

=====

September 10, 2011 – Origin of Bicentennial Steering Committee

Persons who attended the September 10, 2011 Darrtown "Gathering" discussed the idea of hosting a Darrtown Bicentennial during the summer of 2014.

Introduction of Idea: Ron Wiley, who led the group discussion, emphasized that a Bicentennial would require the effort and financial support of many people; far more than the two dozen who were in attendance today. To foster conversation, Ron distributed a sheet that listed issues that other communities faced when hosting bicentennial celebrations. Those items included: fund-raising, banking (of donated funds), insurance, traffic control, parking and shuttles, food, restroom facilities, tent, stage, chairs, public-address system, parades, antique vehicles/clubs, bands, and the involvement of local churches, fire department, township trustees. The sheet also provided space where those in attendance could volunteer (or suggest names of others) to serve on a Bicentennial Steering Committee – if the group decided to pursue the idea of hosting a Bicentennial event.

Ron opened the floor for discussion, which led to the following:

Timing: Marna Evans asked about the length of the event; should it be one day, one week, or year-long? Those present favored a one-day or one-weekend event. Out of consideration for typical weather patterns, the group seemed to favor delaying a Bicentennial celebration from the actual bicentennial date (April 14) to sometime during the summer of 2014.

Funding: Sandy Jolivette emphasized that funding will determine the size and/or complexity of the event. She suggested that, by starting now (in 2011), the organizers could use the 2012 year for fund raising and the details of the actual bicentennial could be better addressed, after the budget is established. Sandy and Ron Wiley both expressed knowledge of possible grant-writing for funds.

Public Awareness: Kirk Mee asked the group to think about efforts/projects that would attract others to a Darrtown Bicentennial and Kirk suggested that people often attend food events, such as spaghetti dinners. Joe Pater suggested press releases to local newspapers and possibly involving the three local churches. Dale Bufler reinforced the point that Sandy Jolivette made earlier about raising funds first and designing the event after that.

Conclusion: By a show of hands, the group favored the idea of

organizing a Steering Committee to pursue the organization of a Darrtown Bicentennial. Ron Wiley agreed to (1) serve as the Chair of the Steering Committee and (2) organize a Steering Committee of seven – with consideration given to the names suggested by the group in attendance.

=====

October 12, 2011: The first meeting of the Steering Committee was conducted at the home of Ron and Kathy Wiley. Those present included: Chairman, Ron Wiley, Sandy Ward Jolivette, Joe Pater, and Fred Lindley.

The group discussed ideas for possible Bicentennial events; identified issues that warrant further investigation (such as fund raising, legal concerns, publicity, etc.); delegated some tasks to committee members (such as contacting the Milford Township Trustees regarding insurance and possibly borrowing chairs, tables, PA system, etc.); and developed plans to meet again within a few weeks.

Ron Wiley reported that he has already received one donation to the Bicentennial and subsequently consulted Tim Fritzsche for advice about opening a Bicentennial checking account. The members agreed that Ron Wiley and Tim Fritzsche should be co-signers of the checking account.

Ron also reported that he had consulted F. Harrison "Buzz" Green regarding legal advice for the Bicentennial Steering Committee.

=====

November 2, 2011: Present: Ron Wiley, Kelly Hansel, Sandy Ward Jolivette, Joe Pater, Dale Bufler, and Fred Lindley

Ron explained the absence of Kim Ogle; we extend our condolences to the Ogle/Alston/Tolley families.

Agenda Items:

FINANCIAL: Ron reported that Buzz Green has begun the process of creating a Bicentennial bank account that will require two signatures (Ron's and Tim Fritzsche) on any check drawn on the account. We are in the process of collecting pledged money.

We discussed how best to solicit financial pledges. Consideration will be given to contacting persons who we think might contribute money. Any amount will be appreciated.

Joe Pater reminded us of the need to involve the Township Trustees SOON. Sandy reported that the trustees meet on the first Tuesday of each month. One Steering Committee member (to be identified) will make the presentation. A letter (to be written) will be prepared and mailed

to the trustees in advance of the meeting, so they have an idea of what we are planning. Joe will contact the Trustees about getting on their agenda.

GRANTS: Ron has a contact with Butler Rural Electric and will proceed to investigate how we might secure a grant for funding. Joe will contact the Hamilton Foundation for the same purpose.

PUBLICITY: Fred shared two examples of flyers that we might distribute to Darrtown residents as a means of creating awareness of Darrtown history and the 2014 Bicentennial. Discussion led to the idea of having volunteers walk the streets and distribute the flyers. To generate curiosity/awareness, Ron has a contact with bi-planes who might do a "fly-over" on the day that flyers are distributed.

Fred reported a new format to the Darrtown.com website, which includes a page devoted to the Bicentennial. Fred agreed to send an email message to all persons listed on the Darrtown.com mailing list and ask them to review the Bicentennial page.

EVENTS: Sandy distributed materials from the Camden Black Walnut Festival and encouraged us to review the contents for possible ideas. We discussed various ideas regarding possible events, exhibitors, etc. Who might we invite to participate?

The conversation led us to this question: What is our purpose for hosting the Bicentennial? We realized that we need to be sure that we stay focused on the 200 year theme. The point was made that this is a one-time event/occasion. We are not interested in starting an annual event/festival/etc. We do not see the Bicentennial as a money-making project; therefore, we will consider limiting the size/scope of the Bicentennial. We will consider restricting the sale of items at the Bicentennial to only Darrtown-related products that convey the Bicentennial theme and are produced by Darrtown-related people.

Our planned review of the "possible events" list was delayed due to time constraints. We agreed to individually rank the listed items, before our next meeting. We plan to begin the selection process at our next meeting.

FUTURE MEETINGS: We agreed to the concept of rotating the location of our meetings – hence, meeting at the homes of different committee members. Several volunteered to host a meeting.

=====

November 16, 2011 Steering Committee meeting:

Present: Ron Wiley, Kelly Hansel, Sandy Ward Jolivette, Joe Pater, Dale Bufler, and Fred Lindley (Ron explained the absence of Kim).

Ron distributed a printed agenda.

Agenda Items:

I. Letter inviting payments / Use of leftover funds

Ron shared a draft of a letter to be sent to persons who pledged contributions during the September 10, 2011 Darrrtown "Gathering." Discussion ensued about when to send such a letter.

WE AGREED:

We will send two mailings of the "pledge" letter; we will send the letter that Ron presented as a draft, as soon as possible, to those individuals who pledged at the 9/10/11 "Gathering."

We will send a variation of the draft letter to others, after the holidays.

We also discussed what we would do with any leftover/unused funds.

WE AGREED:

We will respond to such questions with this statement: "All leftover funds will go to a non-profit organization within the community."

II. Meeting with Township Trustees

Joe reported that, per our discussion at previous meetings, he spoke with Paul Gillespie about our attending the December meeting of the Trustees. Dale recommended that we delay meeting with the trustees; which would give us time to develop an "organizational chart" and an anticipated budget. Discussion ensued.

WE AGREED:

Ron will develop an organizational chart and distribute via email, before we meet again.

We will all review the budget draft that Joe developed and provide feedback to him, so that Joe may provide an updated budget at our next meeting.

Joe will contact the Trustees and ask that our group be added to their agenda for their January 2012 meeting.

III. Budget (Joe) / Grant Application timing

Ron reported information about our filing for a grant from Butler

Rural Electric and he distributed a list of grants approved last September. Our request needs to be specific about the amount of money that we are request and about how such funds would be used.

WE AGREED:

Ron will prepare a grant request from Butler Rural Electric and he will meet with the appropriate person(s) to guarantee that our grant request meets the requirements and the deadline.

Joe will pursue the possibility of our applying for a grant with the Hamilton Community Foundation.

IV. Fred's list (and more)

Fred clarified that the events/activities list referred to as "Fred's list" is actually a compilation of ideas from the group. Ron distributed a list of additional events/activities for consideration.

V. Schedule of events (Joe)

Ron acknowledged Joe's work in preparing a schedule of possible events for the Bicentennial. Fred shared some ideas of additional events/activities and reinforced the idea that we discussed at our last meeting; i.e., only allow Darrtown-related vendors, products, and activities. Dale suggested that Fred combine the two lists and provide an updated list to Committee members.

WE AGREED:

Fred and Ron will work together to summarize the list of possible events/activities and provide one revised list at the Committee's next meeting.

OTHER ITEMS:

Kelly reported that she spoke with Carolyn Russell and Carolyn agreed to serve as a contact with the three Darrtown churches.

Dale will pursue the idea of having an artist (that Dale knows) develop art scenes to be use with Bicentennial products.

We discussed the idea of developing a list of persons/volunteers, who are willing and/or want to be involved in the Bicentennial preparations.

Dale presented the idea of recreating the service men and women monument that stood in the town square during WWII and shared a photograph of what the structure looked like.

We discussed the idea of developing a Bicentennial logo. Fred volunteered to design a draft of a logo. Joe suggested that a logo could be used as a letterhead for Committee stationery.

Fred reported that he recently spoke with Jean Beasley, daughter

of Owen Kelly – former Darrrtown constable – and that info about Constable Kelly has been added to the Darrrtown.com website.

Ron shared that he recently spoke with state representative, Tim Derickson and Tim said he would offer his services to the Bicentennial.

=====

December 14, 2011 Steering Committee meeting:

5:30 PM – at the residence of Joe and Janet Pater.

Present: Committee members, Ron Wiley, Kelly Hansel, Sandy Ward Jolivette, Joe Pater, Dale Bufler, Kim Ogle, and Fred Lindley. Roger Wiley attended as a guest and resource for possible 5K run.

Ron distributed a printed agenda.

Agenda Items:

1. Report on Reily "Founders' Day"

Joe Pater arranged for Pam Sprague to share her experiences as one of the organizers of the Reily, Ohio "Founders Day." Pam's report was informative and helped our committee in its efforts to organize the Darrrtown Bicentennial. Afterwards, the committee noted that (1) we had identified/anticipated most of the issues that the organizers of the Reily Founders Day had encountered and deem important to provide; and (2) Pam stressed the appreciation that most people express for the historical aspects of such an event. This reinforced the committee's position that the Bicentennial feature Darrrtown history, people, and product.

2. Milford Township Trustee's meeting

Joe confirmed that the Trustees have agreed to hear a Bicentennial presentation by Joe at the Trustees' meeting on January 3, 2012. All committee members are urged to attend. Joe will present a request for funds to help fund the Bicentennial.

3. Foundation/Grant Funds

Ron confirmed that he will prepare a written request to the Butler Rural Electric Cooperative Foundation, before the end of January 2012. He asked for the committee to submit ideas/projects to be included in the request. Possible items include: tents for exhibitors, Bicentennial banner(s) for Main Street in Darrrtown, United States flags to be posted in the community, a veterans' memorial sign (to supplement the WW II monument that stands in the town square), and landscaping projects within the village.

4. Budget

Ron reiterated that a Darrrtown Bicentennial fund/checking account had been established at the Oxford ____ bank. There are two signatures required on all checks (Ron Wiley and Tim Fritsche). We have received donations in the amount of \$____. Again, the committee confirmed that should funds exist, after the conclusion of the Bicentennial event and related projects are concluded, they will be donated to one or more non-profit organizations within Milford Township.

5. Other

> 5K run/walk: Roger Wiley, an experienced marathon runner, suggested that: (1) the run/walk should be 5K, rather than 10K; (2) that the route should be circuitous, rather than an "out and back" route; and (3) that we consider hiring a professional service to organize the run. Kim Ogle, who also is an experienced runner, agreed that a professional service would be beneficial and draw a larger field of runners. Kim agreed to research and recommend such a service. Both Roger and Kim said the 5K run is financially self-sustaining and is likely to produce a profit.

> Organizational Chart and Events Matrix: Fred reviewed the most recent versions of both documents. The committee agreed to table discussion on narrowing the list of possibilities.

> Landscaping: Ron reported a conversation that he had with an area landscaper about improving the appearance of the four corners of public land in the middle of Darrrtown (the intersection of Main Street and Oxford Street). An idea surfaced about possibly planting trees along Main Street to replace those that the state highway department removed several years ago.

> Communications: Fred reported that he visited with Don Beckett earlier in the day to be sure that Don was informed about the Darrrtown Bicentennial. Don expressed a desire to be part of the celebration. A historical note: Don is in his 52nd year as a Darrrtown businessman, as he began his operation of Don's Carry-Out in 1959.

> Communications: Dale reminded the committee that (other than the info provided on the Darrrtown.com website) we had not provided any feedback to those persons who attended the September 10, 2011 Darrrtown "Gathering," where the idea of organizing a Bicentennial was initially discussed. The committee agreed with Dale's observation and considered the idea of hosting another "gathering" in January. Ultimately, after considering the likelihood of low attendance (due to the weather and people's winter vacation plans), it was decided to schedule the next Darrrtown "Gathering" for mid-to-late April, 2012.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8 PM.

=====

January 14, 2012 Steering Committee meeting:

5:30 PM – at the residence of Joe and Janet Pater.

Present: Committee members, Ron Wiley, Sandy Ward Jolivette, Joe Pater, Dale Bufler, and Fred Lindley. Guests included: Debbie Gross of the Oxford Press and Paul Gillespie as a representative of the Milford Township Trustees.

Ron distributed the following (printed) agenda.

1. Debbie Gross of the Oxford Press

Debbie Gross presented ideas for acquiring sponsors to help cover the expense of advertising. Several options are available; including:

An insert into the regularly distributed copies of the Oxford Press that are distributed to subscribers – in selected zip code areas.

Direct mailings to addresses in selected zip code areas.

Debbie and the Steering Committee members engaged in a lengthy discussion of possibilities. It was decided that Debbie will prepare a proposal and attend a future Steering Committee meeting.

The length of time that was devoted to the first agenda topic (above) limited the amount of time available for the rest of the agenda.

2. Email message to be used when soliciting funds: Fred distributed a copy of a draft and committee members are to submit ideas/modifications to Fred before Wednesday, January 21. Fred will distribute the revised letter on January 21.

3. Letter to Township residents: Plan logistics: To be continued at the next meeting.

4. BREC grant proposal: Ron is preparing a proposal.

5. Date for Bicentennial celebration; avoid conflicts (two volunteers): No action taken; to be continued at the next meeting.

6. Five K Run – Volunteer: Ron will ask Kim to research and recommend a professional organizer.

7. Banners – discuss option: No action taken; to be continued at next meeting.

8. Landscaping (Overall plan, involve all area landscapers, plantings, Memorial monument or plaque, veterans board or plaque: No action taken; to be continued at next meeting.

=====

February 15, 2012 Steering Committee meeting:

5:30 PM – at the residence of Joe and Janet Pater.

Present: Committee members, Sandy Ward Jolivette, Kelly Hansel, Kim Ogle, Joe Pater, Dale Bufler, and Fred Lindley. Guests included: Debbie Gross of the Oxford Press and Russell McMillian as a representative of the Milford Township Trustees.

Fred distributed the following (printed) agenda.

1. Receive report from Debbie Gross regarding ways that the Oxford Press may help us identify financial sponsors and publicize the Bicentennial.

