



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

Winter 2015



Paula Miklovic
organizing club materials

Military Room improvements

Ramp improvements

Mary Bobb cataloging
artifacts

2014 NBOAHS Accomplishments

The North Baltimore Ohio Area Historical Society's (NBOAHS) mission is to discover, collect, preserve and make accessible materials that establish or illustrate the history of North Baltimore and Henry Township. Thanks to our many volunteers and supporters, the Society had another successful year in 2014. Below is a summary of our major accomplishments:

Infrastructure Improvements

- Ramp painted, lattice replaced, and ramp walkway painted with slip resistant paint
- First floor bathroom closet doors repaired and additional shelving added to closet
- Military room painted and new curtains added
- Sewer separation lateral installation completed
- Garage attic support joists repaired
- Antique front door manual doorbell replaced with reproduction doorbell

Thanks to Jim Kuhlman and Pam Seiler for their work in repairing and refurbishing the Center's facilities.

Programs

- Approximately 25 people attended the annual Christmas Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon
- Summerfest Open House had good attendance
- Center used by various clubs such as: Red Hats, Broken Needle Sewing Circle, Garden Club, Questettes, Library book club, Barbie Tea, family reunions and get-togethers
- Historical Main Street building photos presented to current Main Street business owners
- Digital copies of American Legion photo archives added to the NBOAHS collection

Collection

- Miscellaneous items from the estates of Donn Foltz, Dr. William Roberts, and Harold Crouse
- Digital photos from Exline collection
- Fire hose cart wheels restored for exhibition

- Four glass display cases acquired from St. Vincent DePaul Society
- Added displays featuring artifacts from Main Street businesses through the years and the NB fire and police departments
- Substantial progress in organizing and recording archives of local organizations such as: LL Club, Garden Club, and Kolonial Klub

Thanks to Jim Kuhlman for restoring the fire hose cart wheels and to Mary and Margaret Bobb for their efforts in organizing and re-arranging the Center's Research Room.

Volunteer Support

We could not have realized these achievements in 2014 without the assistance of our dedicated volunteers. Special thanks to the following volunteers for their involvement in 2014. Janice Emahiser, Paula Miklovic, Tom Boltz, Phyllis Mercer, Pam Seiler, Mike Julien, Jim Kuhlman, Margaret Bobb, Mary Bobb, Larry Slaughterbeck, Gwenn Mauk, Sam Bretz, Rick Van Mooy, Kevin Powell, the late Stephen Cram, Cheryl Heilman, Courtney Mays, Christine Boltz, Jeff Miklovic, and Cappy Cheney.

NBOAHS 50-50 RAFFLE WINNER

Linda Sterling
Congratulations!

HISTORICAL CENTER HOURS

The North Baltimore Ohio Area Historical Center is open to the public on Tuesday mornings 9:00-noon March through December.

NORTH BALTIMORE RESIDENT GEORGE D. CHASE COMMEMORATED AT WOOD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S LIVING HISTORY DAY

In August 2014 the Wood County Historical Society presented its 11th Annual Living History Day at Oak Grove Cemetery in Bowling Green. Among the Wood County residents commemorated was George D. Chase. Part I of this article appeared in the October 2014 NBOAHS newsletter.

Part II

The early 1870s were a prosperous time for me [George Chase]. I started both a saw mill and a stave mill on my land to exploit the area's timber resources. In 1873 the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad built its mainline to Chicago and I sold part of my land to them for their track bed. This raised my hopes for making money in land sales so I had my land surveyed for building lots. I sold a few for homes and two commercial buildings. I also donated land for a one room school for the area's children to attend. Soon there was a small community which I called Denver.

However, to my disappointment the B&O decided to locate their Henry Township depot at Peter's Crossroads one mile to the east. This stimulated the growth of what became North Baltimore and my community of Denver stagnated until it finally disappeared in the late 1920s. But all was not lost as the Northwest Ohio Oil Boom arrived in the late 1880s. Luckily, I had several extremely productive wells on my land which made for a comfortable life for my family and me.



This photograph of North Main Street was taken in 1891 shortly after George Chase moved his family to North Baltimore.

Being a realist, I decided that if I could not beat North Baltimore, I would join them so I moved to that town in 1890 and rented out my farms. We lived in a new house I had constructed on West Walnut Street.



George Chase was quite elderly when he posed for this circa 1925 photograph in front of his West Walnut Street home. The Chase home is still standing in 2014.

Mary and I both became active members of the community. I took great pride in making a contribution to the welfare of the town and its citizens. I was elected to the town council and later accepted an appointment as tax assessor. I considered that job a civic duty, but the position didn't make me very popular. I also served on the Board of Directors of the First National Bank. My wife Mary was active in the Women's Relief Corps, church groups, and community social activities.

Over the years, I had maintained connections with my army comrades and attended 21st Ohio Infantry regimental reunions. Along with other Union Army veterans, I helped found the Grand Army of the Republic post in North Baltimore and marched in the annual Memorial Day parade.

We did have our share of grief when my daughter Edith died at age 22 and both my son Tom's wife and their son took ill and died in the 1890s. I lost my wife Mary when she became ill and died in April 1918.

Eventually my daughter Martha and her husband and step-daughter came to live in my home, and they looked after me in my final years. My life was also brightened by the birth of many grandchildren over the years. I remained in good health in my seventies and eighties and nearly every day I would walk two miles to inspect my farms and visit my son Tom and his new wife and daughter. I also enjoyed travelling and frequently went to Michigan to visit my sons John and Clyde and their families.

On May 11th, 1928, I died at my home in North Baltimore after a short illness. I was buried alongside my wife Mary in North Baltimore's Maplewood Cemetery.



This is the George D. Chase family grave site in Maplewood Cemetery. Mae and Clyde Chase were the George Chase's daughter-in-law and grandson.

In August 2014, my descendants are scattered across the entire United States. My home still stands in North Baltimore after almost 125 years. While I didn't get the B&O depot, the Henry Township site of Denver and much of what was my land is now covered by the CSX Intermodal Railyard.

**The North Baltimore Ohio Area
Historical Society**

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

2015 Membership Application

January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015

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

New Member **Renewal**

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

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All membership fees and donations are tax deductible.

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