



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

July 2013

INSURING PRESERVATION OF YOUR NB HISTORICAL ARTIFACTS

You can help preserve the rich and colorful history of our local community by donating documents, photographs, and artifacts directly to the North Baltimore Ohio Area Historical Society (NBOAHS). The Society is dedicated to protecting and conserving all items that it receives. In addition, the Society maintains a detailed computerized record of each item which helps ensure that its meaning and location will not be lost in future years. Without such records, the usefulness of our collection would soon diminish as long-time volunteers move on and new ones take over.

When you donate an item, a Society officer will immediately fill out an *Instrument of Gift* form with the donor's name, the physical description of the item, and its history. The donor is given a signed copy of the form for their records while the original is maintained by the Society. Although the Society will not make a monetary estimate of an item's value, the donor may wish to use the *Instrument of Gift* form for income tax deduction purposes. (The NBOAHS is a Tax Exempt 501(3) (c) organization, so donations are tax-deductible.)

If you do not receive an *Instrument of Gift* form signed by a Society officer, you have no assurance that your donation will be recorded, protected, and displayed or otherwise made available to others. The Society is not responsible for donated items unless they are made directly to the Society and in accordance with the procedures described above.

We follow strict accountability procedures using our PastPerfect computer inventory system which assigns a unique identification number to each donated item. Donors will be asked about the item's history and relevance to the North Baltimore area so that this information can be entered into the computerized record along with a physical description and the item's location in the museum. Every effort is made to protect all items in the collection, including storage of documents and

photos in archival quality storage containers that help diminish fading, damage, and deterioration. Items donated directly to the Society are immediately available for use by researchers and other interested individuals.

The NBOAHS is open every Tuesday morning from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm or by special appointment. The Society will be happy to make special arrangements to accept donations to our collection. If you have an historical item to give to the NBOAHS, please phone us at 419-257-2266 or contact us by email at nbahs@wcnnet.org.

Tom Boltz
President

BELL CEMETERY

North Baltimore's "Lost" Cemetery
By Paula Rockwell Miklovic

Family historians searching for the gravesite of a nineteenth century relative and unable to locate their ancestor in North Baltimore's *Maplewood*, and *New Maplewood*, may want to consider the "Lost" *Bell Cemetery*, which was active in the earliest days of North Baltimore's history.

Jabez Bell, a native of New Jersey, settled in Henry Township about 1836, taking up forty acres in Section 35. In 1849 his son was crushed under a falling tree one Sunday morning while coon-hunting. Presumably his death initiated the Bell Cemetery which served the village in early years. According to cemetery records in the Wood County Ohio Genealogical Society workroom, Jabez Bell died September 1, 1851, age 71, and is buried in Maplewood Cemetery, south of the village. Maplewood was established on July 30, 1883.

Bell Cemetery was located near a Presbyterian Church building which was at/near the corner of Tarr Street and South Street (now American Legion Drive).

The July 31, 1941 issue of the *North Baltimore Beacon* reports families were laid to rest at Tarr and South Streets with dates as far back as 1847, but the bodies were re-interred in 1907 at Maplewood to make way for a street.

In the March 3, 1960 issue of the *North Baltimore News*, local historian Elva Lyon reported her interview with Leonard McMillen, whose house was built on or near the site. She writes:

We are indebted to Leonard McMillen for some interesting sidelights on the old cemetery formerly located on what is now East South St. There was no street at the time that the cemetery was in active use, as was the church that stood on a site between the present homes of Mrs. Castle (231 S. Main St.) and Miss Thurston. There was just a path leading in from Main and Tarr Streets. The burials also took place in the section which was later to be East South Street, and when it was being cut down from the heights that the lots to the north and south of it still have, considerable quantities of bones were found.

Mr. McMillen relates that no one seemed to know what to do about them so they were stored in a barn on the back of the place now owned by Paul Miller (223 S. Main St.). One day some boys got into the barn and started throwing the bones at one another. Somebody then got the idea that the bones should be interred in Maplewood and that was done.

No bones were found when excavating was done for the present McMillen home, so the burial plot evidently did not extend that far.