Debbie Gross provided print information, with options for direct mail (prices range from several hundred dollars to 12K – depending on production type and distribution/target audience (zip codes). The committee thanked Debbie for her work/information and noted the obvious; our direct mail advertising choices depend on the funds that we can raise.

2. Discuss (and perhaps decide) how and when to begin a fund-raising campaign. This is likely to be influenced by what we learn from #1 above.

Agreed; take dual approach (A and B, below) to fund-raising efforts;

(A) “Soft sell” – begin now, via website, email, “human interest” news stories in Oxford Press (Fred to develop w/Debbie), plus personal contact (committee members to mutually develop a list of persons to be contacted personally; committee members are to submit names of possible contacts; mutually build database of “personal contacts.”

(B) “Hard sell” – begin at some future date, closer to the Bicentennial, via direct mail campaign (Joe, Sandy, and Dale to develop a plan that is based on #1 above).

3. Review/discuss results of the "events rankings" sheets. If/when we agree on the events that we think will be best received by those who attend the Bicentennial, we can then assign tasks to specific individuals, so that those persons can investigate (and re-report back to the Steering Committee) on the actual costs and viability of the

events we have identified.

Given results of committee's ranking, we began assigning Steering Committee members to the Events that were ranked highest; to be concluded at March 3 work session.

4. Discuss/decide a date for the April (2012) "Gathering." This is when we will report our best ideas/plans for the Bicentennial to those who attended the 9/10/11 Gathering. This can be our "focus" group; those who attend can tell us, if they think that we are on target with our thinking and planning.

Agreed: Fred will contact Sean Hurley; schedule next "Gathering" at the Hitching Post for 10 AM, Sat., April 21 (NOTE: the Steering Committee will NOT meet in March; but, will meet at 5:30 PM, Wed., April 11, at Pater residence (each person to bring food or drink).

5. Discuss (and perhaps decide) a date for the 2014 Bicentennial.

No Bicentennial date selected; agreed to NOT schedule in conjunction with July 4th of 2014; probably schedule in June or July; Russ McMillan noted that, if we can permission to use the field along the east side of East Street for parking, we need to schedule the Bicentennial on a date that follows the first cutting/baling of hay.

6. Discuss dates and times for future Steering Committee meetings.

Agreed to continue meeting at 5:30 PM.

7. Other?

Kim & Kelly had to leave at 7:30; afterwards the four remaining committee members agreed that Sandy would create an 8.5 x 11 inch "flyer" to be commercially printed within the next ten days, so that some flyers could be distributed at the Feb. 25 Lutheran Church Spaghetti Dinner.

Also, Russ McMillian reported that the Bicentennial would be covered by the Township insurance.

=====

April 11, 2012, Steering Committee meeting:

5:30 PM – at the residence of Joe and Janet Pater.

In attendance: Joe Pater, Sandy Ward Jolivette, Dale Bufler, Ron Wiley, and Paul Gillespie

Ron reported:

We received a grant for \$500 from Butler Rural Electric Cooperative to purchase American flags for the Bicentennial Celebration and other events

Received a bill from Joe Pater for printing flyers by Bethart Printing Solutions for
\$314.89

The current balance in our Bicentennial Fund is \$3,500

Kenny and Carolyn Russell are organizing the Memorial Day event at the Darrrtown cemetery this year. Kenny indicated they have flags and probably do not need to borrow any of our flags.

CELEBRATION DATE: In was unanimously agreed that the Date(s) for the celebration will be July 5th, and possibly 6th, 2014. It has not yet been determined whether it will be a one- or a two-day celebration. This will depend on the number and type of events planned. It was thought that this would be a natural tie-in with the 4th of July celebrations, which will be on a Friday in 2014.

April 11, 2012 GATHERING AT THE HITCHING POST: One objective of the gathering is to determine the interest of individuals in helping plan and execute events for the Celebration. It was suggested that Ron briefly review the seven categories that events will be grouped under with committee members as Coordinators.

Individuals will be asked to indicate their interest in helping.

A form will be developed by Sandy to record those individual's interest during the presentation and will be available for individuals to add their names after the meeting, based on questions and answers and discussions with attendees.

CONTACTS: Lists of people contacted by committee members to determine interest in helping, and lists of people to be located and contacted were reviewed. These lists will be forwarded to Fred Lindley for addition to a master list.

DUKE ENERGY DONATION POTENTIAL: Paul Gillespie reported that Duke Energy contributes to efforts such as ours. They will, however, only donate to a tax exempt entity. The Township Trustees organization is tax exempt. Paul will explore the possibility of Duke using the Trustee's tax exempt ID number to make a contribution to the Bicentennial Fund.

BUTLER RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE POTENTIAL DONATION: In addition to the grant made to our fund, Ron was told that BREC might also consider a donation. Ron will pursue this.

AUCTION ITEMS: Methods of raising money with items to be sold were

discussed; an auction, a silent auction, a raffle.

A general suggestion was made that we might try to gather items of interest related to the Bicentennial, such as antique/historical items, from members of the community.

Ron reported that Kirk Mee III has offered to obtain autographs of notable sports figures on footballs, basketballs, baseballs, jerseys, etc. He will be contacting sports figures at the golf fundraisers that he is involved in.

Ron will contribute a wooden bench to be auctioned.

Ron reported that Ken Menke has mirrors that his brother made with laser engravings of Darrtown buildings. These could be sold/auctioned.

BOOK: Dale reported that the daughter (Connie) of Guy & Gloria Metcalf suggested that the webpages could serve as the basis of a book to be compiled and sold at the celebration and on the internet.

EVENTS WITH HISTORICAL TIES: Paul reported that his son reviewed the suggested events list and suggested that we need to include events that reflect the times of early Darrtown, such as men growing beards, pie eating contest, period clothing, etc.

ENTERTAINER: Dale reported that he saw an entertainer that performs "magic" acts, and is a strolling banjo player. He could be hired to entertain during the celebration.

TIMELINE: Ron suggested that committee members begin their planning suggestions by developing a timeline, thinking "backwards" from things that need to be done the day of the celebration, the days and weeks before, and working back toward the current time. He suggested planning "in pencil" because it was stated that things will change in time, others will be added or deleted, so the plan will be fluid over time.

BEAUTIFICATION: Ron reviewed with the committee a PRELIMINARY sketch of beautification of the northwest (next to Hitching Post) and southwest (location of Smokey Alston memorial) quadrants of Township property. This was prepared at no cost by John DeVore and includes trees, shrubs, walking path, story boards, picnic and recreation areas, and defined parking for Hitching Post customers. Ron will present this plan to the Township Trustees at their May 1st meeting. The Trustees will meet with contiguous property owners to explain the plan. If the Trustees approve, Ron will contact the other area landscape businesses to determine their interest in participating in the development.

It was suggested that community members be recruited to assist in the long-term maintenance of the landscaping. Ron will contact members of the Oxford organizations (e.g. Garden Club) for suggestions and assistance.

CANNON: Paul reported that a Howitzer cannon might be available at no cost, just getting it to Darrrtown, from a fort in Alabama. Hanover Township obtained two of these for their recreation park at the site of the original Hanover school. There was discussion of its possible placement with regard to the landscaping plan and the addition to the firehouse.

=====

May 9, 2012, Steering Committee meeting:

5:30 PM – at the residence of Ron and Kathy Wiley.

In attendance: Joe Pater, Sandy Ward Jolivette, Dale Bufler, Ron Wiley, Paul Gillespie, Russell McMillian, and Fred Lindley

Ron reported that he and Joe Pater met with the township trustees regarding the landscaping plan for the village square. Generally, the trustees approved the concept; two features were deleted from the plans (horseshoe pit and fire pit) and benches will replace the proposed picnic tables. The trustees will consult with contiguous home owners regarding the renovations. Russ McMillian reported that the dead/dying trees will be removed after the upcoming Memorial Day weekend.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:

BEAUTIFICATION (Ron): Working on plans to encourage residents to join a "clean-up" project. Expects that companies will assist with plans to landscape and paint.

COMMUNICATIONS (Fred): Developed (and distributed to committee members for their review) a "flyer" to be delivered to Darrrtown residents in early June. Carolyn Russell has agreed to organize a group of volunteers to distribute the flyers. Fred has begun design of contest, rules, scoring rubric, and writing prompt for the essay contest (Sandy provided the name and phone number of the Talawanda School District PR person; Fred and Dale will contact that individual ASAP). Also, Fred wrote request letter to Tim Derickson regarding request that Darrrtown signs at the north and south entrances to the village be replaced before the Bicentennial. Fred distributed an organizational chart, with basic understandings of how the Bicentennial Steering Committee functions, which Coordinators should provide to their volunteers.
CHART APPROVED AND ACCEPTED AS IS.

EVENTS (Sandy and Joe): The Knolls of Oxford is our first sponsor (\$150). Sandy needs contact info for Bob Young (re baseball signs at north and south entrances of Darrrtown). Recommended that sponsors' advertising space on website and future newspaper articles be allotted in relation to the amount of money given. **DISCUSSION ENSUED: COMMITTEE**

AGREED that donors and sponsors will be acknowledged differently. Donors' names will be listed alphabetically; sponsors will be grouped according to the size/amount of the money contributed. We will provide hyperlinks from the sponsor's space on Darrrtown.com to the sponsor's website.

FACILITIES/SERVICES AND SAFETY/SECURITY (Joe):

Hanging banners: Have Paul Gillespie contact Duke Energy

Parade: How many units, route and staging? Corby will handle the parade. Considering possibilities, but might line up on Scott or Shollenbarger Rd.

Water Ball contest: fees and location. Corby will ask Jennifer Taylor to run the event.

PA system; has big speakers and is loud. Corby said, not a problem.

Electric service; Corby and Joe will meet with Rick Gann, electrician that lives in Darrrtown.

Police: Two nights, bikes, Mounted Patrol. Corby, can be work out with the Sheriff's Dept.

Traffic cones thru town. Joe & Corby both felt Tim Dickerson should be asked to work with the County Engineer.

Cops at Main St. for traffic. Corby said no - people are on their own as there is less liability.

Air Care. Good idea and Corby will handle.

Flood lights. Corby will meet with Rick Gann

Ball Field has lights? Corby will use it for the Fire ball contest.

Hanover ladder truck: Corby suggested using Hanover and Oxford ladder trucks to hold a large flag up behind the stage during opening celebration.

Smokey Alston; memorabilia collection at the Lutheran Church. Corby thought this would be dry, clean and very safe.

Drinking: Corby suggested rope off an area on Sean's property.

Have a key person from Collinsville and Somerville. Corby & I both agree that Allen Dunkelberger and Jennifer Taylor would be good well-known folks for this job.

FINANCIAL (Ron): Total donation = \$3700 less bills paid = Balance of

\$3190.55

OTHER:

I. Fred reported that:

- (1) Pam (Smith) O'Leary started a Darrtown – Facebook page.
- (2) Sally (Rinal) Johnson contributed a \$300 Ancestry.com account for Darrtown families; more info to come about how families may contribute family history for this genealogy project.

II. Ron asked for ideas about the best place to order a small amount of stationery for Bicentennial communications. (Several possibilities were suggested; Ron will investigate the best deal.)

Fred suggested that the Bicentennial Steering Committee members think about the following:

- (1) The likelihood that historical artifacts will surface between now and the Bicentennial;
- (2) The fact that some families and individuals are looking for ways to discard and preserve such artifacts;
- (3) The report that the Reily community acquired a grant that helped create a Reily museum;
- (4) The desirability and feasibility of encouraging some individual or group in the Darrtown community to assume the project of forming a Darrtown Historical Society that might seek grant money to be used in acquiring a property to be used as a Darrtown museum.

III. As the meeting wound down, Dale Bufler asked, "What's next?" Dale proposed that we need to plan a series of events that will keep the Bicentennial in the news. This fostered discussion of possible fund-raisers, such as:

- (1) A Bicentennial Night at the Hitching Post, with entertainment, food, and drinks with a limited number of admission tickets. Proceeds would be split between owner, Sean Hurley, and the Bicentennial Fund.
- (2) A Bicentennial Night at the Hitching Post, with a Christmas Party theme – similar to the kind that Earl Huber hosted in the 50's – again with a limited number of admission tickets.
- (3) A Darrtown Night at a Reds–Dodgers baseball game; again, proceeds would benefit the Bicentennial Fund.
- (4) Community Dances might be held, akin to how funds were raised for Edot Field; Don Beckett worked with the Edot project and may be a resource.
- (5) Large sign in village square as Bicentennial landscaping proceeds – to promote Darrtown Bicentennial project (Ron to make arrangements).
- (6) News stories in Oxford Press touting things such as: Memorial Day and local veterans from WWII; student essay contest at Bogan Elementary School; and story about Kirk Mee's efforts to collect signed memorabilia for Bicentennial auction (Note: "Arky" Vaughn volunteered as auctioneer).

(7) Sale of brick pavers with names engraved to commemorate individuals, which would be placed in village square, as landscaping project proceeds.

IV. There was some conversation about the possibility of installing lights of some sort in the village square (southwest quadrant) where the Alston monument stands. Someone mentioned that the village of Seven Mile has added lights in a village park near the center of town.

NEXT MEETING: No date set; committee coordinators agreed to inform Ron if and when they perceive a need to have the entire committee reconvene. Otherwise, communication will be by phone and email.

=====

May 21, 2012, Steering Committee meeting:

11:30 AM – at Walt's BBQ in Hamilton.

In attendance: Joe Pater, Sandy Ward Jolivette, Dale Bufler, Ron Wiley, and Fred Lindley

Discussion items:

STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST: Fred reported on the meeting that he and Dale had at 10 AM this morning, with Teresa Woodin (principal of Bogan Elementary School), regarding the student essay contest. It appears that the contest will be approved. Fred also distributed copies of the proposal that he and Dale presented to Mrs. Woodin.

DARRTOWN "HALL OF FAME": Fred suggested the committee think about creating a Darrtown "Hall of Fame." The group briefly discussed the concept and considered it as possible fund-raiser for the Bicentennial.

STREET SIGNS: The committee discussed the need for signs to be posted in Darrtown to announce the Bicentennial to traffic. Target date for sign construction: early spring, 2013.

PUBLICITY: Articles in the Oxford Press might feature a "Corn Hole Tournament." Also, there should be a story and pictures related to the removal of the trees in the town square – with the wood begin retrieved by Ron for commemorative walking sticks.

5K RUN: Ron distributed info from Kim Ogle regarding the Prescott Race company that would organize the run. Committee members asked Ron to ask Kim for more details regarding the cost.

NEXT MEETING: To be determined via email as need arises.

=====

July 10, 2012, Steering Committee meeting:

11:30 AM - at Lindley residence.

In attendance: Joe Pater, Sandy Ward Jolivette, Dale Bufler, Ron Wiley, and Fred Lindley

Ron reported that, due to other time commitments (work and school), both Kelly Hansel and Kim Ogle relinquished their positions with the Steering Committee. The committee developed a list of possible replacements.

Discussion about various tasks to be completed, led to the following list of "jobs to be done."

SANDY:

Contact "possible replacement #1" re Bicentennial Steering Committee membership.

Pursue sponsorships forms and/or actual sponsors.

Acquire more info/details regarding the sale of commemorative pavers in town square (this is the "\$200 for 200 Years" idea).

