



# Massillon Heritage Foundation

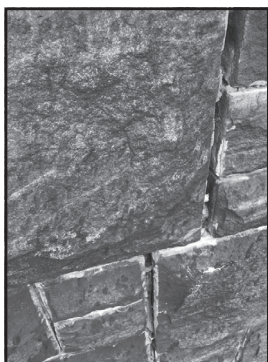
## Fall 2019 Newsletter

### President – David Darnell

The Massillon Heritage Foundation has made much progress at Five Oaks during the past year, completing major exterior restoration and beginning a much-needed project to replace the elevator.

The exterior lighting received a total makeover. The lanterns on the stone piers at 4th St and North Ave were no longer functioning. These were replaced with new fixtures that do a better job of illuminating the area and are more aesthetically pleasing as well. The old floodlights were replaced with state-of-the-art LED fixtures that are more energy efficient and do a fantastic job of illuminating Five Oaks at night.

The most recent phase of the exterior restoration involved masonry, a cracked stone pillar, and the roof. Five Oaks has been plagued with failing mortar joints that have allowed water to infiltrate the structure. Previous work had focused on the areas in the worst condition. This latest work has involved all sides of the structure. The failed mortar joints were ground out and replaced with new mortar that is specially tooled with a rounded bead along the surface. The mortar color also matches the original.



The cracked stone column on the north side of the house has been strengthened with stainless steel pins as designed by the engineering firm of Wiss, Janey, and Elstner. Structural engineers from this firm examined the pillar, created a solution for stabilizing the stone, and were on site to monitor the installation of the steel pins. It is believed that the failure of this pillar is a result of a natural flaw in the stone.

The roof has also received much attention. Last summer, a nationally known slate roof expert did a complete survey and analysis of the condition of the roof. His study concluded that, although the roof was in generally good condition, it could take as much as \$200,000 to completely restore it. This summer, while masonry work was underway, work on the 125-year-old roof also commenced. Some of the roof issues required immediate action. Others will last a number of years before restoration is needed.

The New York Red slate that was used on Five Oaks is some of the finest in the world. It can last for centuries. This slate is only found in a region along the New York/ Vermont border.

Salvaged slate, quarried from this same region, was acquired to replace broken and missing slates. The damaged slate on the porte-cochere roof was completely removed and replaced with



replacement slates, clean side facing up, showing what the entire roof of Five Oaks must have looked like when new. On the main roof, nearly 250 slates were refastened, and over 500 were replaced.

Much of the copper had reached the end of its lifespan and was replaced.

This includes flashings, valleys and some of the built-in gutters. These gutters are more complex than what would typically be found on a modern building and can be very costly to construct. Custom built chimney caps were also installed on all chimneys.

The roof and masonry work began in early May and lasted four months. A



damaged section of sidewalk and damage to the lawn from the heavy lifts used have been repaired at the contractors' expense. At the same time, deteriorating sections of the public sidewalk

along North St. were replaced with new concrete.

This phase of restoration was largely funded by a \$350,000 grant from the State of Ohio. The total cost exceeds \$400,000, with about 1/4 of this used on the roof. The Massillon Heritage Foundation has paid the additional costs of the project. The most up to date materials and techniques have been utilized that comply with preservation standards for historic buildings. As a result of this work, the roof and stone walls of Five Oaks are in their best condition in decades.

## Capital Campaign – New Elevator in 2020

A new elevator is to be installed in the coming months. This will replace the current lift with an actual elevator with automatic doors. The cost of the elevator is approximately \$170,000. The Massillon Heritage Foundation is most grateful for the support and commitment of \$75,000 from The Massillon Woman's Club for this project. The existing lift has proven to be extremely unreliable and has limits on its use that an actual elevator will not have.



The new unit is being built at this time. It is scheduled to be installed in the existing shaft, beginning in January. Completion is expected in March 2020. As part of the elevator project, a new heated concrete pad has been installed at the outside elevator entrance.

The elevator replacement is an expensive project, but it is one that really cannot wait. The present lift has become increasingly unreliable. Breakdowns are becoming more frequent. Visitors at Five Oaks have been unable to access the upper floors, or worse yet, have been caught between floors.

