MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

All Individual and Patron memberships expire on December 31, 2016. We hope you will consider renewing your membership for 2017. You can find a membership form at the end of this newsletter. New members are always welcomed so spread the word!



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going...*

The North Baltimore Ohio Area Historical Society's mission is to discover, collect, preserve, and make accessible material that establishes or illustrates the

history of North Baltimore and the surrounding rural Henry Twp. area including Hammansburg and Oil Boom era communities which no longer exist. We provide educational and archival resources for the community and others both now and in the future.

2016 GOOD OLE SUMMERTIME OPEN HOUSE



The 2016 GOST Open House at the Historical Center was very successful with over 50 visitors viewing the displays in the house and garage. A big **THANK YOU** to Room Hosts: Janice Emahiser, Janis Dukes, Jim Kuhlman, Gwenn Mauk, Paula Miklovic, Pam Seiler, Larry Slaughterbeck, Nancy Slaughterbeck, Sylvia Stockwell, and Margaret Bobb.

MARSHAL JAY DAVIS SHOT

July 8, 1932

By

Larry E. Slaughterbeck

Recently Reverend Bill Cook of the NB Church of Christ visited the NB Area Historical Center and inquired about the memorial marker for Marshal Davis that is located on East Walnut Street. I called Bill Wirt regarding the

shooting and told him I remember someone telling me one of the bullets was lodged in the Church of Christ. Judge Wirt didn't remember a bullet in the church, but he was able to give me many details of the killing of Marshal Davis. Later when visiting with Art Patterson, he told me his dad had a garage on Main Street at that time. Later Kenny Troutner's auto electrical business would be located there. Art told me his dad was changing oil on a car when gun shots filled the air, less than a block away. The fence that ran on the alley between Walnut and Broadway reportedly was peppered with shots. Art's dad told him one of the bullets went through the window of the house directly across from the marker. Another account said that a bullet entered the house at 109 East Walnut Street where Mel Fleckner lived. The house is no longer there.

I did some research on the incident and found an article in the *NB News* from 1957 where A. M. Lloyd, Sr. recalls the shooting. At the time, Mr. Lloyd was retiring after 31 years as village clerk.

Here is the tale as it is told in the *NB News*: When asked what his most vivid memory is of those years as a city official, he replied that his most exciting recollection was of July 1932, when Jay Davis, then town marshal, was shot and killed by a young hoodlum on East Walnut Street in back of what is the new public library.

A marker bearing Mr. Davis' name and date of the shooting now marks the spot. Mr. Lloyd and, also, Ober McKenna, who was mayor at that time, recall how these two young men had eluded police in surrounding towns and managed to escape to North Baltimore where they were recognized by Ott Withrow of this community.

Marshal Shot

Marshal Davis was notified and cornered the two men and he was shot, wounding the other before he fell. The one that shot Davis kidnapped three NB youths, Bud and Carl Moore and Francis Bonner, then 17 years old. He then stole a Model T Ford belonging to Richard Mullholand, who later was a NB mail carrier. The boys were later released in Toledo and the hoodlum was later apprehended in Indiana when he was shot and killed by police.

Town officials took into custody the youth who had been wounded by Davis and placed him in the city jail. All night long crowds milled around the outside of the jail, and it was feared that a lynching might take place. However, the prisoner was taken to Bowling Green, where he recovered and was tried and convicted to life imprisonment in the Ohio Penitentiary. (He was released after serving 25 years of his sentence.)

In the article Mr. Lloyd says "the town hasn't seen much excitement since that night when mob-rule was running

high in North Baltimore." And while landscapes of our small town change as the decades pass...it is good to look back and honor a fallen police officer who made NB a safer place. Thanks to Rev. Bill for the inquiry.

N. B. CROW BANQUETS

In the early to mid-1900's, crow banquets were common occurrences nationwide as a means of providing individuals and groups the opportunity to "eat crow." In North Baltimore crow clubs and their crow banquets took on a political meaning and were specifically connected with the election of the state's governor. At that time, Ohio governors were elected for two-year terms, although several governors served more than one term. The concept for crow banquets was that the club members of the losing party in the election were required to treat the members of the winning party to a banquet. The first crow banquet in N. Baltimore was held in 1908 to celebrate the election of the Democratic Party candidate, Judson Harmon. (Harmon was re-elected in 1910.)