JOE:

Contact "possible replacement #2" re Bicentennial Steering Committee membership.

Check with Bethart Printing re stationery and/or letterhead (inform Ron of status).

Provide contact info to Fred for: BREC and Butler County Water Association.

JOE AND SANDY:

Confer with 5k Run coordinators regarding details, cost, etc. Seek commitment from coordinator; inform Steering Committee; get consensus from Steering Committee; sign contract for Virgil Alston 5K Run at Darrrtown, Ohio to begin early (7 or 8 AM) on Saturday, July 5, 2014). Develop list of probable events by day and time.

Develop map / program to be distributed at/during the Bicentennial.

JOE AND FRED:

Develop timeline for Bicentennial tasks.

DALE:

Check with his contact regarding popcorn balls for Christmas party at

Hitching Post (see details in "Ideas" section below).

RON:

Continue working with landscapers regarding town square project. Develop budget for Bicentennial; based on needs projected by Bicentennial Coordinators.

FRED:

Proceed to work with school principals to prepare for essay contest (two divisions – grades 4–5 and grades 6–8) with top three winners in both divisions to receive \$100, \$60, and \$40. Identify cost of essay-related materials and inform Sandy so that she may seek sponsor(s) of essay contest. Develop list of possible stories to be publicized in local newspapers; including: (a) Removal of trees in town square – with wood saved for commemorative walking sticks; approximately August 6, 7, or 8; (b) Essay contest; (c) 5K Run; (d) contact BREC and Butler County Water Association regarding possible stories in their publications

NOT ASSIGNED:

1. Sign in town square regarding landscaping project (laminated)
2. Bicentennial signs at north and south entrances to Darrrtown (by spring 2013)

IDEAS:

Christmas at Hitching Post (50 invited people at \$50 each; Sean provides catered food, with beverages, use theme of old Red Huber Christmas parties; activities include (a) "participatory" reading of "The Night Before Christmas," (b) "white elephant" gift exchange, (c) gift bags with oranges, apples, and popcorn balls.

NEXT MEETING: To be determined via email, as needed.

=====

August 13, 2012, Steering Committee meeting:

10:00 AM – at Pater residence.

In attendance: Joe Pater, Sandy Ward Jolivette, Betty Daniels, Paul Gillespie, Dale Bufler, Ron Wiley, and Fred Lindley

1. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP: Committee members acted to fill the two vacancies that recently opened. Betty Daniels and Paul Gillespie were acknowledged as the two newest members of the Bicentennial Steering Committee.

2. POST OFFICE "STAMPING" OPPORTUNITY: Ron reported that Mr. Thomas Stander, a Butler County historian, contacted Ron about the opportunity to engage the United States Postal Service in our Bicentennial efforts. The post office will set up a one-day stamping office that would enable us to have "Darrtown, Ohio" stamped on mailing items (such as commemorative post cards). The committee asked Ron to pursue this idea, including the determination of the cost of printing post cards with Darrtown images on them – for sale at the Bicentennial.

3. TOWN SQUARE LANDSCAPING: Ron reported on his efforts to contact and involve area landscapers in the project and anticipates that work will begin within the near future – following the removal of five dead or dying maple trees on August 5th.

4. PITCH TOURNAMENT: Fred shared some thoughts about the pitch tournament – in the interest of gaining favorable publicity for the Bicentennial. He suggested that we pursue the idea of setting a world's record for the most players in a pitch tournament (by asking the Guinness Book of Records to recognize the tournament as a record-setter) and also ask the United States Playing Card Company (located in Erlanger, KY) if it would serve as the official sponsor of the pitch tournament. The committee asked Fred to investigate this idea and report back ASAP.

5. SPONSORSHIP OF THE BICENTENNIAL: Sandy will begin efforts to gain sponsors; she anticipates that she will begin in October. All committee members are to report possible sponsors to Sandy, so that she may contact such individuals and/or companies as the representative of the Bicentennial committee.

6. BUDGET: Ron reminded the committee that he needs budget requests ASAP. It was recognized that our work with the Project Monitoring Sheets (later in this session) to identify Project Managers should lead to more specific budget requests.

7. ARTIFACTS: Joe shared two 1950's era menus from the Hitching Post that he recently received as a gift. Sandy then shared two other Hitching Post items (a "bullet" pencil and a small, gold pocket knife). The committee acknowledged that we are acquiring historical items that deserve to be saved and displayed in some manner. This led to some discussion about creating a Darrtown Historical Society and/or Darrtown museum (the village of Riley, Ohio had created museum through grant money). We agree that we cannot take on an addition project at this time; however, we might share the idea of starting a historical society/museum at future Darrtown gatherings and events.

8. BUSINESS CARDS: There was some discussion of printing Bicentennial business card, which Steering Committee members could use when

pursuing sponsorships. Ron will investigate further.

9. T-SHIRTS AND CAPS: Fred displayed a T-shirt and a cap that he had printed (at no expense to the committee) to show the committee one idea of a logo for the Bicentennial. Members who have contacts with apparel companies are to forward price quotes to Ron, so that we may compare prices.

10. FUND-RAISER: After considerable discussion regarding the merits of hosting a single event that would be both a fund-raiser and a nostalgic tribute to the Hitching Post Christmas Parties of the 1950's, the committee agreed to split that effort and host two separate events:

(A) The Steering Committee plans to host a Darrrtown "Gathering" at the Hitching Post, on Saturday, December 8, 2012, beginning at 11 AM, that will feature a "Red Huber - Hitching Post" Christmas Party theme. Fred Lindley, with the help of other committee members, will organize this event.

(B) The Steering Committee plans to host a fund-raiser at the Milford Township Community Center, on Saturday, March 23, 2013 (time to be determined). This event will feature a catered dinner (cost to be determined) along with entertainment, several raffles, and door prizes. Paul Gillespie, with the help of other committee members, will organize this event.

11. PROJECT MONITORING SHEETS: The committee reviewed a spreadsheet that displayed a list of Bicentennial projects, along with persons who are responsible for managing those projects. The group will use this spreadsheet to monitor the progress toward accomplishing the various projects.

12. NEXT MEETING: We will next meet at 10 AM, Wednesday, September 5.

=====

September 5, 2012, Steering Committee meeting:

10:00 AM - at Wiley residence.

In attendance: Paul Gillespie, Sandy Jolivette, Dale Bufler, Betty Daniels, Ron Wiley, and Fred Lindley

1. REVIEW OF PROJECT MONITORING SHEETS:

The following reports were received:

1.1. AUCTION AND/OR RAFFLE: The committee decided that we would likely provide both types of fundraisers. The sports memorabilia that is

listed on the Darrrtown website "Auction" page will likely be auctioned (live or silent) and other items that are secured by Sandy through her search for sponsors would likely be raffled.

1.2. STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST: Fred reported that three schools (Bogan, Marshall, and the Talawanda middle school) have committed to participate. Teacher feedback raised two questions: (a) should the students only work on the essay contest at school to increase the chances that the end products are the work solely of the students and (b) should the teachers judge the essays and only pass on to the official judges those essays that have a chance of winning. Fred is working with the schools to resolve these questions.

1.3. 5-K RUN/WALK: Ron reported that he has learned that many such races are traditionally run throughout southwest Ohio, during the days surrounding Independence Day; thus, participation in our proposed event is likely to be meager. He shared cost figures from persons/organizations that organize such runs. A question arose regarding the type of services that "professional organizers" provide. Discussion ensued; eventually, it was proposed that we scale back our plans and organize a "fun run/walk" type of event that we could organize on our own and thus avoid considerable expense. The "fun run/walk" would not involve competition. The idea would be to provide a social experience for those who choose to participate. After more discussion, we decided to delay a decision, until our seventh member (Joe Pater) is able to participate in the discussion.

1.4. DARRTOWN NIGHT AT GREAT AMERICAN BALL PARK: Dale reported on the Hamilton Night at the Great American Ball Park, which cost \$28. A 50-passenger bus for the Hamilton Night cost \$600. Dale recommended that we consider increasing the cost to \$35-40 - to acquire better seat location at GABP. Nothing further can be decided until 2013, when the Cincinnati Reds announce their 2013 schedule. It was suggested that, if we decide to pursue this, our first round of invitations should go to those people who have attended past Darrrtown Gatherings on a regular basis. It was also suggested that, if we need more participants, we might connect with Connie Inman and the group that he occasionally organizes to attend a game at GABP.

1.5. ANTIQUE TRACTOR DISPLAY: Paul reported that he has appointed his son, Nathan, to serve as the manager of this project.

1.6. WALTER ALSTON MEMORABILIA: Ron reported that, following up on previous meetings that he has had with Harry and Kim Ogle, he will seek another session with them regarding the kind of items to be displayed and the level of security that we would need to provide.

1.7. FUND RAISER AT THE TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY CENTER: Paul reported that he thinks we need to provide a more basic menu and scale back the price of a ticket to the \$8-10 range. He is investigating

possibilities and will report developments at a future meeting.

1.8. POST OFFICE COMMEMORATIVE STAMP DAY: Betty and Ron reported that they are pursuing a meeting with Thomas Stander, who is a local resource for such events.

1.9. VETERANS SERVICE RECOGNITION: Dale shared some thoughts that he had developed regarding the possible construction of a veteran's monument in the village square that would include a lockable vault in which the names of Darrrtown veterans would be stored. Dale suggested that the key to the vault would be given to the township trustees for safekeeping. He then proposed that, during the annual Memorial Day ceremony, the vault would be opened, the list removed and updated, if need be, the names would be read at the cemetery, and the list then returned to the memorial.

1.10. STAGE: Sandy reported that she has a source that will provide a 20' x 24' stage for \$1800. The stage would be set up for two days. No commitment has been made at this time; funds will influence when we contract with a stage provider – with the understanding that we cannot wait too long.

1.11. BICENTENNIAL APPAREL: This item was added to the “project monitoring sheets,” under the financial category – with Ron as the coordinator. Ron asked that persons with connections to apparel companies send information to him. A desire to have two types of shirts surfaced; one type of shirt with a collar for staff members and one type that is an ordinary T-shirt for sale to the public.

1.12. SPONSORS AND VENDORS: Sandy reported that she has a friend who is reviewing the forms that Sandy has designed and will use when approaching possible sponsors. Sandy anticipates that she will begin soliciting sponsorships in October. She plans to begin in Oxford and expand from there. Ron asked Sandy to share her list of potential sponsors with the committee members – before she begins making contact. Ron suggested that, after seeing Sandy's master list of potential sponsors, the committee members might be able to provide the names of individuals who have connections to the sponsors that Sandy plans to contact. Sandy agreed.

1.13. PITCH TOURNAMENT: Fred reported that email communication from a representative of the United States Playing Card company indicates a commitment to donate decks of playing cards, with the Bicentennial logo and a championship trophy. Discussion ensued about the possible size of the tournament (especially, if the Guinness Book of Records approves the idea/contest); we discussed the question of whether we might be able to use Bogan elementary school as the tournament site. We realize that we would have to acquire permission from the Talawanda School Board.

THIS CONCLUDED OUR REVIEW OF THE PROJECT MONITORING SHEETS. WE WILL CONTINUE TO USE THESE SHEETS DURING FUTURE MEETINGS.

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS:

2. BUTLER COUNTY HISTORICAL GROUP: Ron will serve as our representative to this organization.

3. INSURANCE: Paul stated that the township's insurance would cover the Bicentennial.

4. LANDSCAPING PLANS: Sandy shared a drawing of the village square that displayed notations of shrubs and/or ground cover that a local landscaper is willing to provide at cost. Paul reported that the township might be able to apply for funds from a local organization to cover the cost of the landscaping. Discussion ensued about incorporating Dale's proposed veterans' memorial (see item 1.9 above) in the landscaping plans. Ron said he plans to meet with three local landscapers that have indicated a desire to participate in the landscaping project. Sandy asked that she be invited to the meeting, as she is interested in the pavers that are being considered. Ron agreed and added that all committee members will be invited to the meeting.

5. PRESIDIO BARN SIGNAGE: Sandy reported that the owner of the Presidio Bed and Breakfast is investigating the cost for updating the existing Ohio bicentennial sign and adding a logo for the B & B. Most committee members interpreted this to mean that the Darrrtown bicentennial will not be advertised on the B & B property.

6. POKER RUN: Fred suggested that a "poker run" of motorcycles and/or cars might serve as a fund-raiser. The committee agreed that Fred should investigate and report back to the committee.

7. PAYPAL FOR THE WEBSITE: Fred shared that some people have recommended that we use PayPal as a way for persons to electronically contribute donations to the bicentennial and/or purchase bicentennial items from the website. The committee agreed that Fred should investigate and report back to the committee.

8. ANCESTRY.COM SESSION AT THE BICENTENNIAL: Fred reported the likelihood that Kim Johnson would conduct such a session, which would help others understand how Ancestry.com works for genealogy studies, while focusing on Darrrtown families. The committee agreed that Fred should investigate and report back to the committee.

9. DARRTOWN TRIVIA CONTEST: Fred suggested that we include this event in our plans for the Bicentennial. The trivia contest format would likely foster conversation about events and/or personalities from Darrrtown's past. The committee agreed that Fred should investigate and

report back to the committee. It was suggested that a smaller version of this event could be demonstrated during the next Darrrtown Gathering.

10. DECEMBER 8, 2012 "GATHERING" AT THE HITCHING POST: We identified the following topics to be included/addressed during the December 8th session – which will feature a Earl "Red" Huber Christmas Party theme.

- 10.1. Share landscaping plans (Ron)
- 10.2. Share idea of the veterans' memorial (Dale)
- 10.3. Report on fundraising / sponsors (Sandy)
- 10.4. Provide an abbreviated version of the Darrrtown trivia contest (Fred)
- 10.5. Provide an interactive reading of "The Night before Christmas" (Fred)
- 10.5. Distribute "goodie" bags to simulate the gifts that Red Huber used to provide to children (Betty and Jack Daniels will contact the manager of the Kroger store regarding contributions of bags, apples, oranges, etc.)

11. NEXT MEETING: We decided to not schedule a meeting, until November, giving Sandy time to contact potential sponsors in October. If something comes up during October that warrants a meeting, members are to inform Ron and he will call a meeting.

=====

October 14, 2012, Steering Committee meeting:

10:00 AM – at Wiley residence.

In attendance: Paul Gillespie, Sandy Jolivette, Betty Daniels, Joe Pater, Ron Wiley, and Fred Lindley

1. REVIEW OF PROJECT MONITORING SHEETS:

The following reports were received:

1.1. AUCTION AND/OR RAFFLE: The committee decided that we prefer a "live" auction, rather than a silent auction at the Bicentennial. We discussed local auctioneers who might be willing to donate their time.

We agreed to conduct three raffles during the December 8th Gathering: one will be a "split the pot" raffle; a second will be a raffle for one of Ron's commemorative walking sticks; and a third will be a raffle for the framed illustration by Virgil Alston that commemorates Walter Alston.

Ron displayed a framed collection of four images that he purchased from Tom Hogeback at Village West Framing in Oxford, Ohio. The images

show the former Mee barn at the southern end of Darrtown, during the four seasons of the year. Ron plans to contribute this item to the Bicentennial auction - with a reserve price to be announced.