In October a Capital Campaign mailing was sent requesting support for the purchase and installation of an actual elevator. Please consider a donation to help make Five Oaks accessible to all visitors. Thank you for your support!

## Massillon Heritage Foundation Revised Website

Learn more of what is happening with our organization. See photos of recent activity; Kendal Burying Ground Monument Dedication, Cleaning the McClymonds/Russell Gravesite-Massillon Cemetery, OFCC Grant Repairs to Five Oaks. Also included is Five Oaks - Home of the McClymonds Family, which includes an original sketch of Five Oaks and current interior rooms. We are starting a Face Book page to keep you up on what's going on! Be sure to check it out! [www.five-oaks.org](http://www.five-oaks.org)

## Tour Report – Nancy Thatcher & Doug Scheetz

The Summer Tour season is over, and it was a "HOT" one! The heat impacted our attendance and the Millionaire's Row tours of Mary Vogt and Mandy Stahl. Many thanks to Margy and Mandy! The Massillon Heritage Foundation docents need an extra thank you for being there in the heat.

Sunday tours brought 44 paid admissions and 10 more using 2019 Summer Tour Passes. We had eight group tours that brought 179 guests to Five Oaks. We also had two complimentary tours with 39 guests, bringing the grand total to 272 guests. Tours brought in \$1,189 to be added to our Heritage mission. If you receive tour passes with your membership donation, please don't let them sit in the envelope. Give them to friends, family, waiters, bankers, grocery clerks, etc. We want all to see the beauty of Five Oaks!

We welcome new docents, Marcia Short, Nancy Merryman, Dee Welch, Lori Miday, Nancy Miller and Betty Jarvis. We also send our best wishes and thanks for their many years of service to the following retiring docents; Jean Leonard, Sue Keller, Jane Nolt, and Dorothy Slagle.

We will be partnering with the Massillon Public Library in the summer of 2020 and continuing the Massillon Millionaire's Row along with the Sunday afternoon tours. More information and schedule will follow in our Spring newsletter. Hopefully the weather won't be as hot as this year!

## Education and Community Outreach

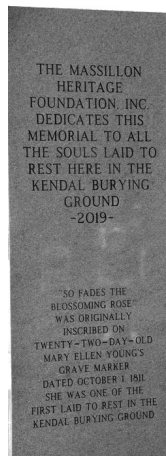
–Linda Tarle and Patty Carmola, co-chairs

Again this year, we have linked arms with the corresponding committee of the Massillon Woman's Club to provide educational programs to third and fourth grade school children.

Our program meets the State core curriculum's component for community education. This program has been very well received in past years, and we have had many requests to continue it. We present the program in a fun and hands on manner that the children respond to well.

This year, due to the Woman's Club having special programming to celebrate their 100-year anniversary, we have limited our programs for the school children. However, we have expanded the school program to include the Trades classes from Washington High School and surrounding area. Our visitors are always so very impressed with Five Oaks.

We welcome anyone that would be interested in helping with the program presentation or any ideas for new outreach programs. Please contact Linda Tarle at 330-312-2653, if you are interested in joining us on this fun and rewarding committee.



## Dedication of Memorial at Kendal Cemetery

The Massillon Heritage Foundation dedicated a monument indicating the Kendal Burying Ground on Sunday, June 30, at 3:30 p.m. Many people attended the brief ceremony. The early-nineteenth-century cemetery is located at the corner of Andrew Avenue and Ninth Street NE.

The remains of about 200 Kendal and





American Legion Color Guard

Massillon citizens were moved from this burying ground shortly after 1848 to the newly established Massillon Cemetery, but it has since been discovered that all graves were not moved. The new monument is intended to be a memorial to all the settlers who were or are buried there. Placing this marker in the historic Kendal Burying Ground is another small step toward preserving the community's past.

Much research was gathered through the years by Bob Bratton who lived by the cemetery. The monument was designed by Heritage Board member and architect, John Patrick Picard.



John Patrick Picard and Bob Bratton

Massillon City Parks Department will soon be adding a recently donated flag pole and flag to the site.

