

# The Vintage

Publication of the Madeira Historical Society

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A review of our year, February thru May...

**In early January** your Officers and Board members were sworn in, Committees were appointed, and by February our first newsletter was mailed to Madeira Historical Society members. Our first program, "Diamond in the Rough", exploring the history of Madeira's oldest structure was well attended. The program was presented by Ken Cummings, owner of the historic school building located on Shawnee Run Road. There was a discussion with Mr. Cummings regarding the possibilities for preserving the school building but nothing substantial came from those discussions.



**Over the years**, hosting an Easter Egg Hunt at the Miller House had been discussed but this year there were compelling reasons persuading the society board members that an Easter Egg hunt would be a good idea. Plastic Eggs were purchased, the event was advertised on social media, and candy was bought and put in the hundreds of eggs. The society even had an Easter Bunny. The children and their parents attending the Easter Egg hunt had a great, fun time, and all of the hidden eggs were found. This cost of the event was covered by board members and friends of the society. Your board has already decided that the Easter Egg hunt will be an annual event. This year the event was held on Palm Sunday.



Our Easter Egg Hunt was a family event.

The children really did "HUNT" for their eggs.

**The Madeira Historical Society Officers and board members**, decided that our organization needed a second source of revenue, in addition to our investments. Past fundraising has included raffles that were always successful, but the board set their sights higher this year. A raffle with more prizes, better prizes, and a fundraiser that could begin at the Madeira Art Fair and end at the Madeira Street Dance was initiated. Members of the board solicited prizes from Madeira and from outside the community. We found a lot of support and publicized every business on our raffle tickets. Ultimately, seven prize baskets were created containing the donated prize items. A complete list can be viewed on our website. The society mailed out 6 – 12 raffle tickets to every member of the society that could be purchased or sold to others. It is hoped that our raffle will raise \$10,000 that will be used for budgeted, and in some cases, unbudgeted costs, all related to the continued maintenance and upkeep of the Miller House Museum and the society. Early sales results give us reason to be optimistic.



Gilson's Engraving and Elegant Gifts; one of our many donors



Carol Heck, Terri & Tom Frietch at the Art Fair

**Miller House Museum gets redo;** *in the past*, it has been a room filled with a mix of nicely displayed things, but this room was formerly the bedroom that Bruce and Elizabeth Miller used, and now it reflects that use. Museum Director, Liz Frederick, only wanted a bed, but when the request was put out on social media, Liz got an offer of an entire, and very appropriate, historic bedroom set. The bedroom set was a gift from Madeira residents Ted and Louise LeCompte.



**CHICKENS, CHICKENS, CHICKENS,** Baby chickens were on display at the Miller House at a recent open house. Our in-house chicken expert, Liz Frederick, instructed the many visitors on keeping and raising chickens. Liz brought baby chickens in a large tub, but because of the cold temperature the chicks had to be kept in the Miller House living room for her presentation. Afterwards, visitors got a Miller House Museum tour and a tour of our hens in the chicken coop outside. The program was another Madeira Historical Society success!



**Introducing, Mike Widmeyer, our new treasurer.** Mike grew up on Loannes Court in Madeira, and currently resides on Southside Avenue with his wife Jana and daughter Caroline. Mike grew up with three brothers and four sisters. Mike is experienced in accounting and is a retired CPA. Mike enjoys working outside and walks as often as time allows. He said that he accepted the position as treasurer because of his respect for the society and the opportunity to give back. Mike is shown removing mail at the Miller House.



**It's time for membership renewals.** You will find within this mailing, your renewal slip and return envelope if your membership is due. The due date is June 20<sup>th</sup>, which is the first day of summer. Your membership in the Madeira Historical Society is much appreciated.



**The story of two Grandsons, John Stutzman, grandson of Doug Oppenheimer was appointed as our grounds committee chairman and David Bartlett, grandson of Bob Bartlett, is helping John with mulching and grounds maintenance. David will be a freshman at Moeller High School this coming school year and John is beginning his last year, home schooled. John began mowing grass for the society last year.**

**In good hands, Liz Frederick, Carol Heck, and Lisa Violand are shown sitting on the stairs leading to the Miller House Museum second floor. These three ladies are critical members of the society, Liz is the Museum Director, Carol is our librarian / archivist and Lisa is a board member, gardener and assistant to Liz. Telling you what these three do won't do them justice, because they find time to help the society in almost every society activity and event.**



**National Holidays, Members of the society are encouraged to walk in the Memorial Day March on May 27<sup>th</sup>. Meet at St. Gertrude Church parking lot at 9 AM. The march ends at McDonald Commons Park.**

**July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration is on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, join the society as a participant either marching or possibly riding (details are still pending). Parade begins at the Madeira High School, be there by 6 PM.**



**MADEIRA INN at 7717 Laurel Ave. Features; Good Food / Spirits / Holiday and Seasonal Events. The Madeira Inn has been an on-going friend to the society, and owner, Mel, is very community-minded. The building was built in 1937 as our first stand-alone Post Office, and remained until 1961**



**Yard Sale 2024, Saturday May 18<sup>th</sup>** was the perfect day for a yard sale and Carol Heck was ready. Let me take you behind the scenes. You must have inventory, you must have everything pre priced before the day of the yard sale, and by the way our sale is included in the community wide yard sale. You also must have help lined up, helpers included Lee and Liz Frederick, Mike Widmeyer, Bob Barlett, Tom and Terri Frietch, and Doug Oppenheimer, and Lisa Violand. This project probably requires more labor hours than any other project because of the collection of items to be sold and the pre-pricing, and there are always many donated items that come in at the last minute requiring last minute pricing. On the sale day there must be cashiers and volunteers selling merchandise. Carol and her helpers worked very hard but were glad that the society benefited from their toil.



**Carol (Klenk) Heck makes major announcement ...** After several years of writing and publishing her stories about Madeira History in a local magazine, Carol has decided to republish all of her past stories and any new stories, on the Madeira Historical Society Website. [Madeirahs.org](http://Madeirahs.org), expected by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Letter From the President**, the photos that are posted throughout your newsletter tell it all. Our organization is all about people working for the **SOCIETY!** What more can I say!