1.2. STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST: Fred reported that three schools (Bogan, Marshall, and the Talawanda middle school) have initiated the contest. An article to that effect recently appeared in the Oxford Press.

1.3. 5-K RUN/WALK: We voted (5-1) to NOT sponsor any kind of competitive run/walk, due to concerns about liability and feasibility (many other established races are scheduled during the time of the 2014 bicentennial).

We discussed the idea of conducting a walking tour of the various historical sites within the village. We agreed to introduce this idea to those who attend the December 8th Gathering and ask if anyone will serve as the manager of this project. Perhaps students could assist/act as resources at the various sites and provide background information to those who take the tour.

1.4. DARRTOWN NIGHT AT GREAT AMERICAN BALL PARK: Dale was absent, so we have no new information.

1.5. CAR AND ANTIQUE TRACTOR DISPLAY: Paul's son, Nathan, will serve as the manager of this project; Paul will check with exhibitors from the Butler County fair exhibit. We decided to include the tractors in the bicentennial parade. Joe will ask Marvin Russell, if he will serve as the project manager for the car show/cruise-in.

1.6. WALTER ALSTON MEMORABILIA: No news; Ron is our connection.

1.7. FUND RAISER AT THE TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY CENTER: Paul reported that he spoke with the person who is likely to be the caterer and a price of \$10 seems doable.

1.8. POST OFFICE COMMEMORATIVE STAMP DAY: Betty and Ron reported that they met Thomas Stander, who is a local resource for such events. Betty spoke with the Oxford Postmaster and will follow up with another session.

Discussion Points: Commemorative post card packets: How many cards per packet? Price? Which photos to be included? In an effort to build interest and/or publicize the Bicentennial, might we want to ask the public to suggest/nominate images to be used on the post cards AND might we want to engage the public in voting for the images to be used on the post cards?

1.9. VETERANS SERVICE RECOGNITION: We discussed the memorial / landscaping, pavers, walkway, and the need to install a water line from the Fire Department property to the park on the west side of St.

Rt. 177. We also discussed the idea of incorporating the existing veteran memorial into the new memorial.

1.10. STAGE: Nothing new to report.

1.11. BICENTENNIAL APPAREL: Betty displayed a collared, short-sleeve shirt that Dale had printed for \$20. No action was taken.

1.12. SPONSORS AND VENDORS: Sandy reported that she is finalizing a database that she will use during her visitation with possible sponsors. She anticipates making her initial contacts this month.

1.13. PITCH TOURNAMENT: Fred reported that continuing email communication from a representative of the United States Playing Card company reinforces the company's commitment to donate decks of playing cards, with the Bicentennial logo and a championship trophy. The company contact has connected Fred with a person in the design department of the company.

1.14 CEMETERY TOUR: Paul will ask Rebecca Evans to clarify her ideas for this project and ask if she will serve as the project manager.

1.15 DARRTOWN MEMORABILIA: Paul will contact a Darrtown resident who is known to have a business/hobby that involves building corn-hole boards. Paul will ask if the resident would like to sell corn-hole boards, during the Bicentennial - with the Bicentennial logo on the boards.

Discussion repeated previous thoughts about the possible size of the tournament (especially, if the Guinness Book of Records approves the idea/contest); we discussed the question of whether we might be able to use Bogan elementary school as the tournament site. We realize that we would have to acquire permission from the Talawanda School Board.

This concluded our review of the "Project Monitoring Sheets." We will continue to use these sheets, during future meetings.

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS:

2. CREDIT CARD ISSUE: Sandy raised the question/concern about how we might accommodate credit card purchases during the Bicentennial. Ron will investigate this and report back to the committee.

3. FOUNDER'S DAY: We discussed whether we might want to organize some events to occur on April 4, 2014 (the actual date that Conrad Darr founded Darrtown)? For example, we might ask the churches to simultaneously ring their bells at an appointed time (noon?) - and/or ask the Fire Department to sound the siren? Etc. We decided to seek a project manager during the Dec. 8th Gathering.

4. LIBRARY / BOOKMOBILE PROJECT: A website visitor offered the following thoughts about engaging the public library in the Bicentennial: A strong memory of mine is from the 1970's... of the Lane Public Library Bookmobile parked under the large oak tree just south of The Hitching Post, and riding my bike there to check out books. Perhaps there might be someone within the Library system who might recall or type up a remembrance for the website... and how nice it would be to have them reappear for old times' sake during the July celebration. Who knows, they might get a few new library patrons as a result of a sign-up effort on the streets of Darrrtown. Librarians love to provide information from files long neglected, so perhaps they have some records of those days.

Paul agreed to contact Rebecca Evans about serving as the manager of this project.

5. DARRTOWN DRAGONS BASEBALL GAME: We discussed a suggestion made by a Talawanda middle school teacher that the Bicentennial include a baseball game that features the Darrrtown Dragons youth baseball team. Fred has the name of the teacher, whose husband is affiliated with the team. Joe and Sandy will pursue this idea as another bicentennial event.

6. GRANT FROM THE OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY: Ron agreed to write a grant proposal that would request funds for the erection of a historical marker in the town square. The marker would be resemble the shape of Ohio and carry a message that commemorates Darrrtown's bicentennial. Fred agreed to assist Ron in this endeavor.

This concluded the meeting. We plan to meet again on November 14, 2012.

=====

November 14, 2012, Steering Committee meeting:

10:00 AM - at the Pater residence.

In attendance: Paul Gillespie, Betty Daniels, Dale Bufler, Joe Pater, Ron Wiley, and Fred Lindley

GRANT APPLICATIONS: Ron shared information regarding the Oxford Community Foundation grant monies and Joe shared information regarding the Molyneaux grant application. Ron and Joe agreed to work on applications to both organizations.

COLLECTION OF RAFFLE ITEMS (MARCH 23 FUNDRAISER): We brainstormed a list of businesses and individuals that committee members would contact for donated items to be raffled. Betty recorded the ideas that were generated and agreed to share via an email later.

PLANS FOR DECEMBER 8 GATHERING (HITCHING POST CHRISTMAS): We discussed the program and agreed to the following order:

1. > INTRODUCTION / RECOGNITION OF DIGNITARIES PRESENT: Ron will handle this.
2. > RAFFLE: Joe and Jack Daniels will arrange for a table for selling tickets as people arrive; display items with signs to describe as needed. Three raffles are:
 - A. "Split the pot" cash prize
 - B. Walking stick
 - C. Virgil Alston framed sketch
3. > BUSINESS TOPICS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE DECEMBER 8TH GATHERING:
 - A. Landscaping project: Veterans Memorial (Dale)
 - B. Sponsor opportunities: Trees, shrubs, pavers
 - C. Announce March 23, 2013 Dinner and Fundraiser at the Milford Township Community Center
 - D. Walking sticks: One for raffle this day (Dec. 8); Others for raffle at the March 23 Fundraiser; more sticks will be available for purchase during the Bicentennial celebration
 - E. Founders' Day: April 4, 2014: Activities? Project manager? Seek volunteer(s) from audience.
 - F. Walking Tour: during Bicentennial; Sites? Project manager? Seek volunteer(s) from audience.
4. > ENTERTAINMENT TO BE PROVIDED AT THE DECEMBER 8TH GATHERING:
 - A. Reading of "The Night Before Christmas" (Fred will organize)
 - B. Musical selection (Ron and Fred; recalling Red's Christmas parties)
 - B. Other memories of Red's Christmas parties? (Committee members, audience)
 - C. Appearance by Santa (Dale) and Mrs. Claus (Sandy)
 - D. Group singing (Denny Byrd)
 - E. Distribution of "goodie" bags (Santa and helpers – Betty and Jack Daniels)
5. > Raffle drawing

That will conclude the December 8th Gathering

OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS FROM THE NOVEMBER 14 MEETING:

1. Ron shared his idea of creating a mural on the side of the Fire Department building that would depict the history of Darrrtown. He referred to the mural in downtown MIamisburg, Ohio as an example. Ron suggested that some art majors at Miami University might be willing to

undertake the project. We asked Paul to pursue the idea with the other Township Trustees.

2. Dale offered to play Santa Claus at the December 8th Gathering; we accepted his offer (see item 4C above).

3. Joe reported on his meeting with Corby Hansel regarding Bicentennial details such as: providing electricity to the stage area; parking for the event; the parade route; Care Flight – for public safety; parking fire trucks at the Baptist Church; sheriff's patrol; Red Cross; golf carts for transporting officials as they trouble-shoot problems during the Bicentennial; two-way radios; auctioneer (Doug Ross volunteered) and a public address announcer (Bill Phelps agreed to serve).

4. Paul reported on the March 23, 2013 fundraiser dinner. He said that Charlie Kennel will provide a chicken and pulled pork dinner. We discussed prices, accommodations, drinks, and advertising. More discussion will follow at our next meeting in two weeks.

5. Paul reported that the Lane Library will arrange to have its bookmobile on site, July 5, 2014. Details to be resolved in the future.

6. We discussed the idea of spending some of our resources for a "big ticket" item to be raffled at the March 23 fundraiser – in an attempt to create more interest and draw more people to the event. We discussed large screen televisions, I-pads, I-phones, and Kindle readers. Committee members will investigate prices with local dealers/merchants and report at our next meeting.

7. Fred agreed to design a poster/flyer that we can use to post in local businesses and promote attendance at the March 23, 2013 fundraiser.

Our next meeting is set for 10 AM, Thursday, November 29.

=====

November 29, 2012, Steering Committee meeting:

10:00 AM – at the Pater residence.

In attendance: Paul Gillespie, Betty Daniels, Dale Bufler, Joe Pater, Ron Wiley, and Fred Lindley

1. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP: Ron reported that Sandy Jolivette will no longer serve as a full-time member of the Bicentennial. Ron said that he asked Sandy to consider working on individual tasks that fit her schedule. He and Sandy will talk again next week. The committee asked

Jack Daniels if he would fill the vacant position on the Steering Committee and he accepted.

2. COMMUNICATION RADIOS: Joe reported that he has a contact is offering to sell low-cost, handheld "ham" radios that we could use during the Bicentennial. After discussion, the committee agreed to postpone a decision on such a purchase. Committee members agreed to research the purchase and/or rental of such radios.

3. CHRISTMAS PARTY / DARRTOWN GATHERING, DEC. 8

3A. NUMBERS: Fred reported that 67 people have registered. We anticipate that some may not show; however, others may appear without registration.

3B. "GOODIE" BAGS: Betty Daniels reported that a sufficient number of bags will be ready for the event.

3C. PROGRAM (SEQUENCE OF EVENTS): The committee reviewed Fred's plan that he propose at the last meeting. We estimate that the program should begin by approximately 11:20 AM and consume approximately one hour.

3D. LIST OF DONORS: The committee agreed with Fred's proposal that we prepare and distribute a document at the December 8th Gathering that displays two types of donors; commemorative and commercial.

3D.1. The commemorative list will include the names of persons who have made commemorative donations to the Bicentennial Fund.

3D.2. The commercial list will include the names of persons and/or businesses that have donated to specific projects, such as: the December 8th Gathering, the March 23rd, 2013 Dinner and Fundraiser, the Student Essay contest, the Pitch tournament, and the Bicentennial itself.

3E. CHANGE FOR SELLERS: Ron agreed to provide change for the selling of raffle tickets.

4. MARCH 23rd DINNER & RAFFLE

4A. PRINT FLIERS; DISTRIBUTION: The committee reviewed the sample poster the Fred designed and discussion resulted in some alterations. We agreed that we will have 75 copies printed commercially (Joe and Jack will attend to this, after Fred provides the final edition of the poster). Committee members will distribute 50 of the posters to area locations and 25 copies will be available for distribution at the December 8th Gathering - in hopes that audience members will also place the posters in other public locations.

4B. RAFFLE TICKETS

4C. DINNER MENU: Paul reported that Charlie Kennel will provide pulled pork and chicken as advertised and the menu will include au gratin potatoes, green beans, cole slaw or apple sauce. The committee must arrange for beverages/water and dessert (church volunteers were discussed). We agreed to advertise the dinner as a \$10 donation.

5. OXFORD COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT: Ron reported that he has met with persons associated with the foundation and he has a plan for submitting a request. He also discovered that persons may designate contribution to the Oxford Foundation in the name of long-time Darrtown residents, Harry and Virginia Teckman.

6. PITCH TOURNAMENT: Having previously received and reviewed copies of the rules and/or stipulations that Fred recently received from the Guinness World Record headquarters regarding a card playing tournament, the committee agreed to forego any involvement with Guinness. We decided to proceed with our plans to stage a Pitch Tournament on a local scale, with our own rules, and with the support of the United States Playing Card Company of Erlanger, Kentucky. FYI: The USPC is (1) printing, at no cost to the Bicentennial, decks of cards with the Darrtown Bicentennial logo and (2) providing the championship trophy.

7. DONOR LISTING: We discussed the idea of listing donors on the website in the order of the size/amount of the donation given. We decided to list donors alphabetically.

8. BUDGET: Ron distributed and led a discussion of the budget that he plans to submit to various foundations. This includes monies for the park in the village square (i.e., a walking path, benches, story boards, water and electricity lines from the fire house, a veteran's memorial (that will incorporate the existing memorial), parking, plantings, and a mural on the west side of the new addition to the fire house.

9. ALSTON DAY: SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2013; 1:00 AT MCKIE FIELD, HAYDEN PARK, MIAMI UNIVERSITY: We briefly discussed ideas for supporting this event; such as a gathering in Darrtown prior to the game, a parade to McKie Field, and a community picnic at the ball field.

10. SPONSORS: We discussed the need to acquire more funds. Paul and Ron agreed to contact area banks. All committee members agreed to think about and/or initiate contacts with possible sponsors.

OUR NEXT MEETING IS DECEMBER 11 AT 10 AM.

=====

December 11, 2012, Steering Committee meeting:

10:00 AM – at the Wiley residence.

In attendance: Paul Gillespie, Betty Daniels, Jack Daniels, Dale Bufler, Joe Pater, Ron Wiley, and Fred Lindley.

1. REVIEW OF DECEMBER 8, 2012 DARRTOWN GATHERING: We shared our thoughts regarding the December 8, 2012 Darrrtown "Gathering" and discussed things that we might do differently another time. For example, it might be helpful, if we involved others in sharing their memories; we might offer the dignitaries a chance to speak briefly; we need a better public address system. Overall, the feedback from those in attendance and from the committee was positive. The committee asked Betty Daniels to send "thank you" notes to those persons who contributed items and services to the event; i.e. – Rep. Tim Derickson, Sen. Bill Coley, Sean Hurley, Gloria Metcalf, Denny Byrd, Doug Krause, and the manager of the Hamilton Kroger store.

2. FINANCIAL REPORT FROM THE DECEMBER 8, 2012 DARRTOWN GATHERING: Jack Daniels reported that the sale of the raffle tickets during the December 8th Gathering produced \$470, which will go to the Bicentennial Fund. While it was tempting to lament that the "take" from the December 8th event was not larger, Fred reminded the committee that we originally did not intend to raise funds during the Gathering and that the \$470 income was a most fortunate development.

