

Summer 2018



of Bluffton & Pandora
P.O. Box 5
Bluffton, OH 45817
Schumacher Homestead
8350 Bixel Rd.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT
Judith Kingsley*

VICE PRESIDENT
Gary Wetherill*

SECRETARY
Todd Rainey

TREASURER
John Burkhart*

CURATOR
Keith Sommer

Jeff Althaus
Seth Bixel
Dale Bridenbaugh
Marvin Diller
Rachael Hermiller
Ron Lora
Joanne Niswander
Kaye Phillips
Paula Scott*

*INTERIM

MEMBERSHIP

Annual Household - \$30
Annual Sustaining - \$100
Life - \$1,000

Mailing labels show current standing. Mail checks for dues and donations to Marvin Diller at P.O. Box 5, Bluffton, OH 45817.

EDITOR: Paula Scott

newsletter

The Swiss Community Historical Society is hosting its annual Swiss Day, a celebration of the culture and history of local Swiss settlers, including food, language, and genealogy.



Swiss Day

**Sunday, June 24, 12:30-3 p.m.
Ebenezer Mennonite Church
8905 Columbus Grove Rd., Bluffton**

Members of the historical society and the public are invited. Festivities begin with a potluck lunch rumored to have the best selection of desserts you'll ever find. Drinks are provided. Please bring table service and a hot and cold dish to share.

A brief business meeting for members will precede the main program, including the annual financial report and minutes, and an officer and board member election.

Rich Bucher will lead the interactive main program on the Swiss language, including: 1) Local Swiss names, their various spellings, and the cities they came from. 2) Sayings/idioms and their translations. 3) Common terms like fruits, household items. 3) New Year songs traditionally sung in this area.

Afterwards, the Schumacher Homestead at 8350 Bixel Road will be open for tours. Collections of historical interest will be on display throughout the event.

minutes of the 2017 annual meeting

Swiss Community Historical Society

Swiss Day: Minutes of the Annual Meeting

Swiss Community Historical Society

Ebenezer Mennonite Church, Bluffton

June 25, 2017

President Gary Wetherill opened the business meeting by thanking Ebenezer Mennonite Church for providing their fine facilities and audio-visual assistance. Gary also thanked the many volunteers that accomplished the diverse responsibilities of our society over the year since our last Swiss Day.

Todd Rainey summarized the minutes from the business meeting of the 2016 Swiss Day. Ted Cunningham moved, Ollie Lugibihl seconded, and we passed a motion to approve these minutes. Todd then presented financial highlights for the SCHS fiscal year ending May 31, 2017. Our 'total checking/savings' had increased by \$45,193.12 so that they consisted of \$285,643.49 as of May 31. The total of 'pledges receivable' for the Capital Campaign had increased by \$19,500 so that they consisted of \$97,500 as of May 31. Our 'total fixed assets' had increased by \$11,763.93 so that they consisted of \$525,187.89 as of the end of the fiscal year. We had received \$6,596.37 in cash donations, \$3,613.99 in Fall Festival income, \$395.32 in Christmas Open House income, and \$8,280 in membership payments over the year. We paid off \$13,730.98 in expenses over the year, mostly for utilities, insurance, and Fall Festival expenses. Our 'net income' for operations was \$5,720.78. Judy Kingsley moved, Rachael Hermiller seconded and we passed a motion to approve the year-end financial report.

Gary introduced a slate of nominees for renewed terms of one officer and one board membership. Society members did not suggest any additional nominees for these positions. Rich Bucher moved, Kaye Phillips seconded and we passed a motion to approve the following slate of candidates: Judy Kingsley (Vice President) and Rachael Hermiller (board member).

We then adjourned our business meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Todd Rainey, Secretary

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Campaign Goal	1,000,000
Gifts and Pledges	361,510.76
Outstanding Pledges	71,166.00
Cash Balance, Capital Campaign, May 31	285,734.76
Prepaid Capital Campaign Expenses	4,610.00
Total	361,510.76
Restricted for Heritage Center Fund	328,367.77
Restricted for Restoration Fund	22,892.99
Restricted for Endowment Fund	10,250.00
Total	361,510.76

OPERATIONS STATEMENT

Income & Other Revenue Sources

Donation - Cash	1,250.00
Homestead and Garden Tours	1,226.25
Fall Festival Income	3,276.40
Memberships	5,586.00
Transfer from Cash Reserves	3,460.00
Other Income	712.28
Total Income	15,510.93