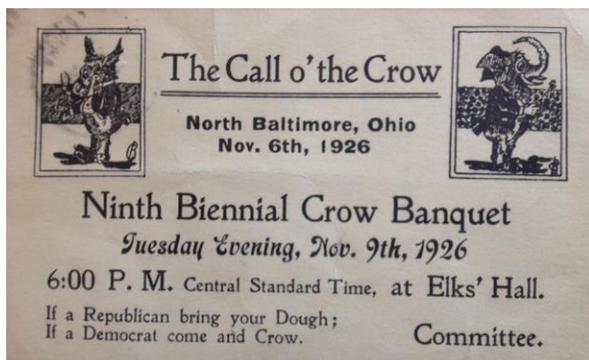
Weekly Beacon articles of the time provide an insight into the political scene. As George H. W. Bush would say, it obviously was a "kinder gentler nation." In 1920 three hundred Democrats and Republicans of Wood and Hancock counties attended the Sixth Biennial Crow Banquet given by the local Democrats at the Woodman Hall. The music for the evening was furnished by the Marion jazz band and Findlay resident Tell Taylor who sang several of his own compositions. Taylor composed the popular song "Down by the Old Mill Stream" while sitting on the banks of the Blanchard River in Findlay in 1908.

November 1922 newspaper articles make mention of four separate crow clubs celebrating the election of A. Victor Donahey (D). The local crow clubs had some rather unimaginative names such as Our Club and Friday Club. Our Club's crow banquet was held at the home of Mrs. J. L. Hoffman with the "novelty of the banquet" being a toast given by Mrs. D. S. Brown via long distance telephone. Three crow banquets were held in private homes on the evening of November 10 and another one on November 12 at the Elks' Hall.

In November 1924, the crow banquet of the Friday Club was held at the home of Mrs. A. M. Lloyd on W. Broadway with the Democrat ladies serving as hostesses. Five of the members who attended the first banquet in 1908 attended the banquet in 1924. Decorations included a large bouquet of chrysanthemums with a card of sympathy attached which were sent by the Republican club members. Table decorations included symbols of the Democratic and Republican parties.

The following is an article that appeared in the *Weekly Beacon* which describes the Ninth Biennial Crow Banquet held in 1926.

OUR CLUB HOLDS CROW SUPPER



Advertising card for Ninth Biennial Crow Banquet (NBOAHS Archives)

A very enjoyable affair was the Crow Banquet given by the Republican ladies of Our Club (Mesdames Hoffman, Drake and Bachman) held Tuesday evening at the home of Mrs. J. L. Hoffman.

The guests were invited to the dining room at 6:30 where each guest found her place by an appropriate favor, the Democrats a horn to blow, and the Republicans a fish with not a thing to say.

The center piece was Myers Y. Cooper [the Republican candidate for governor] and wife and dog in a canoe "going up Salt Creek."

The following menu was served: cream of tomato soup, fried spring chicken, escalloped potatoes, wafers, baked squash, cranberries, fruit salad, rolls, coffee, crow dessert, nuts, cider. [Due to the fact that crow is not a very tasty dish, chicken or turkey was frequently substituted for crow.]

All of the toasts were given in the spirit of which the banquet was held and much merriment was had throughout the evening. A telegram from Washington, DC appointing Mrs. Bachman secretary of agriculture, because she raises such large pumpkins and good sweet corn and laying chickens was received, for which we thank the Friday Club for interceding in her behalf. The programs contained a picture of Vic Donahey, recently elected Governor, "by the help of Providence and some other Republicans."

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



2017 Membership Application

(January through December)

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone (optional) _____ Email (optional) _____

New Member

Renewal

Individual	\$10
Patron	\$50
Single life	\$200
Couple life	\$300
Donation	\$ _____

Make checks payable to NBOAHS

Mail to: NBOAHS
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All membership fees and donations are tax deductible.

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