3. MARCH 23, 2013 FUNDRAISER AND DINNER: We agreed to have 200 more tickets printed for the March 23, 2013 Fundraiser and Dinner at the Collinsville Community Center. The first 200 tickets that we had printed were distributed at the December 8th Gathering. Joe and Jack will arrange for the printing of the additional tickets. We discussed buying brightly colored T-shirts and nail aprons for those who will sell raffle tickets during the March 23 fundraiser. We agreed that Joe should invite the CokeOtto Boys to play music at the Fundraiser. Fred suggested that we might provide a place for people to play Pitch during the event and reduce congestion in the dining area. Ron asked Fred to inquire whether the commemorative decks of playing cards will be available for sale and use by March 23rd. We agreed that we would wait until the new year to begin distributing the March 23rd posters that we had printed.

4. VILLAGE SQUARE LANDSCAPING: Paul reported on the progress of the landscaping project. Water and electric lines were bored under the streets [from the fire department building to the two lots west of Route 177. The township trustees encumbered the expense of \$2300. The cost was lower than it might have been thanks to the generosity of the Neal's Directional Drilling and the donation of Paul's labor to

supplement the necessary work. Ron commented that he observed Paul working after dark to complete the project. Paul announced that he plans to meet with the four landscapers that agreed to donate products and labor and move the project forward; i.e. - decide who will do what. The landscaping group includes ShadeMakers, M & M, Imfeld Nursery, and John DeVore.

5. DONOR LIST: Paul reported the addition of four donors for the March 23rd fundraiser (Jeff Pohlman Tires; Dunkleberger and Sons; CarStar Body Repair; and Dingedine Basic Materials. Additionally, he informed us that the Somerville National Bank contributed \$1,000 to the Bicentennial Fund. Fred reported a possible contribution from Dick's Sporting Goods. He also said that he would contact the Los Angeles Dodgers to inquire whether the Dodgers would contribute funds to the Bicentennial to honor Walter Alston. Joe Pater reminded us that Jim Tracey (Dodger manager from 2001-2005) is a cousin of his. Fred will confer with Joe about contacting Mr. Tracey.

6. PUBLICITY: Fred reported that he spoke with Debbie Gross of the Oxford Press regarding the creation of a newspaper supplement to promote the Bicentennial. Debbie suggested that a sub-committee of two or three people meet with her regarding that project. Fred, Ron, and Joe will serve on such a sub-committee.

7. CONNECTION WITH CURRENT DARRTOWN RESIDENTS: Fred suggested that the committee needs to connect with current Darrrtown residents for the primary purpose of informing them of the plans for the Bicentennial. This could [and perhaps, should] involve committee members going door to door with hand-out material and a personal invitation for the residents to become better informed about and engaged in the Bicentennial. Paul said that he has done that sort of canvassing in the past and it can be done in a couple of hours. We agreed that such an effort should occur, probably in the summer of 2013. We also recalled that we previously discussed the construction of a Bicentennial sign or signs that would be posted in the spring of 2013.

8. MORE BICENTENNIAL EVENTS / ACTIVITIES: Fred reported that Nathan Gillespie discovered a website about a group that plays baseball as it was played in the 1860's. The group is known as the Ohio Village Muffins and we might ask the team to appear during the Bicentennial [see: <http://ohsweb.ohiohistory.org/places/c11/c11-01.shtml>]. Joe reported that Virgil Otto is willing to set up a display of blacksmithing during the Bicentennial. Joe also related a conversation that he had with the minister of the Darrrtown Baptist church and it seems likely that we will be able to use the Baptist church parking lot and adjacent field.

9. "TAKE A BREATH" TIME: Dale offered some "food for thought," as he cautioned us that the committee is in the midst of a huge undertaking. We need to be sure that we do not over-reach; that we do a few things

well, rather than do a lot of things poorly. Ron reiterated that thought by sharing an experience that he had with an area celebration that was poorly organized. Ron also suggested that if we have too many offerings for those who attend our Bicentennial, we may lose their interest part way through the Bicentennial experience.

More discussion ensued. We decided that we need to:

- 9a.) Finalize our choice/list of events and activities.
- 9b) Identify all the project managers.
- 9c) Organize a meeting of all project managers – for the purpose of informing them of the expectations and energizing them for the work that needs to be done.

Joe and Jack accepted the challenge to identify the events and activities that seem critical to the Bicentennial. They will then develop a recommended (and minimal) list of Bicentennial events and activities to be organized and scheduled. Joe and Jack will report back to the committee and when we have agreed on the program, we will organize a meeting of the committee and all project managers.

10. When we meet in January, we will focus on the March 23rd dinner / fundraiser and the details that need to be addressed.

=====

January 7, 2013, Steering Committee meeting

10:00 AM – at the Presidio Pines Bed and Breakfast (this facility was made available by the owners, Scott and Tari Spurlock).

In attendance: Paul Gillespie, Betty Daniels, Jack Daniels, Dale Bufler, Joe Pater, Ron Wiley, and Fred Lindley.

This meeting was devoted solely to preparations for the March 23rd Dinner and Fundraiser.

MAJOR ITEM #1: Treasurers Report

MAJOR ITEM 2: March 23rd Fundraiser, Milford Twp. Community Building

We discussed the following items and assigned duties/responsibility for appropriate action steps.

Fred will, within the next week, design and distribute, to each Steering Committee member, a Word document that summarizes the agreed-upon duties/responsibilities.

Because several members are unable to attend face-to-face meetings in January and February, we agreed to communicate electronically

regarding the progress that each member makes toward meeting her/his duties/responsibilities for the March 23 Dinner and Fundraiser.

PRIOR TO THE EVENT

Insurance, security, parking, publicity, ticket sales, raffle, building readiness, receptacles for ticket stubs, nail aprons for money, emcee, program for the emcee to use, riser (for speaker to stand on), public address system, music, and recreation.

DURING THE EVENT

Dinner, food, drinks, tickets (dinner and raffle), ticket sellers (working the crowd), collection of email addresses from attendees, cash, and trash (collection and dispersal)

AFTER THE EVENT

Security (lock up the building and deposit of proceeds) and publicity of event

Our next meeting will be Monday, March 18 at the Milford Township Community Center to prepare for the March 23 dinner and fundraiser.

Before leaving the Presidio Pines, Betty Daniels composed a note of appreciation, on behalf of the Steering Committee members, to the owners (Scott and Tari Spurlock) for their hospitality in hosting our meeting.

=====

REPORT OF THE APRIL 08, 2013 MEETING

All seven members attended this meeting at the Wiley residence.

DURING THIS MEETING, WE:

1. Received a financial report from Ron: The following is not complete; it is an approximation.
\$6500 profit from the March 23 fundraiser
\$5859 already banked in the Bicentennial account
Thus, we have an approximate balance of \$12,359 in the bank
The Milford Township Trustees are holding \$2500 for the village square project that was granted to the Bicentennial Fund by the Oxford Foundation.
2. Recognized the success for the March 23 Dinner and Fundraiser: All feedback has been positive. People liked the fried chicken, the family and/or "fun" atmosphere, and the music.

3. Took a few minutes to reflect on "lessons learned" about the fundraiser in particular and running a bicentennial in general. Fred took notes and will post them on the Centennial Central website (see www.centennialcentral.com)

4. Planned for the Sunday, April 21st Walter Alston day at Miami University. We agreed to the following schedule of events:
11:45 AM – Assemble in the Hitching Post parking lot (tailgating food/drink is personal choice)
12:15 PM – Parade leaves for Oxford (Joe will arrange for escort by deputy sheriff cruiser and township fire department truck.
12:30-ish – Arrive at Miami ball field
12:50-ish – Ceremonial first pitch by members of Alston/Ogle family
1:00 – Game time

Fred will publicize this event, via the Darrrtown website and electronic newsletter.

5. Assessed progress of projects in process; i.e., the village square landscaping, pavers in the village square, the Darrrtown Night at the Great American Ball Park, etc. –

Discussion of the village square project resulted in asking Ron to take the lead on incremental projects within the square and within the parameters of our budget. Ron will ask John Devore to develop a suggested sequence/timeline for such incremental projects.

Dale reported on the "Darrrtown Night" at the Great American Ball Park. We have pledges for one busload and a waiting list for a second bus load. Dale will coordinate the collection of money. Fred will publicize via an electronic newsletter and in the local newspapers. Dale will provide a poster/sign-up sheet at Don's Carry-Out.

6. Discussed plans for the Bicentennial – which will be about 63 weeks away from our April 8 meeting. Some of the work includes the following:

6A. Identify the Bicentennial events that we will definitely offer [tabled until our next meeting].

6B. Identify the projects/tasks that need to be done, in order for all Bicentennial events to happen [tabled until our next meeting].

6C. Schedule and announce a meeting for volunteers – so that we solicit and identify people to serve as project managers [tabled until our next meeting].

6D. Discuss an idea for a “Bicentennial Pitch Card Tournament and Social” – Fred delivered a brief overview/proposal [tabled until our next meeting].

OUR NEXT MEETING IS MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2013.

=====

Bicentennial Steering Committee Meeting – April 15, 2013 at the Pater residence.

All members were present.

1. Alston Day at Miami University McKie's Field, April 21, 2013 – Ron reported that a section of seats at the Miami baseball stadium would be available for persons from Darrrtown. Joe will arrange the sheriff's department and the Milford Township Fire Department to escort cars from Darrrtown to Oxford. Fred will prepare and distribute an electronic email message about this event. The Miami University Sport Department is advertising in Oxford.

2. Bicentennial Events – Joe and Jack distributed a list of probable events. Discussion ensued; Joe and Jack will revisit the list and report their recommendations at our next meeting.

3. Village Square Project – Ron reported that he met with John DeVore, who agreed to develop a “punch” list of sub-unit projects and will prioritize such items for completion. Pavers will accommodate three lines/rows with 14 characters each. The cost is \$50 each. We will develop an advertising campaign.

4. Pitch Tournament – Fred reported details of his proposed tournament format. After discussion, the Committee agreed:

- Fred will serve as the project manager, with numerous jobs to be delegated.
- August 24, 2013 will be the date of first “Go-Round” at the Milford Township Community Center.
- Fred explained the number of potential players (this relates to a flow-chart that is displayed on the "pitchcardtournament" website; how players advance to the semi-finals; the capacity of rooms in the Community Center; and the amount of advertising/publicizing that we do for the tournament (Ron has idea about contacting military service groups)).
- The entry fee will be \$10 per player.
- We want to foster an atmosphere of community, with activities other than Pitch play.
- Based on recommendations from experienced Pitch tournament players, prize money will be offered [\$100 for each winner from each hour of play and \$500 for the final / champion player at the Bicentennial.

- Drinks – Beer will be sold; along with soft drinks. We need to identify a distributor and see donated drinks or a reduced rate. Kelly Hansel and friend have volunteered to serve as bartenders.
- Food – We discussed grilling and selling hot dogs.
- We need to establish a date when we can meet with the township's insurance agent.

5. Darrtown Night at Great American Ball Park – August 6, 2013. Dale reported that one bus has been scheduled [with 54 verbal commitments]. There are 20 others on a waiting list for a second bus.

6. Postmark Day at the Bicentennial – Betty reported that she will identify a dozen images from the Darrtown website to be included in two packets of six postcards each. The plan is to sell the postcards during the Bicentennial for \$5 per packet. Fred will develop a press release.

We will communicate by phone or email regarding our next meeting date/location.

=====

DBSC MEETING; MAY 1, 2013 ~ WALT'S BBQ ~ HAMILTON, OHIO

Present: Dale Bufler, Ron Wiley, Joe Pater, Betty Daniels, and Fred Lindley

1. Insurance for Events – Paul: With Paul being absent, there was no report. Joe telephoned Paul during this meeting and Paul agreed to seek a meeting for committee members and the insurance agent – possibly on Tuesday, May 7.
2. Events List – Jack, Betty, Joe: With Jack being absent, there was no report – Joe and Jack plan to meet within the week to develop a recommended list of Bicentennial events.
3. Project Managers – Identify, Meet: Based on the final event list (see #2 above), we plan to identify persons that we will ask to serve as project managers and/or conduct a meeting of persons who are interested in serving as project managers.
4. Village Square progress – Ron: Nothing new to report. Ron is working with individuals to bring the various tasks together in a timely fashion.
5. Veterans Memorial – Dale: Time constraints prevented us from addressing this project in any detail. Factors for future discussion include: Project Manager, Cost, and Funding.

SIDE NOTE: Fred shared a set of diaries that were shipped to him from

an individual who purchased the diaries at an auction in Colorado in 2011. Mr. L. M. Miller of Darrrtown recorded this collection of diaries during the years 1910 through 1936. Committee members recognized this collection as one example of many historical items that we are receiving. The question arises; what are we to do with these items?

Fred suggested that the committee consider expanding the Veterans Memorial project to include the construction of a building in the town square that would serve as a Darrrtown museum – and such a building could/would feature a room for the recognition of veterans. Discussion ensued, without any conclusion. The major obstacle would be funding and the committee discussed the idea of introducing this project at the 2014 Bicentennial. If we take this route, the veterans memorial project would be an ongoing project that would not be finished in time for the Bicentennial.

6. Pitch Tournament – Fred: The committee agreed to the following:

(6a) Fred will increase efforts to publicize the August 24, 2013 Pitch Tournament at the Milford Township Community Center. Fred will advertise via the Darrrtown website; an electronic email (to the 215 addressees that we currently have); a news release – to the Oxford and Hamilton newspapers; posters (to be printed at Bethart and distributed to area business places); and direct mailings to area organizations – such as VFW's, etc. Ron agreed to help Fred with the direct mailings.

(6b) We need to have food and drinks available during the tournament. Therefore, the committee would like for Paul will ask Charlie Kennel if he is interested in serving and selling sandwiches and/or fried chicken during the tournament. If Charlie agrees, then he is in charge of all food sales. We (the committee) would sell the beverages; i.e., beer, wine, soft drinks, and bottled water.

7. Darrrtown Night, GABP, Sept. 6, 2013 – Dale: One busload is ready to go; other names are being collected for a second bus. Fred is to publicize the event via a press release and an electronic newsletter.

8. Printed Program – Fred: The committee decided:

(a) To use a single sheet / double-sided / tri-fold format for the official Bicentennial printed program (i.e., we will NOT use the booklet format).

(b) To not solicit nor include advertisements in the printed program (however, if we can identify one sponsor to pay for the printed programs, we will agree to that arrangement).

9. USPS postmark – Betty: Betty displayed a possible postmark that Fred Lindley designed, which presumably meets the Post Office requirements. She will meet with the Oxford Postmaster for his reaction/approval.

10. Pavers – Ron: Ron volunteered to serve as the manager of this project. He will investigate and collect bids for our business. Fred will arrange for PayPal payment on the Darrrtown/Bicentennial webpage. The cost will be \$50 per paver and the inscription may include three lines of 14 characters per line (spaces count as characters).

11. Key fobs – Fred: The committee agreed to the following sales concept:

(11a) Offer 100 key fobs with individual serial numbers; each key fob sells for \$10; AND each number is entered into a drawing for a prize of \$100.