Expense

Advertising & Promotional, Postage	1,025.70
Utilities	3,053.61
Publications Expense	2,067.50
Insurance	3,167.00
Bookkeeping, Tax Prep, Trust fees	1,434.00
Fall Festival Expense	2,405.24
Depreciation, Maintenance, Rent	350.00
Other Expenses	1,992.68
Total Expenses	15,495.73

Income Before

Depreciation	15.20
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OTHER FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Cash Reserves, May 31	26,193.75
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flax and 4-H in the garden

In late May, docent Rachel Friessen reported that the flax seeds planted in the Schumacher Homestead garden had sprouted! How did Swiss ancestors clothe themselves? With yarn and fabric they made themselves, including linen. Stay tuned for our adventures in growing and harvesting flax.

Members of the Columbus Grove Creative 4-H-ers have been cleaning in the house with Gary Wetherill and working in the kitchen garden with Pat Flinn.

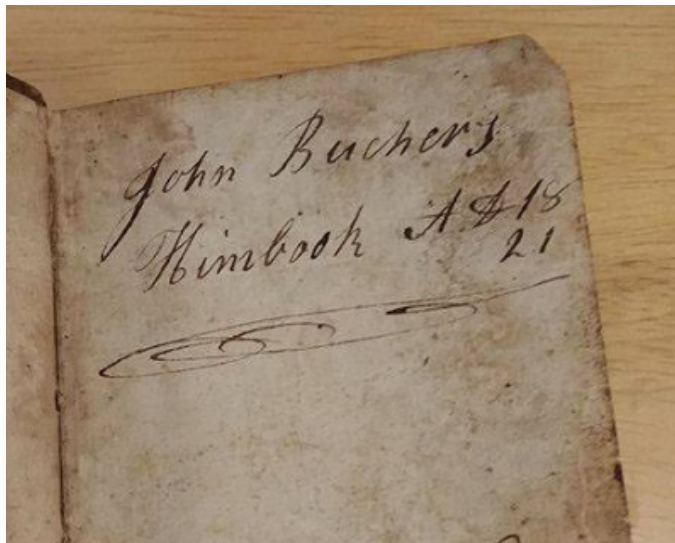
Their energy and application saved our garden volunteers several days of hard work. The group was invited by board member Rachael Hermiller, who notes that they plan to return for planting work, as well. *Danke* to these great kids!



saengerfest 2018 in Toledo

The North American Swiss Singing Alliance will hold its Swiss singing and yodeling festival in Toledo, Ohio, June 28-July 1, 2018. The Grand Concert will include hundreds of singers.

Visit saengerfest2018.com or contact the Valentine Theatre at (419) 242-2787 for more information.



facebook finds

Want to connect with Swiss Community Historical Society fans near and far? Check out our Facebook page for news and events (@SwissCommunityHistoricalSociety) as well as photos and comments from other viewers.

Recent posts include rhubarb recipes, photos of the recent Peerles Glove Factory open house, and a c. 1821 Bucher family hymnal that was found in a Lima book store.

Membership Benefits

In addition to receiving our quarterly newsletter in the mail, SCHS members enjoy these benefits!

FREE admission

When the Schumacher Homestead is open for tours, admission is free for members.

See back page for summer schedule.

Voting privileges

At the SCHS annual meeting, members vote on new and renewing board members.

Updates & invitations

Members receive an annual letter and updates including the status of our capital campaign and invitations to special members-only events.

How to join or renew

Dues may be submitted by mail or at an upcoming event or tour.



MEMBER NAME _____

☐ New ☐ Renewing

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL (optional, for SCHS use only) _____

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL (check one)

- ☐ Annual Household Membership, \$30.00
- ☐ Annual Sustaining Membership, \$100.00
- ☐ Life Membership, \$1000.00
- ☐ Other donation of _____.

SEND WITH CHECK PAYABLE TO: Swiss Community Historical Society
P.O. Box 5
Bluffton OH 45817

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Visit SCHS at www.swissmennonite.wordpress.com and find us on Facebook

Schumacher Homestead

8350 Bixel Rd, Bluffton, Ohio



1843 House

1854 Barn

Summer Kitchen

1850s Garden

Workshop Outdoor Bake Oven

June, July, August.

Saturdays 1-5:00 p.m.

SWISSMENNONITE.WORDPRESS.COM FACEBOOK