

The Vintage

Publication of the Madeira Historical Society
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Miller House Museum

Approaching a Half Century

It was 1972, when then Mayor Dan McDonald and other city officials decided that Madeira needed a Historical Society. At the same time our city was signing a lease agreement with the B&O Railroad, which would eventually lead to the city purchase of the Madeira B&O Depot. The Madeira Historical Society began as custodians of the Depot and following a long journey would eventually have ownership of an incredible Sears & Roebuck, Crescent model home built in 1922, at 7226 Miami Avenue less than 200 feet from the intersection of Miami and Euclid Avenue. The Madeira public library would be built on Miami Avenue next door to the Sears House. The Sears home in 1998, was donated to the Madeira Historical Society by Mrs. Elizabeth Miller, widow of Bruce Miller Senior and mother to two boys and two girls. The Miller family had resided in their Sears home from 1948 until soon after 1998. The Sears House would become known as the "Miller House Museum". Please join us as we begin the celebration of our 100 year old "Miller House" and 50 year old Madeira Historical Society. Our celebration begins on December 8th at our Christmas Dinner / membership meeting, and will continue throughout 2022, look for more of our plans in our newsletter. Your invitation to attend the annual Christmas Dinner and Business meeting is included with our newsletter.

Plenty of Curb Appeal

Our last important project this year was the replacement of our driveway. We had been advised that coating the driveway was no longer feasible and that our money would be wasted unless the driveway were to be replaced.

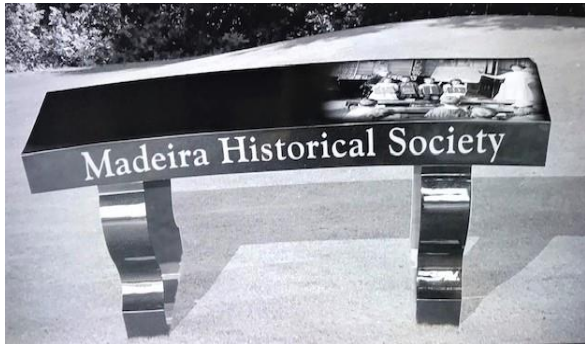


The entire front yard and driveway now look much different, and improved, just in time for the September driveway / yard sale bringing in \$400.00 in sales revenue.

Half Century, Plans

We will have several objectives as we begin a half century at our museum, beginning with providing a new coat of paint on the exterior of the Miller House. Bob Bartlett is still reviewing bids and has already been able to raise \$9,100. Bob estimates that he will still need to fundraise and will appreciate any donations of additional cash contributions. Bob is hopeful that he will be successful and can sign a painting proposal before next spring, making this project first on a contractor's spring project list. It is understood that the colors will continue to be white and brown. Our second project is just beginning to be reviewed, but has board approval. At a half century the society has, as would be expected, lost many of our members. As a tribute to our deceased members and the society, a memorial is planned, that would be located on our grounds. A tentative location would be in the area where we lost a half dozen trees due to last year's tornado. A local landscape professional has provided some initial ideas that would include two granite benches and two flowering trees. The benches can have art work etched with laser equipment and sand blasting, an example is included in your newsletter. This project is a tribute to all of our deceased members today and tomorrow, will tell our story and will last forever. We have received "seed money" in the amount of \$250 and can begin fund raising after receiving final board approval. Names of

deceased members will be posted and kept inside the Miller House Library. Our third project are the repairs needed in our greenhouse, including a new roof and a new door. A rough estimate is \$3,000. Today the roof has leaks and the door can no longer be closed properly.



There are other possible projects at our museum, but these are the most urgent and will be paid for with fund raising and donations. Members and friends of the society are able to choose and designate a specific project.

Board Members are still Needed

If you have ever thought about serving the society, now is the time. The nominating committee is looking for good candidates who care about the society. There are several positions available including President, Communications Secretary and one Board position. You can call our office and leave a message at 513-561 9069, if you are interested in serving on our board, or helping the society next year, but not as a board member. We can always use volunteers at the museum or in the yard and at special events.

Madeira Yearbooks

Our librarian, Carol Heck, has discovered that there were at least eight or more Madeira Mnemonic Yearbooks available at the High School that the society does not have in the its library. The society has purchased nine books as this newsletter goes to print. The collection is growing with these 2007 to 2016 issues, however there are still gaps. Continue to send in your unwanted yearbooks.



Madeira Library Display Case

Your society will be displaying historical items, like photos, a typewriter, and other interesting historic items in the Madeira Public Library display case throughout the entire month of October. The theme is Madeira Schools. Drop by and see for yourself. Also, see the new story, "Reading riting and rithmetic" in Madeira Neighbors magazine this month complete with pictures.

Brother & Sister

The society was able to "hire" Nathan Brunner through a University of Cincinnati intern program, to first, create a Guide to our Miller House Museum and secondly, another, more complete inventory, including donor and a brief history of items. Then there was sister, Rory Brunner who organized friends from Madeira High School as a "Youth Leader" directly responsible for motivating others. Rory and her High School friends cleaned out and weeded several of the flower beds close to the Miller House, including the Sunken Garden. Kathy and Mike Brunner are parents of Nathan and Rory. The society appreciates and thanks them for their dedicated time and efforts.

Street Dance 2021

Last year (2020) the Street Dance was cancelled due to the COVID epidemic. This year the event went on as planned and was a great success. The society was well represented and even managed to take in a few hundred dollars in raffle proceeds. It was really nice that the street dance was not cancelled this year.

The Officers and Board Members Thank you for Your Support, Hope to see you at Our Dinner, Wednesday, December 8th, 2021.