(11b) During the Bicentennial a number will be drawn to determine which of the 100 key fobs wins the \$100 cash prize [the winner need not be present].

(11c) Observe how these sales progress.

(11d) If the 100 limited edition key fobs sell quickly, then we order another set of 100 – without serial numbers – to be sold at the Bicentennial for \$5 each. Fred will ask Kim Johnson, if he will manufacture the second set at a later date.

12. Other Bicentennial products: The committee agreed to the concept of selling other products, including Ron's walking sticks, i-Pad holders, T-shirts, baseball caps, etc. We will secure bids/prices and eventually identify a person to serve as the manager of this project.

13. Essay Contest – Fred: The contest ended May 1. The committee agreed to Fred's request for funds to make copies of all essays, before turning over the essays to the volunteer judges. Bethart Printing agreed to a copy cost of eight cents per sheet.

14. Communications: The committee agreed that our need to communicate will likely increase as we get closer to the Bicentennial. We agreed to use Oovoo on a regular basis. We plan to confer on Oovoo each Monday at 7:30 PM, beginning May 13.

=====

Steering Committee meeting – May 13, 2013 – 3:15 PM on Oovoo

Participants: Ron Wiley, Betty Daniels, Jack Daniels, Joe Pater, and Fred Lindley

1. Confirming insurance coverage for events at the Milford Township Community Center – Paul [Joe will follow up with Paul].
2. Confirming the use of Harry Ogle's property during the Bicentennial

– Involve Kim? [Joe, Jack, and Ron will pursue a meeting with Kim to secure clear understanding of how to use the property. Ron will pursue the possibility of buying/renting a display case for Alston memorabilia. Other ideas regarding display cases: check with the dispersal of contents from the former Talawanda High School. Also check with Doug Ross / Kramer & Kramer].

3. Progress report on Village Square project – Ron [Ron recently spoke with Doug Drake; explained status for excavating, fill material. Doug described the fine limestone on which the pavers will be placed. Suggested we buy extra pavers, have them engraved, remove the plain ones, replace with engraved ones. Ron will pursue bids from multiple suppliers. Jack and Betty have sample form; will send copy to Fred so that he may refine for our purposes].

4. Progress report on Paver project – Ron [see #3 above].

5. Progress report on Darrtown Night at GABP project – Ron [Dale has one bus reserved and has a waiting list for a second bus. Deadline for sign-up is June 1st.]

6. Progress report on Pitch Tournament project – Fred [Fred sought feedback on several issues. After discussion, we agreed that (1) we will allow players to participate in more than one of the one-hour sessions – with three understandings: (a) players must register and pay for each hour separately; (b) if a player is engaged in playing during one hour, when the next hour of play begins, we will return the registration fee for the hour that the player missed playing in; (c) if a player wins the \$100 in more than one of the one-hour sessions, we will pay the prize money to that individual – however the second-place player in the second hour would advance to the finals during the Bicentennial semi-finals. (2) After discussion we agreed that each hour of play would begin in the gymnasium, with the winners advancing to other rooms on the bottom floor of the Community Center. We need 16 card tables to manage this plan. We will ask for people to loan card tables for this purpose. (3) After discussion, we agreed to investigate the cost of providing T-shirts to the Tournament workers – see item #10 below.]

7. Progress report on Bicentennial Event List – Joe and Jack [Joe and Jack plan to meet next week and narrow the list. They will report to the full committee as soon as possible.]

8. L.A. Miller journals – disposition now and future – Fred [Valerie Elliott of the Oxford Public library offered to store the Miller diaries in the “repository” section of the Smith Library. After discussion, we decided that Fred will retain the 26 journals until he has perused them for information to be placed on the Darrtown website. Then, the Steering Committee will consult with Valerie regarding repository issues.].

9. Two-way radios – Joe [Joe reported that he has received eight two-way radios for use at the Bicentennial. We will also be able to use these at events before the Bicentennial – such as the Pitch Tournament. Joe will send invoice to Ron.]

10. T-shirts – Betty [Betty reported on costs related to having Bicentennial T-shirts printed for sale to the public and T-shirts for Bicentennial staff members. Staff members could use such shirts at events that precede the Bicentennial, such as the Pitch Tournament. Ron asked Betty to send a copy of the prices to all Committee members. A decision on the number of shirts to be ordered was tabled until another meeting.]

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM

=====

DBSC MEETING; JUNE 5, 2013 ~ 10 AM ~ BOB EVANS –WEST SIDE ~ HAMILTON, OHIO

Note: At 11:15 AM, we moved the meeting from Bob Evan's to Walt's BBQ.

Present: (members: Jack Daniels, Betty Daniels, Paul Gillespie, Joe Pater, Ron Wiley, Dale Bufler, Fred Lindley) (guest: Debbie Lindley)

1. New banking account – Ron: Discussion ensued about banking services. Ron introduced the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Darrrtown Bicentennial Steering Committee directs Ron Wiley to open an account for the Darrrtown Bicentennial Fund at the Oxford branch of the Somerville National Bank and transfer all current funds to such account for all banking purposes. Further, that Ronald L. Wiley and Paul Gillespie be designated as having authority to write and sign checks to pay bills for the Darrrtown Committee. Ron Wiley will mail accounting for all transactions, with copies to Paul Gillespie monthly, and will ail report summaries to the entire Committee on a regular basis.

In response to the proposed resolution, Joe Pater moved that it be accepted. Betty Daniels seconded the motion. A voice-vote by all committee members passed unanimously (7-0).

2. Landscaping update – Ron: Following a presentation by Ron regarding the design of a plan for the walkway and pavers in the two west quadrants of the Darrrtown village square, the committee agreed that Ron should engage John Devore in the installation of said walkway and pavers. The anticipated cost is \$13,400. This financial commitment will significantly draw down our current cash balance; however, the committee members believe that the completion of this phase of the

village square project will (a) increase the visibility of the project and (b) increase the number of people who purchase pavers. Committee members acknowledged that more fundraisers will be necessary, between now and the Bicentennial. Ideas for fundraisers were briefly discussed; some suggestions included another dinner fundraiser in the fall of 2013 and a golf "scramble."

3. Inform Darrrtown residents of Bicentennial – Jack and Joe: We discussed strategies for informing Darrrtown residents of the Bicentennial. We agreed that we need to form a committee/task force to go door-to-door in Darrrtown to (a) introduce ourselves; (b) explain plans for the bicentennial; and (c) invite the residents to get involved. We also discussed the idea of having committee members speak to the church congregations about the bicentennial and ask for help.

4. GABP Darrrtown night update – Dale: One bus is sold out; second bus has some 10–12 signed up. June 15 is deadline to sign up.

5. Pitch tournament update – Fred: Regarding the August 24 Go-Round, Fred distributed a task list with duty assignments. After a brief review of the list, all committee members agreed to accept their assignments. Fred cited the details related to applying for a temporary liquor permit (an earlier email to committee members provided a link to the permit website). Ron and Fred will discuss the details and Ron will secure the permit.

6. Key fobs update – Fred: Kim Johnson agreed to provide the first 100 key fobs without any cost to the committee. Fobs will be delivered before August 24 Go-Round, so that we have them available for purchase. If sales warrant ordering more fobs, Kim Johnson told Fred that he will be able to produce another set of fobs.

7. Events update – Jack and Joe: The committee reviewed a list of recommended events. Jack and Joe provided extra information about the contacts they made in the past week. Jack reported that a portable stage would cost \$1250. Joe and Jack will finalize their recommended list and report back to the full committee, within a week or so.

Other – We discussed meeting by Oovoo (electronic conferencing). No date was set for our next meeting; we will wait for Joe and Jack to complete their work on the Events list.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM

=====

DBSC MEETING; JUNE 27, 2013 ~ 11 AM ~ OLIVE GARDEN ~ MIDDLETOWN, OHIO

Present: (members: Jack Daniels, Betty Daniels, Paul Gillespie, Joe Pater, Ron Wiley, Dale Bufler, and Fred Lindley)

1. UPDATE ON TOWN SQUARE PROJECT: RON

Excavation: The excavation was completed June 12, by B & M Construction of Oxford, Ohio – no charge.

Gravel: The gravel for the base, delivered two days ago, was a donation from Watson's Gravel of Hamilton, Ohio. We paid to have it delivered as the order was so large that the township trucks would have been required to make multiple runs.

Walkway construction: Blank pavers will be delivered next week. John DeVore will install the following week.

Recognition/Memorial pavers: We are using personal contact and electronic mailings to inform people that they may donate/purchase pavers for themselves, family members, friends, events, and/or organizations.

2. BANKING UPDATE: RON

Per previous agreement with the Steering Committee, we have opened an account at the Somerville National Bank; we have one check to clear at the former bank and then all funds will be transferred to the new account. Our current balance is \$15,013.70.

3. ASSESSMENT OF WHERE WE ARE AND WHERE WE'RE GOING: FRED

At our last meeting, Dale suggested that we conduct an assessment of our progress and direction. To that end the committee reviewed our Bicentennial Purpose Statement, which is: "To acknowledge and celebrate the bicentennial year of Darrtown, through the provision and promotion of Darrtown-related activities, events, exhibits, and memorabilia that commemorate the 200 year history of the village."

A discussion ensued regarding the events and activities that we are presently considering for the Bicentennial and we agreed to keep the Purpose Statement in mind as we finalize the list of Bicentennial events and activities. Joe and Jack are in the process of producing a recommended list of Bicentennial events and activities. Their list should be completed shortly after July 4. We agreed to arrange a meeting of potential workers on July 9th at LaRosa's in Oxford and we plan to present the recommended list at that meeting.

4. ASSESSMENT OF FINANCIAL STATUS: RON

Ron reported that he will soon meet with a possible donor, which could significantly impact our financial status. We all acknowledged that the village square project will consume most of the current bank balance. We discussed possible fundraisers (including the pending

Pitch Tournament and the idea of a "ham and turkey" dinner this fall). Ron will pursue writing proposals for more grant money, also.

5. EVENTS LIST: ALL

This was covered in number 3 above.

6. ONE-DAY POST OFFICE/POST CARDS/ STAMP CANCELLATION: BETTY

Betty recently met the Oxford Post Master, who reported that Oxford Post Office personnel are working on the Darrtown postmark (which Betty submitted several weeks ago). We discussed the number of photos to be included in the packets of postcards that we will have printed as a fundraiser.

7. PITCH TOURNAMENT: FRED

Currently, fewer than a dozen people have registered for the July 27 Pitch Tournament. Fred shared his thoughts about possible reasons for such a slow response. He then asked each committee member to try to recruit at least ten persons to play in the July 27 tournament.

Fred provided a sign-up sheet to all committee members, along with the suggestion that we may, while recruiting players, learn why the registration has gone so slowly up to this point.

If interest does not improve, we may have to cancel the July 27 event; however, we do not have to decide at this time. We also agreed to emphasize the social aspect of the July 27 event. To that end, the committee agreed that Fred should re-design the promotional poster, with an emphasis on food (including Charlie Kennel's fare) and activities other than just tournament card play. Fred will revise the poster and have it printed at Bethart Printing in time for Joe and Jack to take the revised posters with them on July 2, when they visit businesses in the Butler County area. Some posters will be available for distribution at the July 9 meeting with possible workers (see item 3 above).

Fred distributed a revised "task list" to all committee members regarding assignments for the August 24 Pitch Tournament.

OTHER:

Darrtown Night at Great American Ball Park: Dale distributed a list of 54 persons who are registered for the chartered bus and stadium tickets. The bus will pick up passengers at two locations on Saturday, September 6:

1. In the Darrtown village square, at 5 PM
2. In the Hamilton Kroger parking lot at approximately 5:20 PM

Paver Sales: We brainstormed names of families and individuals that might want to purchase commemorative pavers. Names that surfaced were assigned to each committee member for personal contact/invitation to purchase.

Possible Workers: We brainstormed names of people who might be willing to help with Bicentennial preparations. Names that surfaced were assigned to each committee member, with the understanding that each member would invite their contacts to the July 9th meeting at LaRosa's in Oxford.

The meeting adjourned around 2:45 PM.

=====

DBSC MEETING; JULY 16, 2013 ~ 11 AM ~ PATER RESIDENCE

Present: (members: Jack Daniels, Betty Daniels, Joe Pater, Ron Wiley, Dale Bufler, and Fred Lindley)

Items Discussed:

1. Beer License for August 24 Pitch Tournament: Joe and Jack will application [that Ron initiated] to the Sheriff's office for required signatures and then mail it to Columbus.
2. Paver Project in Village Square: Pavers will be delivered this week. Nate DeVore is in charge of laying pavers. Ron has received payment of 24 engraved pavers. Ron reported that paver supply company [Schott of Cincinnati] does not require a specific number to be engraved; for an order of 50, there would be a two week "turn-around" period.
3. Fall Dinner and Fundraiser: Committee agreed to conduct another dinner/fundraiser on Saturday, November 9 at the Bogan Elementary School. Joe reserved the date with Charlie Kennel. Dinner will include ham and turkey; side dishes to be decided. Betty will contact Talawanda School District officials regarding the necessary paperwork/permission to use the school building.
4. Possible Grant from Ohio Historical Society: Ron reported details and recommended that we apply for a grant. Ron suggested that we use Dale's idea of new veteran's memorial in the village square. The committee agreed. Dale agreed to develop a sketch of his concept (which includes a "vault" of some sort in which the names of veterans could be stored); he will involve Betty and Jack in the designing his sketch. Joe will seek an architect to volunteer her/his services to develop a drawing that could be submitted with the application. Ron will investigate whether Kelly Derickson will help with the writing of the proposal. Idea: ask Tim Derickson to deliver/relay our finished

application.

5. Lane's Mill replica: Ron reported a rumor that the new owner of the former Manrod farm [at Lanes' Mill and Wallace Road] might be considering the construction of a replica of the former Lanes Mill. Ron will investigate; could be a connection to the Bicentennial.

6. Dumpster in Village Square: Ron will ask Paul to arrange to have Hitching Post waste receptacles moved from the northwest quadrant to the rear alley.

7. Alston Exhibit at Bicentennial: Fred raised the following question regarding the scheduling of Bicentennial events; should the Alston exhibit and the auction of sports memorabilia be scheduled on the same day? After discussion, the committee answered, "Yes." Additionally, Joe and Jack will check with Dwayne Clark to confirm the use of the Lutheran Church for the display of the Alston Exhibit. Ron will contact Kim Ogle to verify that the Ogles agree with using the Lutheran Church. The committee confirmed that the auction will be a "live" auction – auctioneered by Doug Ross. Ron has a lead on a possible display case. He and Joe will investigate.

8. Live Music at the Bicentennial: Some committee members identified some local music groups that should be invited to participate. The committee confirmed that Joe is the coordinator and Denny Byrd is the Task Manager for the live music. Thanks to a donation from Bill and Gail Phelps, the sound system is paid for and will be available for one day (Saturday).

9. Bicentennial Food: The committee agreed that Joe and Jack should ask Fay Wolke to be the Task Manager for Bicentennial food, with the understanding that all vendors will possess their own health department certificates.

