



Massillon Heritage Foundation

Fall 2022 Newsletter

President – David Darnell

One of the benefits of membership in The Massillon Heritage Foundation is an invitation to the Wassail Bowl held in December. Five Oaks is exceptionally beautiful during the Christmas season and this past year was no exception. The Wassail Bowl for 2022 will take place in early December. Invitations will be sent to members as the date approaches.



We were also able to enjoy Five Oaks during our fundraising Gala, a murder mystery dinner. The Gala had been postponed since 2020 and it was great to see those in attendance enjoying the

evening in the beautiful surroundings.

Restoration work is being planned to keep Five Oaks in excellent condition. Details are in the House Report in this newsletter.

Two of our board members have retired after many years of dedicated service to the Foundation:

Doug Scheetz has served as vice president, has designed promotional materials, and has been involved with tours. He has also brought his Russell tractors and Russell Company memorabilia to Five Oaks on several occasions.

Mary Ann Poling has served the foundation as president, membership chairwoman, produced the newsletter, coordinated events, and has assisted in a multitude of activities that have been of great benefit to Five Oaks and the Foundation. We are very grateful to both Doug and Mary Ann for devoting many years to Five Oaks and the mission of The Massillon Heritage Foundation.

From time to time, we need new members for the Board of Trustees. If this is something that you might consider, give us a call at 330-737-1106.

Is there a project or need in our historic community that you would like to sponsor or contribute to? Let us know! We are continually grateful for memberships and other donations to The Massillon Heritage Foundation that enable the preservation of Massillon history to continue. Thank you very much for your support!

Board of Trustees

President.....	David Darnell
Vice President.....	Larry Slagle
Secretary.....	Elizabeth Fink
Treasurer.....	Raygan Weiford

Board members

Kathleen Bachtel, Christine Bowman, Eric Myers, John Patrick Picard, Roseanna Pizzino, Brandon Rohrer, Linda Tarle, and Michael Thompson, Statutory Agent for MHF.

Five Oaks House Report

Work on replacement of the flat roof around the skylight has been delayed. Temporary repairs are planned until the permanent work can be scheduled, hopefully this fall. Work is also planned on the built-in gutter around the tower roof. During the past winter, several other roof related problems arose. After heavy snow, ice dams formed in two locations, resulting in water infiltration into the house. One area was above the west facing window in the second-floor rear hallway. The other was above the large window at the top of the main staircase. This is as a result of the original design of the roof above this area and has probably happened before. We would like to find a way to correct this problem, but as is often the case, there is no simple solution. Another problem was the formation of ice on the outside elevator door. We hope that this will be less complicated to correct.

Plaster restoration in the second and third floor rooms is currently in the planning stages, to be followed by the painting of these areas. There are at least ten rooms that will need plaster related repair work.

Moment in History – A Modern Marvel

Five Oaks featured modern technology at the time of its completion in 1894. The rooms were lit throughout with electricity, and some of the light fixtures also used gas for illumination.

Although there are ten fireplaces, the house was heated with a coal fired boiler. This steam heating system is still in use today, although a newer gas fired boiler is currently in use. Radiators on the first floor were concealed, some under window seats, and some below grilles in the floor. These also were designed to mix fresh air from a vent in the basement.

At a time when the majority of the homes in the country did not yet have indoor plumbing, Five Oaks had multiple bathrooms. Even the servants had their own bathroom, although the tub and sink were on the third floor, and



the servants' toilet was one floor below. This was probably due to the low ceiling in the third-floor bathroom, which



was too low to allow the height needed for the toilet tank. The servants' wooden toilet tank is the only original tank that has survived in place. Two bathrooms on the second floor featured massive bathtubs with showers. The master bathroom still has the shower equipment in

place today. Built into the floor below the plumbing fixtures is a marble slab with a secondary drain, to direct leaks to the basement. These were sold by the manufacturer of the plumbing fixtures, probably the J.L. Mott Iron Works of New York and Chicago. In the basement laundry room are three brown glazed wash tubs, stamped Motts "Yorkshire".

Few homes, even today, are equipped with an elevator, but one was in place when the home was completed. The original Five Oaks elevator has not operated in decades, but it has survived. The shaft has been turned into closet space on the first and second floor. The passenger cab, actually a platform open on three sides, is at the bottom of the shaft in the basement. In a space off the third-floor servants' bath, next to the shaft, is a 6-foot-long water tank which was part of the operating system. Above, in the attic, are heavy gears, pulleys, and a large braking mechanism. While the old elevator and some of the other fixtures in the house are no longer in use, it is fortunate that they have survived for nearly 130 years, allowing visitors today and in the future an opportunity to see examples of the technology of 1894.

Moment in History – Correction

We have a correction and additional information regarding the July 2021 newsletter article "Charles F. Schweinfurth in Massillon". It appears that Charles Schweinfurth was not the architect for the Mary McLain Russell Nurses Home as stated. Schweinfurth was the architect for the Massillon City Hospital, but the architect for the Russell Nurses home was Edmund Herrmann, who had been employed by Schweinfurth as the

superintendent of the Hospital project. Herrmann then went into practice as an architect in the Canton - Massillon area after the Hospital was completed. His home (no longer standing) was on the NW corner of Amherst Rd and Ohio Ave.

