

The Vintage

Publication of the Madeira Historical Society
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Miller House Museum

They say “time goes by fast” and it seems that this year time just flew by. The year 2025 included garage sales, parades, fundraisers, museum visitors, yard work, library programs, newsletters, and of course the Madeira first grade students annual visit to the Miller House Museum. Seven first grade classes visited this year over four different days.

Our second annual membership appreciation picnic was another great success enjoyed by all of those in attendance. After two years we have learned that badminton was a little too strenuous for most members of the society, but card games seemed just right. This year the society enjoyed fantastic barbeque sandwiches with Coleslaw and corn bread, bought from Megans Barbeque. Megan started her business several months ago and is located on Laurel Avenue across from the Madeira Inn. The location used to be JK Chili. Pictured below are Megan and her crew.



The picnic is a good way for the officers and board members to meet the society members and for the members to meet the board.



Since 2004, the Madeira Historical Society has invited every Madeira first grade student to the Miller House Museum, teaching them about history and the past; “then and now”. We were told by the teachers that the



Miller House visit is the most favorite field trip for the first graders.

Our Greenhouse is in need of restoration work including replacement of the leaky roof. Elizabeth Miller filled the greenhouse with plants; many were plants that she would bring in from outside every fall and put back out in the spring. Also, Elizabeth would call me over one evening during the winter asking that I hurry to see a special flowering plant located in her greenhouse that only bloomed once a year. I believe it was The Queen of the Night a.k.a. the Night Blooming Cereus. She definitely had a green thumb.



CONTRIBUTIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED FOR THIS PROJECT.

End of year events

Saturday, November 15, 2025, Membership meeting at 12 PM – Program at 1 PM – **“Chester Amusement Park 1930’s”** presented by Ray Grothaus from Delhi Historical Society– Madeira Public Library

Christmas Dinner and Business Meeting – Wednesday, December 17th from 6 – 9 PM
Kenwood Country Club. See enclosed invitation and R.S.V.P. form. Please return your voted ballot or bring it to the dinner.

The last 4 **Miller Museum Open House** dates for 2025 are as follows;

Times are from 1:00 - 4:00 PM – Admission is free.

Saturday, November 1st

Sunday, November 16th

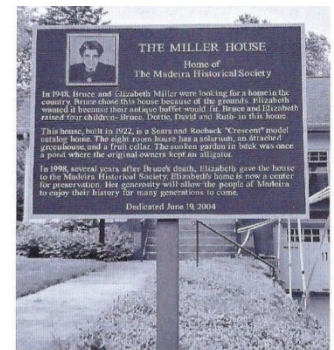
Saturday, December 6th

Sunday, December 21st

PLEASE NOTE: Beginning in 2026, the museum will **only** have an Open House on the first Saturday of the month from April through December, except on holidays. Other tours can be arranged by appointment for 2 or more visitors. Call 513-561-9069 or email madeirahistoricalsociety@gmail.com

Congratulations Carol!

Madeira Historical Society archivist makes **the cover** of Indian Hill Living Magazine, while promoting the Miller House Museum and its history. Photos and story by Mary Casey-Sturk, editor of Indian Hill Living.



This sign in front of the Miller House Museum shares its story.
Photo by Mary Casey-Sturk.

Elizabeth passed away on December 26, 2007 aged 100. Her legacy lives on within these walls.

The Chickens of the Madeira Historical Society

By: Joseph Maiocco

Lately one of my favorite things to do when I get home from work is go and feed the chickens, or The Ladies, as we call them. I know what you're thinking. We have this big back yard and a chicken coop right there, and chickens are just pecking around so excited for farmer Joe to come and give them some grubs. Nope, these chickens are a half mile down the street at the Madeira Historical Society. Urban Chicken Farming. You see, to quote the great Mick Jagger, "You can't always get what you want, but if you try sometimes, you get what you need."



I've wanted chickens for a couple of years now. Our backyard isn't terribly small, but the thought of getting chickens, a coop, and a run seemed like too much. I didn't know where to start. Then, one day last March the Madeira Historical Society made a Facebook post, seeking families wanting to help care for some chickens they recently got from another member. They had a coop on the property and would pay for electric and water. The chickens have been a long standing tradition at the Madeira Historical Society. First Grade students from Madeira Elementary enjoy seeing them when they visit the Historical Society on field trips.

So we answered the call, or post I should say. We and another family met at the Historical Society and came up with a plan. We would split the responsibilities. They would take Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, while we take Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Sundays we rotate.



Their names vary based on which family you ask, they are either the Golden Girls or the Pink Ladies from Grease. The summer was about to kick off and we slowly started to fall into a new rhythm. Mornings began with a short walk to the Historical Society grounds, the sounds of clucking greeting us as we opened the coop. Children collected eggs—usually two or three a day—and learned the basics of animal care. Once evening came, we would make the same trek down, put them up for the night and call it a day.

And that's how it went for the first month or so, but then came the mice. The coop, although very much in working order, was in need of a good cleaning. Mice had taken up residence and we needed to do something about that. Not to mention, the families had also started watching chicken content, so we were swapping ideas on how to not only address the mice, but improve their quality of life.

So on one Saturday morning, both families came together, rolled up their sleeves, and got to work.

We cleaned, scrubbed, rearranged, pressure washed, and laid new ground. We covered the pavers previously used, with sand. This helps keep their feet safe and encourages natural digging behavior. As an added bonus, it makes it much easier to clean up after them.



These three little birds have become an extension of both our families. I feel more connected to the community through these chickens. And the eggs, ohh the eggs are the most delicious.



Next on the list...automatic chicken door.