10. Bicentennial Postcards: Betty recommended and the committee agreed to printing and selling commemorative postcards. The concept is three packets of six postcards each at a price of \$5 per packet. Fred is in the process of producing the images that Betty recommended be used. We will publicize these items in the usual manner. Ron wondered if we might connect with postcard groups/enthusiasts. Fred agreed to investigate Internet sources.

11. Bicentennial apparel: The committee discussed the idea of selling T-shirts and caps. We tabled this decision by waiting until after the November 9th fundraiser, when we hope to have more money in our treasury.

12. Bicentennial Duty Sheets: We reviewed the latest version and made additions and corrections – which Fred will include in another version – that he will distribute to the committee members ASAP. We also

discussed how to sell our Darrtown memorabilia (postcards, playing cards, key fobs, walking sticks, auction items, T-shirts, and caps) to people who prefer to use their charge cards. Fred will research and report on devices that attach to smart phones and process credit card charges.

Next meeting: August 6th. Since Dale left today's meeting early, Fred will inform Dale of the August 6th meeting. Because Paul was unable to attend today's meeting, Ron will inform Paul of the August 6th meeting.

=====

DBSC MEETING; AUGUST 6, 2013 ~ 9:30 AM ~ PATER RESIDENCE

Present: (members: Jack Daniels, Betty Daniels, Joe Pater, Ron Wiley, Dale Bufler, and Fred Lindley)

Items Discussed:

1. August 24th Social and Pitch Tournament at the Community Center – Fred

The event has been publicized (including 49 direct mailings); hence, we need to conduct it, as scheduled. With low registration of pitch players, we may have to allow "walk-in" (unregistered) players. Worse case scenario, due to low interest, we drop the August 24 tournament & return the money to pre-registered. Other activities go forward as planned: Charley Kennel's food, live music, corn-hole games, tables for socializing and/or card playing. Fred distributed a "duty sheet" related to various tasks.

2. August 10th "village walk-through" – Joe

We announced the August 10 date during our meeting at LaRosa's. Per Paul's suggestion to do more advertising in township, Joe made contact with lead distributors in Somerville and Collinsville. Fred & Joe ordered 300 copies of 8.5x11 inch flyers for distribution (175 for Darrtown; 75 for Somerville; 50 for Collinsville). Joe arranged for Jeff Beckett (Eric's Pizza) to sponsor the 300 flyers. We need to identify others to help us with Darrtown distribution on Aug. 10.

3. Bicentennial "Duty sheets" – Joe and Jack Daniels

We reviewed the various tasks/duties listed on the sheets, which included the following:

3.1. Joe and Jack will ask Hanover Winery if they will pay for the \$110 wine permit. If they decline, then, we won't have wine sales at the Bicentennial.

3.2. Joe and Jack will acquire a copy of the "contract" that Fay Wolke recommended we use with the vendors. Then, we will decide if we want

to use such a document.

3.3. Regarding an offer from Mike Schaffer of Hamilton to manage a corn hole tournament for a fee, Jack will ask Mike to hold the date of July 5, 2014 for a few weeks, so that we may evaluate the proposal and associated costs. Joe will include this item as one of the several expenses to be listed on a "punch list" of possible projects that two potential donors might fund.

3.4. Joe and Jack will confer with Rebecca Evans to determine when she wants the cemetery tour scheduled [Saturday? Sunday? Both days?]

3.5. Betty will check with Oxford post office personnel to determine the cost of mailings to residents in Milford Township.

3.6. Fred will check with Kim Johnson to determine when the key fobs will be delivered to us [i.e., will they be available for August 24 Gathering and Pitch Tournament?].

4. Paver Project – Ron

Ron reported that, as of today, we have received orders for 113 pavers. After deducting the cost of engraving, the profit to the Bicentennial fund is \$3,729. We agreed to extend the deadline for accepting orders through next Monday, August 12. Fred will publicize this extension through an electronic newsletter and on Facebook.

5. Other?

5.1. Dale shared some drawings of possible veterans' memorial. Joe made copies that he and Jack will use when requesting funds from the potential donors mentioned in 3.3 above.

5.2. We agreed to meet at 10 AM this Saturday in Darrrtown to distribute "Bicentennial Update" flyers to Darrrtown residents. Each of us is to seek more help with this task.

5.3. We agreed to meet at 10 AM on Friday, August 23, at the Wiley residence, for a committee meeting. That afternoon, at 1:30 PM, we will meet in the Milford Township Community Center to set up tables and chairs for the August 24th Darrrtown Gathering and Pitch Tournament.

=====

DBSC MEETING; AUGUST 23, 2013 ~ 10:00 AM ~ WILEY RESIDENCE

Present: (members: Paul Gillespie, Jack Daniels, Betty Daniels, Joe Pater, Ron Wiley, Dale Bufler, Fred Lindley and guest, John Devore)

Items Discussed:

1. Design of the Milford Township Memorial Park:

John Devore presented a revised plan for the trees and shrubs to be installed in the park. Emphasis has been placed choosing and placing items in a manner that will keep maintenance costs to a minimum, provide easy access to visitors, respect the view of adjacent property owners.

2. Design of new Veterans' Memorial in Northwest Quadrant of Darrrtown village square:

Ron led a discussion of this project. We reviewed the sketches that Dale presented at our last meeting. Dale then introduced a new idea: We could design the new memorial to resemble or "mirror" the Walter Alston memorial that stands in the southwest quadrant. Discussion ensued. Each member expressed her/his preference. Then, Fred offered the following summary of the discussion:

- 2a. Design the monument to simulate the Alston memorial.
- 2b. Design the new monument to include the plaque that now appears in the old memorial on the east side of Main Street (must investigate if the Talawanda Garden Club still exists, as it sponsored the original monument. If it does, we need to consult with them regarding this transfer, which has been partially triggered by the expansion of the township fire house.)
- 2c. Investigate the cost of having the monument constructed of black granite.
- 2d. Place the monument in the center of the northwest patio, with front side facing east – toward Main Street.
- 2e. Design the monument to include Dale's ideas regarding verse, arrangement of symbols to commemorate all branches of military service, etc.
- 2f. Place all military pavers (those purchased and engraved in memory of veterans) near/adjacent to the monument.

Fred then made a motion that the committee accept this plan. Paul seconded the motion. Ron called for a vote, which unanimously passed.

Ron volunteered to research the question of whether the Talawanda Garden Club exists in some form.

Dale volunteered to contact the Biltz Monument Co. of Brookville, Indiana and seek an estimate of costs related to this project.

3. Communication within Our Committee:

Fred suggested that, given the number of decisions that we face as we

get closer to the Bicentennial [about ten months from today's meeting], we need to meet more frequently. Electronic conferencing [such as Oovoo] could help in this regard. With five members currently using Oovoo, Paul agreed to get connected. Dale said that he preferred to participate in such video conferences with a telephone. No decision made regarding a regular meeting time on Oovoo.

4. Darrrtown Social and Pitch Tournament at Milford Township Community Center - tomorrow / August 24.

We reviewed the "Duty Sheet" and discussed last-minute details. The major challenge facing us is the uncertainty of numbers. Only a handful of people registered in advance for the tournament. If this first round of tourney is a failure, then we will drop the project and delete the "finals" projected for the Bicentennial.

5. Next Meeting:

We plan to meet next Thursday, August 29 at 10 AM. Dale will try to have a Biltz representative in the village square sometime that day.

=====

DBSC MEETING; AUGUST 29, 2013

10:00 AM ~ DARRTOWN VILLAGE SQUARE

Present: (members: Jack Daniels, Betty Daniels, Joe Pater, Ron Wiley, Dale Bufler, and Fred Lindley)

The committee members listed above met with "Jake" of the Biltz Monument Company, located in Brookville, Indiana. Discussion focused on the cost, location, design, construction, and installation of a Veterans' Monument in the northwest quadrant of the village square. The committee members then traveled to the Darrrtown cemetery to see the type of work that the Biltz Company has produced for some of the burial sites.

11:30 AM ~ JOHN WOODRUFF STORAGE AREA

Committee members drove to a Hanover Township property owned by John Woodruff to acquire an eight foot long display case that we plan to use during the Bicentennial to display Walter Alston memorabilia. Joe used his pickup truck to transport the display case to a storage area near McGonigle, where it will be stored for cleaning. Next July, we plan to deliver the case to Darrrtown for the Bicentennial.

12:15 PM ~ PATER RESIDENCE

Items Discussed:

1. Veterans' Memorial

We discussed the details of the Veterans' Memorial. We are considering a monument that will mirror the Walter Alston monument in the southwestern quadrant of the village square. Tentative plans call for a gray structure, approximately 60" wide by 60" high by 6" deep that will be mounted on a base of 66" wide by 12" deep by 8" high. The total cost is approximately \$8500. The monument will be placed in the northwest corner of the paved patio in the northwest quadrant. We discussed the idea of adding a flag pole to the site.

2. August 24, 2013 Darrrtown Social and Pitch Tournament

The total profit was approximately \$650. While some 50 people attended the event, only 10-15 people played in the tournament. We agreed to not host any more Pitch Tournaments.

3. Harvest Dinner

We agreed to host another dinner fundraiser. We will advertise the event as a "Harvest Dinner." The dinner is scheduled for Saturday, November 9 at the Milford Township Community Center from 5-8 PM. Food will be prepared by Charlie Kennel. We will print dinner tickets and sell them for \$10 each. We will have a "Split the Pot" raffle. We may decide to have one "big ticket" item to raffle. We discussed the idea of having two area bands play on an alternating basis throughout the evening.

4. Darrrtown Timeline Project

Fred presented an idea for recognizing families from Darrrtown and vicinity at an exhibit during the Bicentennial. First-generation genealogy records would be prepared and displayed for those families that are known to have lived in or near Darrrtown, from the founding of the village in 1814 to present day. This would be an interactive exhibit that would facilitate the addition of families for whom we have no records. Thus, persons whose family names are missing from the Darrrtown Timeline, would be invited to add their family names to the timeline at the appropriate place. After discussion, the Steering Committee agreed that Fred should further develop this idea and report back at a future meeting.

5. Financial Report

Ron distributed a summary of our finances. Our current balance is

\$8,585.36

We reviewed the projected budget, which is in a continual state of flux, as some items that we projected as expenses are being funded by donations. The current projected budget is in the neighborhood of \$15,000 to \$16,000.

7. Our "To Do" list

Joe offered a list of things that need approval by and/or assistance from the township trustees. Ron will share this list with Paul and ask him to respond at our next meeting.

8. Other

Joe shared news about:

8a. Tim Derickson's recommendation that, if we want state and local politicians to attend the 2014 Bicentennial, we should prepare an invitation ASAP. Fred agreed to draft a letter and share it with the committee.

8b. Jeff Beckett's interest in selling food and beverages at the Bicentennial.

WE ADJOURNED AT 3 PM.

=====

DBSC MEETING; SEPTEMBER 5, 2013

6:30 PM ~ AT THE PATER RESIDENCE

Present: (members: Paul Gillespie, Jack Daniels, Betty Daniels, Joe Pater, and Ron Wiley.)

Fred Lindley participated by video conference – Oovoo)

Items:

Paul reported that the township has received several block grants for paving streets. An application now would likely not be funded until fall 2014. If two apps were submitted (paving and Bicentennial) they would have to rank them. Putting paving first would kill the Bicentennial application. Decided that we won't submit.

Oxford Street – To close during the Bicentennial? Yes, but leave opening for fire trucks exit.

Beer sales at eDot Park? Safety issue with Trustees equals a decision to not sell beer at the park. Discussion ensued about where we might sell beer. There may be a new owner of the Hitching Post – which raises a question of whether we can sell beer in the center of town.

Communications within the Committee: We discussed various video conferencing platforms. Jack & Betty will check with their son re his experience/satisfaction with GoToMeeting. Committee decided that Joe or Fred would register with GoToMeeting on a 30-day free trial basis. If we like it, then we will sign up and pay for a year – from bicentennial funds.

Paintings of barn quilts on firehouse wall by Dennis Moorish. There may be grant possibilities for funding this idea. Ron is working with Catherine Hollins of Oxford Community Foundation on funding possibilities. Paul will contact Alan Daniels re art on Madison Twp firehouse, on Elk Creek Road.

Fred reported problems with the idea of creating sponsor logos on the website in relation to the size of their donations. We could place different size ads in our printed program of Bicentennial program. Joe reported that Greg Elam will check with Randy Smith about paying for our printed programs.

Big raffle items for the November 9 dinner/fundraiser: Betty and Jack will check with west Hamilton Kroger store regarding a donation of a \$200 – \$250 gift-card. If not donated, perhaps purchased at reduced cost.

T-shirts for staff members: Betty and Jack to determine the number needed (50?), color (lime green?), sizes, and then place the order. If price is right, maybe order more and sell excess. Due to uncertainty of attendance, we decided to not sell Bicentennial apparel.

Split-the-pot at the November 9 dinner/fundraiser: Agreed to run two raffles; timing of draw determined by money accumulated.

Kids tickets: Probably at 1/2 price (\$5).

Idea of posting our Dinner posters at other festivals/dinners that occur prior to ours: Agreed, for those that will let us do so.. Darrrtown Methodist church is the week ahead of ours. Check with Carolyn Russell regarding permission to post.

Advertising for Harvest Dinner: We agreed to advertise; we are planning on two ads each, in the Oxford Press and the Hamilton Journal, during the four weeks prior to Nov. 9 event.

Ron: Paver engravings – to date – 208 engraved pavers sold at a profit of \$6,864

Ron: Veterans' monument – Ron will submit a grant proposal to Oxford Community Foundation, by Nov. 4th deadline, in pursuit of funds for Veterans monument.

We discussed passing flyers out to township residents outside "metropolitan" Darrrtown.

We acknowledged the need to schedule a work session to clean up the display case. Ron will talk with Kim Ogle regarding the Alston memorabilia that is to be exhibited in the display case.

Fred reported contact with a descendant (fourth generation) granddaughter of Conrad Darr. She plans to attend the Bicentennial.

Joe will check with Tammy Thome regarding a "realtor's box" in which we could place paver order forms. The box would be located in the southwest quadrant of the village square.

WE ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 9 PM

=====

Notes from our meeting on Oovoo (video conference) – September 16, 7 PM

Participants: Paul Gillespie, Ron Wiley, Jack Daniels, Betty Daniels, Joe Pater, and Fred Lindley

1. Placement/installation of engraved pavers: Joe and Ron will go to Schott Monuments on Wednesday, September 18 to pick up the finished pavers. Ron meets with John DeVore on Friday, September 20 to coordinate the installation of the pavers. Installation is likely to occur the following week (Sept. 23–27).

2. Unveiling of engraved pavers: We agreed to schedule the unveiling for Sunday, October 6, assuming that the tasks in the above paragraph occur on time. The October 6th event will be "low-key." We will reserve a larger publicity "push" for later, when we unveil the veterans' monument/dedication. For October 6, Fred and Ron will coordinate a direct mailing/invitation to persons whose pavers will be installed.

Joe will contact Jeff Beckett to ask if Jeff would like to cater hotdogs, hamburgers, and drinks from 1–2 PM. If Jeff agrees, then the direct mailing will include an RSVP for lunch.

The informal unveiling will occur at 2 PM. Ron will be in charge of

the program (order of events). It is likely that one or two trees will be installed during the program.

