



O'Fallon Historical Society
O'Fallon, Illinois

NEWSLETTER

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O'Fallon Historical Society, Inc.
101 W State St, PO Box 344
O'Fallon IL 62269-0344

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501(c)3 tax exempt

Office phone: 618-624-8409
Hours: Wed, Fri, Sat 1-4 pm

Email: ohs@ofallonhistory.net
Website: www.ofallonhistory.net

Officers and Directors

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Newsletter Staff

Brian Keller	Editor
Dorothy Falk	Mailing

Member—Illinois Association of Museums

President's Message



Sunday April 2 is a day that many in the O'Fallon area will remember for some time to come. A tornado swept through Fairview Heights and northern O'Fallon causing extensive property damage and one death. Also, fierce wind gusts pushed through central O'Fallon, hitting the Rock Spring area especially hard. As a result there was considerable damage to Rock Spring Cemetery. Over a dozen trees were either badly damaged or outright destroyed. Particularly hard hit were the stately cedar trees. Amazingly, only a few tombstones were damaged and none were destroyed. The following Saturday, Bill Peach, Liz & Larry Fulford with son Tommy, Brian Keller and Ralph Keller spent the day with trucks, a backhoe and chainsaws cleaning up the debris and either cutting up the felled trees or moving them to the edges of the cemetery so the grass could be cut. There is still work to do this summer, but we were able return the cemetery grounds to a more presentable state. Many thanks to everyone who volunteered their time for this difficult but necessary job.

Brian Keller



Exhibits and Collections

As always, many interesting items were donated since the last Newsletter. Many thanks to the following donors: Gary Ahle, Bank of O'Fallon (Rick Thoman), Bill Carriel, Robert Elliott, Enterprise Grange, Dorothy Falk, Friends of the O'Fallon Library, Full Circle Auto Repair, Gary Graham, Ben Hamm, Wayne Heilig, Jim Hertzler, Mark Hesse, Brian Keller, Barbara Kimmle, Luettinger family, Arline Magee, Main Street O'Fallon, Nelda McCool, Linda McIntosh, Judy Meier, O'Fallon Township, Debbie Raboin, Les Schau, Mel & Anna Stoll, Nellie Wheatley, Estate of Doris B. White, Barbara Wood and Dan Zimmer.

A sampling of some of the items we received: O'Fallon Sesquicentennial lightpole banner with Bank of O'Fallon logo, square dining table from Ron Stein's Dog 'n Suds, OTHS yearbooks from 1920-30's, documents from Mayor Gary & Lucia Graham's nomination for the Illinois Art Education Assn. Distinguished Service to Art Education Award for 2005 (they won), First National Bank calendars from 1950's, paper cutter from old O'Fallon high school building and much more.

Special thanks to Barbara Wood. For the Sesquicentennial, she matted a selection of copies of old O'Fallon postcards we had made. She now went one step further and framed the entire display for us and donated a beautiful and ornate display stand to go with it. Thanks, Barbara!

Membership Report

As of May 31, 2006, we had 99 memberships. We are sad to report that former member Dean Heitman passed away March 24. Also, we previously neglected to mention the death of former member Katherine Reinhardt who passed away June 25, 2005.

Do you know of someone who would like to become a member? For only \$12 per year (\$15 for families) they can help support the preservation of the history of the O'Fallon area. That's only \$1.00 per month! Encourage them to join! Applications are available at the museum or can be mailed on request.

Programs—February—May 2006



Mardy Eisloeffel (left) & Dave Braswell discussing outhouses at the March meeting.

February—presentation on the different kinds of O'Fallon items that could be found on Ebay

March—a fun look at outhouses, their history and construction, by Dave Braswell & Mardy Eisloeffel

April—DVD slide show of Rock Spring Cemetery damage and cleanup plus photos of the Veterans' Monument construction

May—show and tell of different items that members collect



Main Street Landmark Awards

The landmark plaques described in the last newsletter were installed May 23, 2006 with the one for our museum building being located just to the left of the main entrance. It's a handsome and educational edition to our building. Many thanks to Main Street for spearheading and financing this worthwhile project!

Rock Spring Cemetery News

For 2006, we advertised for bids for mowing Rock Spring Cemetery. We received three written bids and one verbal one—Landscapes Unlimited (Mike McCollough II), B & E Enterprises (Eric Bugger), Seipp Lawn Care LLC (Matt Seipp) and Ed Niehls. The lowest bid was from Seipp Lawn Care. His bid was accepted on March 25. Many thanks to all who submitted bids—we appreciate the interest. If you happen to see Matt, please take the time to thank him for the fine job he and his employees are doing. Also, thanks to Ed Niehls for keeping the cemetery looking very nice these past couple of years. Special thanks to O’Fallon Township and the City of O’Fallon who provide annual financial support for cemetery maintenance.

Website

Note the change in website address on the front of this Newsletter— www.ofallonhistory.net. This address currently points to the same website as “.org” but we are working on expanding and updating what we have online. Using the “.net” address will help us do that. More details to come.