## May 11, 2019 Cleanup day at Massillon Cemetery

- Margy Vogt

I'm still thinking about the amazing volunteers who worked so hard at Massillon Cemetery on Saturday. Thanks to everyone, including the crew that beautified the McClymonds / Russell area...a tribute to the family that gave us Five Oaks, parks, and the beginnings of the Massillon Public Library



## McClymonds Garage

- Written by our neighbors Cindy & Roger Alber

Eight years ago this October my husband, Roger Alber, bought at auction a very special home at 425 North Ave.NE, across from the Massillon Woman's Club's brick-walled side yard. We had never been to an auction before and I was actually out of state. I'll never forget when he called and said, "Happy Birthday Honey, I bought you a house!" (In all fairness, I had spotted the house and suggested he go to the auction!)

Little did we know what treasures awaited us during the remodel/renovation! For example, our son found a cigar box with \$400 cash (from the 1930-40s) when he was ripping out the floorboards in the Carriage House - he also uncovered the original brick west end of the Carriage House, complete with door opening, concrete pad and step down, and an original window, all which had been covered by paneling and, of all things, faux brick - and he also ripped down 2 levels of drop ceiling to uncover the original gorgeous domed beadboard ceilings. We also found a concrete dugout under the floorboards, measuring around 54" by 60". When we bought the house, the paperwork noted the one-story east end as the Carriage House, dating from the early 1900s. We assumed this meant a carriage house for horses, I even used a bit of antique "horsey" items in decorating what is now our family room.

After finishing the majority of the interior remodel/renovation, and the fact that the existing garage was leaking, it was time to work on the garage. One of the pieces of inexpensive siding board was warped and peeking behind this board we discovered yet another treasure of this old house - beautiful, even in disrepair, paneled doors with fantastic arched windows. We thought that these were the doors to the Carriage House, but stall doors for horses, not cars. The original garage we assume was built



around 1946-47, at the time the two-story house addition was constructed. We have that owner to thank for saving/using the paneled doors as his garage walls. Hiring our friend from church, Karl Duell of Duell Action Builders, we had to completely tear down the flat roofed garage and start from scratch. They did a timely and great rebuild in May of 2016, we are so pleased!

Roger took on the tedious renovation of the 4 door panels by himself; lots of wood glue, screws, nails, clamps, drying time, painting, windowpane replacing, and time! Of the 8 original door panels, there were 5 in decent shape, 4 of them you see on the



north side of our garage, the west one serves as a door into the garage. From the pictures included, you can see we have one door panel

left in fairly good shape and the second photo shows the condition of the remaining three. The third photo shows an actual shot during construction and the last photo shows the wall completely finished. During construction, a driver-by with a Five Oaks Newsletter on his car seat stopped when he saw the door panels laying up against the unfinished garage. It wasn't until then, with the photo in the newsletter showing the cars parked in front of our Carriage House, that we realized this Carriage House was for cars, not horses! That does explain the concrete dugout under the floor of the west end, the cars were driven over the dugout, where the mechanic would have jumped down in the dugout to be able to work on the underside of the cars! I printed that photo that was in the Five Oaks Newsletter of the Carriage House/Garage, framed it, and it is now on a shelf in our Carriage House/Family Room! This eight-year renovation has been an adventure and we've loved it! At least I've loved it, but my involvement has been design, some painting, shopping, and decorating - what not to love! Roger has done everything else - all the hard work, all the dirty work! (ask Roger - he has some stories!) We do feel very blessed to have found this house at auction, to have been able to complete most of the renovation ourselves, and to be able to now enjoy our very special home! Cindy Yelton Alber and Dr. Rev. Roger Alber, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Massillon

## Memorial Donations Received

Massillon Heritage foundation received donations in memory of the following past members. Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family and friends of these ladies.

Kay M. Beaudry - March 2019

Nancy A. Martin - June 2019

Alice Hunter Sherrard - May 2019

Any gift in memory of a loved one or as an estate bequest is deposited in the Endowment Fund of the foundation and allows us to continue our mission.