In the June 28, 1960 issue, Ms. Lyon continues:

Moved to the new cemetery were the bodies from the Old Bell Cemetery, on South Street between Main and Tarr, now occupied by the homes of Jennie Castle and Miss Florence Thurston. The middle of that plot had been occupied by a church first used by a Church of Christ group, and from 1877 by the newly organized Presbyterian congregation. It was this building that was moved to the present site on Tarr St., following the great fire of 1891.

The Mayor soon had to issue an ultimatum against digging or hauling sand and gravel from the site of the old cemetery, and there have persisted down through the years the rumors that the removal of remains to the new cemetery was somewhat less than 100 per cent complete.

We are not makers of history. We are made by history.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

1876 NEW BALTIMORE ENTERPRISE NEWSPAPER DONATED TO THE NORTH BALTIMORE OHIO AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

By Tom Boltz



Donna Davis and Sam Bretz, Historical Society volunteer, holding the 1876 *New Baltimore Enterprise* newspaper.

The North Baltimore Ohio Area Historical Society (NBOAHS) recently obtained a valuable addition to its archives when Donna Davis donated several very old local newspapers, most notably including a Thursday, October 5, 1876 copy of the *New Baltimore Enterprise*. The NBOAHS has only one other copy of the *New Baltimore Enterprise*, and it is unknown if there are any other existing issues. The donated newspapers contain local business ads, references to early residents and their daily lives, and other information on the village's early history. Included are several issues of the *North Baltimore Beacon* and the *North Baltimore Times*.

Donna, who has lived most of her life in the Hammansburg and North Baltimore area, recently found the newspapers in a box in her garage. Her family has lived in the North Baltimore area for generations and likely purchased the papers when they were new. She believes that one of her grandparents saved them.

The *New Baltimore Enterprise* was North Baltimore's first newspaper. (The town's name of North Baltimore instead of New Baltimore was not finally settled until the late 1870s.) B. L. Peters, D. E. Peters, and a man known only as Wiseman founded the paper in 1875, and it was published until 1878.

Despite their age, the newspapers are in good condition. To protect and preserve them, the NBOAHS has placed them in an archival-quality storage box. In addition, the newspapers have been assigned an identification number and registered in the Historical Society's PastPerfect computer data system along with information on their

donor and provenance. NBOAHS volunteers will make digital images of the newspaper which will be available for viewing by researchers and other interested individuals.

During the July 27, 2013 Summer Fest, the original 137-year-old *Enterprise* newspaper will be on view in a temporary exhibit at the Historical Center, 229 North Main Street, North Baltimore, Ohio 45872. The Center will be open from 10 am until 2 pm that day.

Upcoming Events

July 23, 6:00 pm, NB Library Book Club
 July 27, 10:00 am-2:00 pm, Historical Center Open
 August 8, 7:00 pm, NBOAHS Board Meeting
 September 12, 7:00 pm, NBOAHS Board Meeting
 September 14, 9:00 am-2:00 pm, Fall Bazaar
 September 18, 7:00 pm, NB Garden Club
 September 19, 9:00 am, Broken Needles Quilting Circle

SUMMER FEST

The NBOAHS Center will be open during Summer Fest (Saturday, July 27th) from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Please come by the Historical Center to see our new exhibits.



NEW EXHIBITS

- ❖ 130 Years of NB Eateries
- ❖ 1890 City Hall Stained Glass Window
- ❖ Jim Cavett Photo Display
- ❖ France Stone Quarry
- ❖ Main Street through the Decades
- ❖ NB Firemen
- ❖ B. L. Peters, Justice of the Peace

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to do filing and general organizational tasks at the Historical Center. If you would like to volunteer, please call the Center (419-257-2266).

The North Baltimore Ohio Area Historical Society

229 North Main Street, P.O. Box 174
 North Baltimore, Ohio, 45872
 (419) 257-2266

Email: nbahs@wcnet.org

Web address: www.northbaltimorehistory.org

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



2013 Membership Application

(January through December)

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone (optional) _____ Email (optional) _____

Individual \$10

Patron \$50

Single life \$200

Couple life \$300

Donation \$ _____

Make checks payable to NBOAHS

Mail to: NBOAHS
 PO Box 174
 North Baltimore, OH 45872

All membership fees and donations are tax deductible.

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