OTHS Yearbooks Needed

Can you help us fill in holes in our OTHS yearbook collection? We need the years 1960 and 1961. Also, 1959 is in poor shape and it would be good to acquire a better copy if possible.

O’Fallon Woman’s Club Donation

Many thanks to the O’Fallon Woman’s Club. On May 31 they made a donation of \$50 to the Society.

Memorial Corner

Did you know that on the morning of the first Saturday of each month, the O’Fallon Woman’s Club sponsors a flag raising by local scouts in honor of a local veteran who died while in service? Here is a list of veterans being honored for the coming months. **June**—Philip W. Fritz. **July**—Henry Love. **August**—Arthur S. Meyer. **September**—Alva Neely. **October**—Alfred Spargo. The above all served in World War I.



O’Fallon Veterans’ Monument

The Veterans’ Monument was dedicated on Memorial Day, May 29 in front of a fantastic crowd of nearly 3,000 and several St. Louis TV cameras. The names of 1,128 veterans are engraved on the individual granite tablets with space for many more. Names can still be added. The cost is \$100 per name. Applications can be picked up at the museum, O’Fallon City Hall or the VFW. For more information, applications to download and plenty of photos, check out their website at www.ofallonveteransmonument.org. Not online? You can call Betty Osborne at 632-3204.

Enterprise Grange

Congratulations to Enterprise Grange! On March 10, 1956, at a meeting at the old Enterprise School, they voted to organize and call themselves Enterprise Grange. A 50th Anniversary dinner was held March 11, 2006 at the O’Fallon Township Building in honor of the occasion. Several Society members belong to this fine organization and our long time members may recall that Enterprise Grange allowed us to use the Grange log cabin in Community Park for annual historical displays during Homecoming before we had a museum. They have always been supportive of our mission and we offer our congratulations on their golden anniversary!

Faith Lutheran Church Fashion Show

The museum provided a display of antique clothing and military uniforms for a dinner at the church on May 6. It was a great success!

O’Fallon resident and University of Illinois history & psychology major Ashley Mays is volunteering at the museum this summer. She is currently transcribing our GAR minute book. Thank you, Ashley!

Here a tidbits that we collected for the appendix of the O'Fallon Sesquicentennial History. However, we ran out of room and they were left on the 'cutting room floor.' But they are too good to leave them there so we will reprint a few in this and future newsletters. Many thanks to Julie Spengler for typesetting them.

1861 Civil War Military Pay Table

Artillery and Infantry
Colonel \$95.00 plus 6 rations per day @ 30c plus \$8.00 per month per horse, up to 3, plus \$49.00 for up to 2 servants, total \$222.00.
Major \$70.00 plus 4 rations per day @ 30c plus \$8.00 per month per horse, up to 3, plus \$49.00 for up to 2 servants, total \$179.00.
Captain \$60.00 plus 4 rations per day @ 30c plus \$24.50 for 1 servant, total \$120.50
2nd Lieutenant \$45.00 plus 4 rations per day @ 30c plus 1 servant, total \$105.50.
Sergeant-Major \$21.00
First Sergeant \$20.00
Sergeant \$17.00
Corporal \$13.00
Private \$13.00
Principle Musician \$21.00
Musician \$12.00
\$2.00 was withheld each month from the pay of each private soldier until the expiration of his enlistment.
12½c was withheld from all enlisted men for the support of the "Soldier's Home". Enlisted men were entitled to \$2 per month additional pay for re-enlisting plus \$1 per month for each subsequent period of 5 years service.

Would you be interested in receiving the newsletter and other Society news via email? If so, we'd like to hear from you. We are making the newsletter available as a pdf file and will be sending out periodic notices of Society events and news. If interested, please send an email to Brian Keller at bjk1855@usinternet.com

January 10, 1855

Market Price

Belleville Current Prices
Wheat at city mills
\$1.35 - \$1.40 bushel
Corn \$1 barrel, at distilleries \$.80

Bring your milk to the
O'Fallon Creamery Co.

Milk 80 cents

March 24, 1898

May 27, 1864

Clark's Distilled Restorative

For the Hair, Restores Gray and Faded Hair and Beard to its Natural Color, and is a most luxurious dressing. For the head and hair, Clark's Restorative: Restores the Color, Eradicates Dandruff, Promotes its Growth, Prevents its Falling Off, Is an unequalled Dressing, Is good for Children, Is food for Ladies, Is good for Old People, Is perfectly Harmless, Contains no Oil, Is not a Dye, Beautifies the Hair, Is splendid for Whiskers, Keeps the Hair in its Place, Cures Nervous Headache, Prevents Eruptions, Stops Itching and Burning, Keeps the Head Cool, Is Delightfully Perfumed, Contains no Sediment, Contains no Gum, Polishes your Hair, Prepares you for Parties, Prepares you for Balls, All Ladies need it, No Lady will do without it. Price \$1 bottle-6 bottles \$5
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