## Board of Trustees

President - David Darnell

First Vice President - Douglas Scheetz

Second Vice President - Linda Tarle

Acting Secretary - Rhonda Warren

Treasurer - Nancy Welch

Board members - David Distelhorst, Elizabeth (Betsy) Fink, Ed Hare, Margaret (Peggy) Haunty, John Patrick Picard, Mary Ann Poling, Larry Slagle, Nancy Thatcher, and Michael Thompson. Massillon Woman's Club President, Sue Harding

## Retiring Board Member - Thank you!

Lorie Pedro - Lorie has served the board well as secretary and has been a member of the Board since joining in the early 2000's. Before becoming secretary, she helped with the annual Gala and served on Capital Campaign committees. She has worked diligently on our board and has provided valuable insight into many issues that we have dealt with. She will be greatly missed. We send our thanks to her for her years of service.

## Welcome New Board Members - July 2019

Larry Slagle - Larry resides in Massillon with his wife Maude. He is a father and grandfather and enjoys traveling, music, golf, swimming, and gym. You'll see him most Tuesday nights with his often-winning teammates at Massillon Buffalo Wild Wings for trivia night. Larry is a 1970 graduate of Washington High School and received his B.A. degree and law degree from Case Western Reserve University. He currently works in private practice. His experience in the field of law and politics will assist the Foundation in its search for grants. Larry also brings knowledge of his community involvement with Habitat for Humanity, MDA, American Cancer Society, Massillon Urban League, and the Massillon NAACP.

David Distelhorst - David is the Local History and Genealogy Librarian at Massillon Public Library where he develops and maintains a collection of reference materials for research and teaches classes in genealogy and local history research. He graduated from Kent State University with a Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) in 2015 where he focused his studies on libraries, archives, and museums.

A newspaper photographer in his first career, this is not his first time living and working in Stark County. For two years, 2005-2006, David was a staff photographer for The Repository, Canton. In a newspaper career spanning over ten years, he worked freelance, internship, and staff positions on newspapers across Ohio including The News Messenger, Fremont and various publications in Columbus. David received awards for his coverage of the aftermath of the September 11, 2001 attacks and is noted for documenting the former site of New York City's World Trade Center on each anniversary for the first ten years.



Originally from the Cleveland suburb of Shaker Heights, David spends his time between there and Massillon and travelling. His most recent adventure took him to Detmold, Germany, the hometown of his Distelhorst ancestors who settled in Columbus in the 1850s. He has one familial link to Massillon. His great x3 uncle, Dr. Charles Hermin Clark, was the first assistant to the superintendent of Massillon State Hospital in 1898-1899. He returned in 1901 to be married at St. Timothy's Church to Cora E. Taggart.

## 2019 Gala Update – Linda Tarle

We enjoyed a lovely dinner and program at FIVE OAKS on Saturday, May 11. The program was written and directed by playwright, Lee Lavery. It was entitled, HAPPY DAYS ARE HERE



AGAIN and presented a play "Happy Days are Beer Again"! Lee brought to life one year in Massillon's history...the people, events, and popular culture. It involved a Massillon party celebrating the end of 1933 and the end of prohibition. Local actors from the community portrayed various interesting historical

Trivia Contestants ready to play!

figures that lived in Massillon during that time period. We were entertained with a lot of laughs, some beautiful singing and were educated on many 1933 events of both our community and the world. Some of the innovations we learned of were Drett, Windex, Miracle Whip, The Lone Ranger, Singing Telegrams, and Monopoly which all started that year!! There was even a new theater built where you sat in your car to watch movies called A Park-in Theater! Who knew?!?! A good time was had by all!



Acting Debut for Mayor Kathy Catazoro-Perry: Mrs. J. Edward Johns - Civic leader and President of the Massillon Woman's Club in December 1933 & Mary Ann Poling: Mrs. C.E. Boyd - Chairman of the Woman's Club Social Committee

*Thank you so much for coming and supporting the Massillon Heritage Foundation. A special thank you to our sponsors listed below:*

## GOLD

Fred & Peggy Carstens  
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 Michael & Paula Ziccardi

## Watch for these upcoming events!

Thursday, December 5, 2019

– MHF Members and guests – Annual Wassail Bowl Party

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm. See enclosed invitation

Join us for a special cup of warm, Christmas cheer. Jim Thomas always uses his secret recipe for wassail, and it is delicious! Local restaurants donate appetizers and MHF board members provide delicious desserts. Be sure to check out the new outdoor lighting as you enter the house.