Thank You to Massillon Heritage Foundation member Craig Bobby for his research and for providing this information.

Tour Chairwoman – Kathleen Bachtel

Thank you to Doug Scheetz and Nancy Thatcher for preparing me for my work as tour chair. We had a nice turn out for summer tours this year and a few new docents have joined our ranks! I am currently working to expand accessibility and engagement for all who wish to visit Five Oaks, in addition to other historic sites in Massillon. For the 2023 tour season, new opportunities may include: self-guided audio tours, grounds and architecture tours, historic walks, and a special holiday tour event.

As a reminder, if you are bringing a large group on a Sunday in July or August, a courtesy call would be appreciated. To schedule a private tour for your group or organization at another time, accommodations can be made if a tour is planned far enough in advance. For this, those wishing to train as docents, or information regarding tours, you are welcome to contact me at 330-605-1937 or bachka916@gmail.com. (Please, do not contact the Massillon Woman's Club for tours.)

Education and Community Outreach – Massillon Woman's Club, Patty Carmola and Massillon Heritage Foundation, Linda Tarle, Co-Chairwomen

This past Spring, third-grade students from Massillon City Schools and Canton Country Day School held their field trip day to Five Oaks and Spring Hill. The students and teachers thoroughly enjoyed their time at both historic homes. Additionally, we will be hosting nearly 700 students from Canton City Schools in March of 2023! Thank you to our volunteers who helped facilitate this program! We will again extend invitations to other school systems, private schools, and home-schooled students. Our program is outstanding because it meets the State criteria for the "Community Component" for the third-grade classes.

A brand-new event will be occurring this October 2022! The Massillon Heritage Foundation and Roving Rogue Productions will be partnering to host an interactive fundraiser in the style of the classic Clue! mystery game. Guests will have a chance to play detective and interrogate suspects throughout the Five Oaks Mansion. Check our Upcoming Events listed in this newsletter to mark your calendars. Additional details will be announced as the date approaches!

We are currently working on developing a summer day camp for students that will involve making the learning of the community history interactive and fun. More to come on this adventure! Are you interested in helping develop new ideas for Education and Outreach? We welcome any ideas or input from our members.

If you are interested in training and helping with the program, please contact Linda Tarle at 330-312-2653 or Patty Carmola at 330-575-0898.



Memorial Donations Received

Eleanor Weatherbee

December 15, 1938 – December 1, 2021

Susan E. Keller

December 14, 1930 – December 8, 2021

Jane E. Nolt

June 5, 1930 – July 26, 2022

Adolphus "Al" R. Messenger

January 11, 1933 – August 29, 2022

Massillon Heritage foundation received donations in memory of Eleanor and Susan. Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family and friends of our long time Heritage and Massillon Woman's Club members.

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 both honor them and continue our mission. Thank you.

Upcoming Events ~

NEW - Clue! at Five Oaks - Saturday, October 29, 2022

Candlelight Walk - Sunday, December 4, 2022

Wassail Bowl - Thursday, December 8, 2022

Annual Dinner Meeting - Monday, February 13, 2023

Spring Gala - To be announced

Membership Chairwoman - Kathleen Bachtel

Thank you to all who are supporting the Massillon Heritage Foundation and its mission. A current membership of 221 has provided \$20,340 for the 2022 year. An additional \$2,870 was received with memberships for restoration. A list of all current members is included in this newsletter. Thank you again for your support! The 2023 Membership Drive will open in January.

A great deal of thanks is owed to Mary Ann Poling for all of her hard work and diligence as membership chair. And I would like to thank her personally for encouraging and supporting me as I've taken on the job. I am extremely appreciative of your patience as I transition into this roll. If you have any questions about membership, renewals, or restoration contributions, you are welcome to contact me at 330-605-1937 or at bachka916@gmail.com.

We look forward to your continued support of our mission; 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.

BENEFACTOR

\$1,000 - \$4,500

Rochelle Farina
Mr. & Mrs. Randy Hutsell

Midwestern Industries, Inc.
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Sibila
Ms. Amaryllis Whitehouse

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\$500 - \$999

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Susan Gessner
Margaret L. Howley
Gary and Pamela Martzoff
MCTV
Ted and Marilyn Stultz
Bob and Nancy Thatcher
James and Rebecca Welling

SUPPORTING

\$100 - \$499

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Marie Brahler
Peggy Carstens
Teresa and Kevin Dalton
David and Michelle Darnell
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Thomas and Jane Ferraro
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Mary Ann and Russell Poling
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Ron and Mary Pribich
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Michael and Amy Tomas
Mr. David C. Waikem
Raygan and Randy Weiford
Debbie Williams
Helen Woolley

CONTRIBUTING

\$50 - \$99

Ellen Arciello
Jean Baglia
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Darlene and Gary Shreve
Donna C. Smith
Virginia P. Sorg
Jill and Dave Strodbeck
Charlotte and Ron Stroh
Linda Tarle
Barbara L. Thomas
Robert and Lisa Yund

FAMILY

\$30 - \$49

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Ms. Patricia Brakefield
Patty and Mary Carmola
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Dale, Debbie, and Samantha Kay Smith
Carol Stansbury
Jeanette and Ronald Vogelgesang
Joel and Margy Vogt
Jackie Liebman

INDIVIDUAL

\$20 - \$29

Nancy L. Adams
Linda Aigler
Marlene Albrecht
Marlena Allen
Sue Ambrosic
Kathleen A. Bachtel
Barbara Bartchy
Craig Bobby
Loretta Bower
Christine Bowman
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Jane Brediger
Gwen Bull
Cheryl L. Carter
Edye Cary
Mallory Davis
Judy Dean
Pam Demmer
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Cindy Gardner
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Kristy Jedel
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Jill Johanning
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Nancy Welch
Sandy Whisler

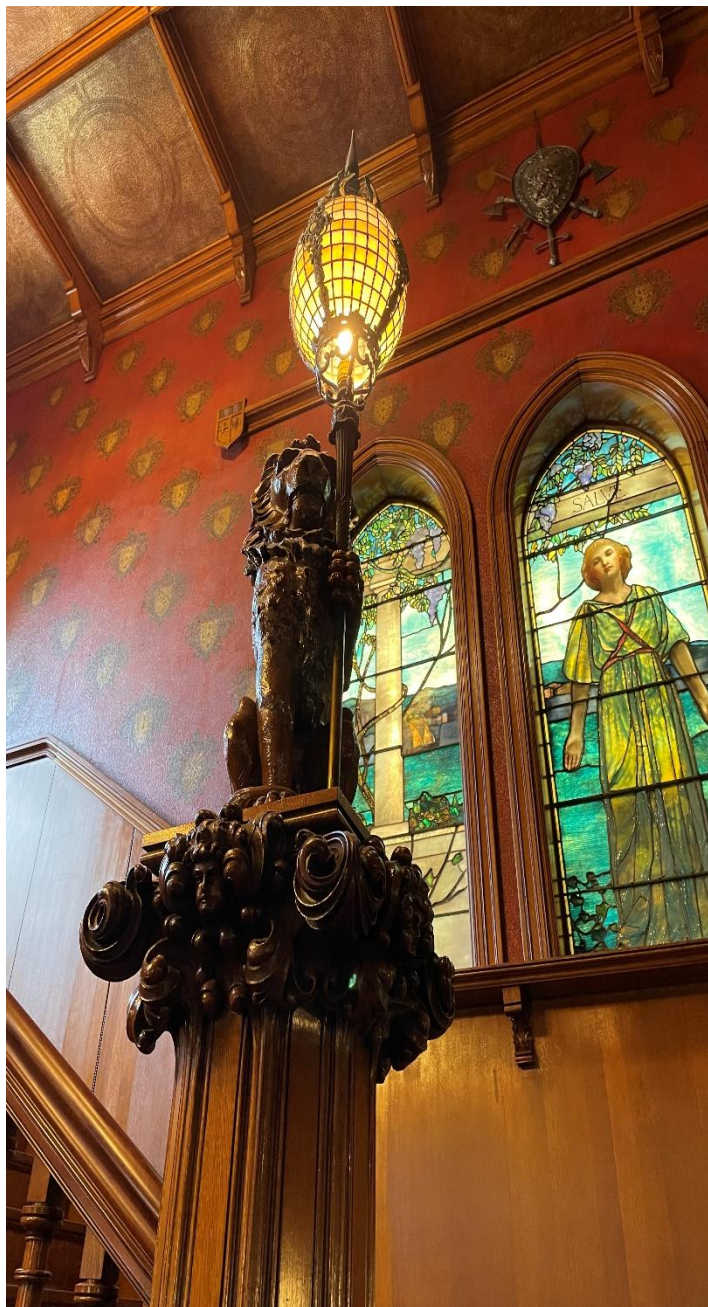
MEMBERSHIPS/ DONATIONS

When you donate to the Foundation, you are welcome and encouraged to specify how you would like your donation used. It can be applied to the general fund, the restoration and preservation fund, or the investment fund.

The Foundation has three financial accounts, two checking accounts and an investment account. One checking account is for general expenses, repairs, printing, postage, fees, etc. This account is funded with the membership income. The second checking account is used for restoration and preservation projects. This account is funded by donations, capital campaigns and grants. The third account is an investment account held by the Stark Community Foundation. Any memorials received are deposited in this account and the account's principle is not used. As the principle grows, it will help us to eventually become self-sustained. You can also donate a memorial directly to the Massillon Heritage Foundation investment account through the Stark Community Foundation. If you currently have a personal account with SCF, it is a simple funds transfer, or anyone can mail in a donation to SCF. SCF will notify us of the donation.

WEBSITE

Be sure to visit the Massillon Heritage Foundation website, five-oaks.org. It contains information on the McClymonds family and Schweinfurth, beautiful pictures of the interior and exterior of the building, news of upcoming events and access to the newsletters. It's an excellent resource and a good way to introduce people to our wonderful treasure. We would welcome any feedback or suggestions.



Massillon Heritage Foundation

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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