Sunday, December 8, 2019

– Community Candlelight Walk – 5 pm – 7:30 pm

Candlelight Walk—music and tours in historic churches. Stroll through Massillon, stopping at local churches which will be offering wonderful holiday music. Refreshments are provided at the Massillon Museum. Five Oaks is on the itinerary and you can walk through the first floor. Finale is at 7:45 pm at St. Mary's Catholic Church with the Washington High School choir and Candle lighting Ceremony.

Monday, February 10, 2020

– MHF Annual Meeting

Members are invited to attend the annual meeting. A program will be presented by Richard Haldi of the Canton Preservation Society. His topic will be the Case Mansion. Punch and dinner will follow. A brief business meeting will be held after dinner.

Saturday, April 18, 2020

– Massillon Heritage Foundation Gala – SAVE THE DATE!

Come and enjoy an evening of fun as we all get involved in a murder mystery at Five Oaks! Hope to see you there!

Massillon Woman's Club Open Houses at Five Oaks

Open House with Santa – Sunday, December 1,

10:00 am – 3:00 pm. Open to all – No reservations required

Open House, Cookie Walk, Basket Raffle – Sunday, December 15,

– 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. Open to all – No reservations required

## Did you know?

Information received from Gary Howell, Buckeye Piano Tuning, Massillon Ohio.

While volunteering to tune the Massillon Woman's Club piano, Gary was curious and did a little research and here is what he found!

I contacted Steinway and they were gracious enough to look up the piano's history without charge.

Here is what they found:

“Steinway Serial No. 249666 (Case No. D5618) corresponds in our records to a New York Grand Model D Ebonized (polished black varnish) completed on March 1, 1927, and shipped to former dealer The Dreher Piano Company of Cleveland, Ohio, to be forwarded to D. W. Lerch Company of Canton, Ohio, for Massillon Woman's Club of Massillon, Ohio, on September 14, 1927.”

So, when I looked at the interior of the piano, I saw the serial number, but it had fewer digits than I had expected which led me to wonder if it was older than it appeared. But according to Steinway, it seems that the last digit was simply either not clearly printed or somehow illegible. I find it very interesting that you now have the exact date on which the piano's manufacturing was completed, March 1 1927. And you also have the exact date on which the Woman's Club received it, September 14th, 1927.

Today a brand-new Steinway model D costs approximately \$224,000!!!

## Membership Chair

– Mary Ann Poling

Five Oaks turned 125 years old this year! Can you believe how amazing it is that we have this historic treasure in Massillon Ohio? Thanks to your memberships and sponsorships throughout the years we have been able to keep Five Oaks in the best condition possible and sustain our mission.

Massillon Heritage Foundation recently mailed our 43rd Annual Membership Drive information. All levels of giving are much appreciated! Watch for your Membership information and return today!



Summer restoration work

BE OUR GUEST

Massillon Heritage Foundation Inc.

43<sup>rd</sup> WASSAIL BOWL

Be our guest on Thursday, December 5, at our annual Wassail Bowl. All Heritage members and their guests are welcome at no cost. Enjoy Wassail, punch, appetizers and cookies. No reservations required – just mingle and enjoy the evening in the home you so generously support.

Thursday, December 5, 2019

6:00 – 8:00 PM

Five Oaks Historic Home

210 Fourth Street NE, Massillon, OH



Love and joy come to you,  
And to you your wassail too;  
And God bless you and send you  
A Happy New Year  
And God send you a Happy New Year!

The Massillon Woman's Club will have the Gift Shop and Basket Raffle sale on the second floor. Be sure to check it out!



Massillon Heritage Foundation  
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Massillon, OH 44648

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Return Service Requested

**Thursday, December 5, 2019**  
**6:00 – 8:00 PM**  
**Five Oaks Historic Home**  
**210 Fourth Street NE, Massillon, OH**



### **Massillon Heritage Foundation Mission Statement**

To receive and administer funds for the purpose of acquiring, restoring, preserving and maintaining properties of historical significance to Massillon and the surrounding area for use in scientific, educational and charitable purposes.

Visit **five-oaks.org** for history, tours, events & membership information