3. Ancestry.com session for Committee members – after the Unveiling: Ron offered to host this session, which will feature Kim Johnson demonstrating how we might use Ancestry.com during the Bicentennial.

4. Idea of including a flyer in the Milford township newsletter: Several weeks ago, Brad Mills agreed to include a 300-word news article about the Bicentennial in the township newsletter that will be mailed to all township residents by October 20. Fred has written and submitted that story. In response to Fred's query, Brad said he could arrange with the newsletter publisher to include a black and white, two-sided flyer in the newsletter that would advertise the November 9th Harvest Dinner and Fundraiser on one side and publicize the Bicentennial on the other. Brad anticipated the cost to be approximately \$100. The committee agreed to this expenditure.

5. Other ideas for advertising the November 9 Harvest Dinner: Discussion ensued about the prices of newspaper advertisements. Ron shared prices and strategies that surfaced in a conversation that he had with Debbie Gross at the Oxford Press. Ron will send that information to all committee members for their review and we plan to make a decision at our next meeting regarding (a) the total amount of money that we want to spend on advertising the November 9 dinner and (b) advertising strategies that will realize the best use of our money.

6. "Big ticket" raffle item at the November 9th Dinner/Fundraiser: Betty and Jack reported on the numerous contacts that they have made to date. No donations received to date; however Betty and Jack will continue their efforts. If the Hamilton Kroger store falters, Ron volunteered to check with the Kroger store in Oxford.

7. Sale of Dinner Tickets at local places of business: Per Jack, Don Beckett agreed to sell dinner tickets at Don's Carry-Out. Paul will ask Dunkelbergers, if they will sell for us.

8. Name of "contact person" on Dinner posters: Ron said we could list his name and phone number on any posters that we have printed.

9. Live Music at Nov. 9 Fundraiser: Jack confirmed that the West Street Band will perform.

10. Desserts at Nov. 9 Dinner Fundraiser: We discussed whether we will include dessert in the price of the meal or whether we should charge extra for it. Jack reported some conversation with church contacts regarding possible donations of desserts. Decision was tabled. For continued discussion at our next meeting, Paul will check with Charlie Kennel regarding the price that he charged for the March dinner.

11. Bicentennial parade – Update on Mort Van Gordon's horses: – Fred reported that Mort Van Gordon is checking with his son to determine if they will transport their horses to Darrtown for the Bicentennial parade (Note: Mort mentioned cost of gas...)

Prior to adjourning, we agreed to carry-over the following items to our next meeting:

- > Flagpole for monument: Any thoughts about including one?
- > Review list of pavers sold and list people who have not yet bought a paver.
- > Review the most recent version of Bicentennial Duty Sheets (v11-2013-09-01)
- > Decide whether to schedule a Corn hole tournament at the Bicentennial

Our next meeting will be held at 10 AM, Friday, Sept. 20 at Presidio Pines.

We adjourned the meeting at 8:20 PM.

=====

Notes – Meeting at Presido Pines – September 20, 2013 – 10 AM

Participants: Joe Pater, Ron Wiley, Jack Daniels, Dale Bufler, Betty Daniels, and Fred Lindley

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Placement/installation of engraved pavers:
Report by Ron & Joe: Joe and Ron picked up the engraved pavers in Joe's truck earlier this week. Joe will deliver them to Darrtown, when John DeVore's crew is ready to install them – probably, Monday, September 23. The second batch of engraved pavers should be ready to be picked up from Schott Monuments, by October 1st.
2. Unveiling of engraved pavers:
 - 2.1 – We anticipate that the pavers will be installed on Sunday, October 6.
 - 2.2 – Publicity: Fred and Ron will coordinate a direct mailing/ invitation to persons whose pavers will be installed. Fred will publicize in electronic newsletter and FaceBook.
 - 2.3 – Refreshments: Joe will contact Jeff Beckett to ask if Jeff would like to cater hotdogs, hamburgers, and drinks from 1-2 PM. If Jeff agrees, then the direct mailing will include an RSVP for lunch.
 - 2.4 – The informal unveiling will occur at 2 PM. Ron will be in charge of the program (order of events). It is likely that one or two trees will be installed during the program.

3. Ancestry.com session for Committee members – after the Unveiling: Ron offered to host this October 6th session at the Wiley residence. Kim Johnson will demonstrate how we might use Ancestry.com during the Bicentennial.

4. Idea of including a flyer in the Milford township newsletter: Brad Mills confirmed the inclusion of a 300-word news article about the Bicentennial in the township newsletter that will be mailed to all township residents (October 20 is deadline for submitting our message/text. Brad confirmed the cost to be \$100 for a black and white, two-sided flyer inserted with the Milford Township newsletter. The insert will advertise the November 9th Harvest Dinner and Fundraiser on one side and publicize the Bicentennial on the other. Fred will prepare the content of the insert.

5. Other strategies for advertising the November 9 Harvest Dinner:
5.1 – Approximately, \$500 is our top figure for advertising the Nov. 9 Dinner.

5.2 –We plan to run two black and white advertisements: one in the Oxford Press and one in the Hamilton Journal.

5.3 – Fred will investigate having Bicentennial articles placed in the newsletters at the water association and the rural electric association.

5.4 – We will ask the local churches to distribute $\frac{1}{2}$ page, black and white flyers prior to the Nov. 9 dinner. We need approximately 300 flyers (150 sheets of paper). Ron volunteered to print the flyers on his laser printer. Joe offered the use of his paper cutter. Fred will design the flyer.

6. "Big ticket" raffle item at the November 9th Dinner/Fundraiser: Report by Betty and Jack: We have one \$200 gift card from Kroger. Ron will check on the Oxford Kroger store. Joe will check on a gasoline card from Stephenson Oil.

7. Sale of Dinner Tickets at local places of business: Dunkelberger's Lawn & Garden in Collinsville will sell tickets, as will Don's Carry-Out in Darrrtown.

9. Desserts at Nov. 9 Dinner Fundraiser:

9.1 – Jack and Betty reported that Carolyn Russell is checking on the Methodist church ladies. We agreed to seek desserts from all area churches and donate some ourselves. Desserts will be included in the price of tickets.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Sale of Harvest Dinner tickets:

A1. – Joe described how some organizations/dinners sell tickets by the hour. We decided to not use that format.

A2. – We plan to have diners enter the double doors at the front of the building [the former school entrance], so that the line of

customers will flow through the lower floor of the building – thus allowing people to stand/sit inside; rather than waiting outside. We need to provide “greeters” to guide people through the line and inform them of events. Fred will ask Bill and Gail Phelps to assume the “greeter” task.

B. Flagpole near the Veterans’ monument:

B1. We decided that we like the idea of placing a flagpole near the monument; we will seek sponsors for this project, which will be pursued next spring. We hope to have it in place in time for the Bicentennial.

C. Pavers sold:

C1. Ron reported a total of 223 pavers sold, as of yesterday.

C2. We discussed our recent review pavers sold and our effort to contact people who had not yet purchased a paver. Some success has occurred.

D. Bicentennial Duty Sheets (v11-2013-09-01):

D1. – We briefly reviewed the Duty Sheets and made some revisions. Fred will electronically distribute an updated version to committee members. We decided to NOT pay anyone to organize a Corn hole tournament at the Bicentennial. Joe has a local contact that he will ask to voluntarily organize some corn hole “games,” during the Bicentennial.

E. Provisions for band at the Harvest Dinner:

E1. – We agreed to provide food and drinks for the musicians.

F. Bicentennial Invitations to Elected Officials

F1. We decided to invite the following elected officials to attend the Bicentennial: the Governor, HR Speaker John Boehner, Tim Derickson, Bill Coley, three county commissioners, the county sheriff, the township trustees, and members of the Talawanda Board of Education.

F2. We will limit invitations to speak to (1) the Governor, or his representative and (2) HR Speaker Boehner.

We adjourned the meeting at 1:50 PM.

=====

Notes from our Meeting on Oovoo – September 23, 2013 ~ 7 PM

Participants: Ron Wiley, Jack Daniels, Betty Daniels, Joe Pater, and Fred Lindley

1. Positioning of Veterans’ Monument:

1A. Background: Today, four committee members helped John DeVore place engraved pavers in the Memorial Park. During that time, John recommended that the monument be centered on the west side of the

northwest patio – rather than in the corner, as had been previously discussed with Jake from Biltz. This move will make the monument more compatible with the layout of individual pavers.

1B. Decision: As a decision had to be made, the four members concurred and the monument will be placed as described above.

2. Names of Committee members on the Monument:

2A. We agreed that the names of Steering Committee members should not appear on the Veterans' monument. We will, at some future point, discuss the purchase and placement of a stand-alone plaque that would display the names of committee members.

2B. We voted for Design #1 (from the three that Fred had designed and distributed earlier today to all committee members).

3. Trees to be placed in the Memorial Park:

Ron reported that:

3A: He received two pledges totaling \$1400 to pay for two trees, whose trunks will be approximately three inches, in diameter. The ball of one of these two trees will only be partially covered, so that we may complete the shoveling of dirt, in a ceremonial setting of the tree at the October 6 "Paver Gathering."

3B. Imfeld's Nursery will donate a blue spruce that will fit nicely in the northwest corner of the northwest quadrant.

4. Idea regarding the location of Bicentennial Events:

4A. We discussed the pros and cons of an idea that Fred proposed via email earlier today. The idea is, given the uncertainty of our being able to use various parcels of privately owned property located east of Main Street, that we locate/schedule all Bicentennial events on the west side of Main Street. We would use (a) E-Dot Park, which is public property, managed by the township trustees, as the main venue of events. We anticipate that we will also be able to use the Baptist church property, as previously discussed with the church minister.

4B. Ron agreed to contact Dale and Paul regarding their thoughts on this idea.

5. Bicentennial Duty Sheets

5.1. We agreed that we need to set aside time solely to focus on and discuss the details related to the various Bicentennial events.

5.2 We agreed to meet for this purpose on Oovoo at 7 PM, this Wednesday, September 25. Joe and Jack will lead the discussion.

=====

Notes from Darrrtown Bicentennial Steering Committee meeting at E-dot Park, in Darrrtown – October 10, 2013 ~ 10 AM

Participants: Ron Wiley, Jack Daniels, Betty Daniels, Joe Pater, Dale Bufler, and Fred Lindley

Guests included: R. Kirk Mee III and Marvin Russell

1. TOUR OF E-DOT PARK:

Committee members walked the length and breadth of E-dot Park to consider various ideas for using the space during the July 5-6, 2013 Bicentennial. Based on today's discussion, Fred will develop a diagram of the park that displays the TENTATIVE location of various events and/or activities. Ron has been in contact with a local electrician regarding the provision of electricity to the stage and vendors. Joe spotted an area near the existing restrooms that needs to be filled/ leveled, to avoid a possible fall/injury. SUGGESTION: Between now and a few months before the Bicentennial, we should conduct a walk-through the park to look for specific items that warrant the attention of and the repair by the Township Trustees; thereby reducing everyone's liability.

2. REVIEW OF "DUTY SHEETS" – CHANGES AND/OR ADDITIONS:

2.1 – We discussed the idea of using a "boom" truck, rather than the Oxford fire department aerial trucks to display the large American flag. We agreed that we would try to make arrangements to have the flag displayed, during both days of the Bicentennial, in the village square, high above Main Street. We think this will add to the festive appearance of the village square, which we think will be needed – since most Bicentennial events will occur at E-dot Park.

2.2 – We agreed with the idea of using the small U.S. flags [that Ron acquired] to mark the pathways in the village square Memorial Park – and perhaps place the flags along the roadway from the intersection of Main and Oxford streets to the E-dot Park entrance. Jack will pursue the identification of a Boy Scout leader to ask for help with the placement of the flags.

2.3 – With regard to the availability of food, during the Bicentennial:

2.3.1 – Each of us offered our estimates of the number of people who might attend the Bicentennial. Projections ranged from 500 to 1,000 (with one prediction of 3,000).

2.3.2 – We agreed that we want to be loyal to local food vendors (i.e., Jeff Beckett of Eric's Pizza, Charlie Kennel, and the three Dartown churches). However, If 500-1,000 people attend, we anticipate that we should offer more food of a greater variety; especially the "fair" or carnival type (i.e., elephant ears, cotton candy, caramel corn, funnel cakes, etc.). Consequently, Joe and Jack will pursue the identification and invitation of such vendors. We anticipate charging a fee from such vendors.

2.4 – With regard to the availability of drinks, during the Bicentennial:

2.4.1 – Jack and Joe have located a Pepsi vendor who will provide both

soft drinks and water, on consignment. We pay only for the drinks that we sell. Dale will coordinate the staffing and sale of beverages.

2.5 – Cost of tents: Based on his research, Jack believes that our estimated cost of \$3,628 for tents is too high. He suggested that we lower our estimate by \$1,000. This reduction places our anticipated Bicentennial debt at \$13,180.

3. FINANCIAL STANDING:

3.1 – Ron reported the following:

- > 266 pavers have been sold to date.
- > Income from the sale of pavers equals \$8,715, which is 65% of the total walkway
- > Adding in donations and grant money of \$2,550, the total income equals \$11,265, or 84%, of the total cost of \$13,400.
- > To pay off the paver project, we need to sell 65 more pavers, which will eliminate the remaining debt of \$2,135.

3.2 – As of this date, we have encumbered an estimated total debt of \$24,015.

- > \$2,135 (actual) to pay off the paver project
- > \$8,700 (estimated) to pay off the Veterans' Monument (Ron has not heard from Harry Ogle regarding a lower price.)
- > \$13,180 (estimated) to fund the Bicentennial

3.3 – As of this date (Oct. 10, 2013), our available cash equals:

- > \$16,150.77 in bank account
- > Less \$1,000 to pay Imfeld Nursery for planting of 15' blue spruce
- > \$15,150.77 balance at Somerville National bank

3.4 – Cash on Hand vs. Anticipated Debt:

- > Current balance of \$15,150.77 minus \$24,115 estimated debt equals a shortfall of \$8,964.23

3.5 – Sources of anticipated income include:

- > Donations
- > Sale of additional pavers
- > November 9, 2013 Harvest Dinner
- > Fees from Bicentennial vendors
- > Sale of Darrtown memorabilia (key fobs, decks of cards, and walking sticks)
- > Sale of Bicentennial Auction items (Kirk Mee sports memorabilia, Bicentennial quilts, and framed "Darrtown's Four Seasons" photograph)

4. BICENTENNIAL AUCTION; A VISIT WITH R. KIRK MEE III:

4.1 – Kirk Mee, of Centreville, Virginia, stopped by today's meeting for a brief visit. Kirk, a native of Darrtown, has collected some over one dozen, autographed, professional sports items that he is donating to the Darrtown Bicentennial (items appear on the Bicentennial / Auction page at www.darrtown.com)

4.2 – Regarding the auction of Kirk’s donated items, we decided that:

4.2.1 – The auction will be a “live” auction (with a live auctioneer conducting the sale – as opposed to a “silent” auction).

4.2.2 – Each auction item will have a reserve price. The reserve price is the lowest fixed price at which an auction item will be sold, if no higher price is bid. If the auction of an item does not reach the reserve price, the seller is not obligated to accept the winning bid.

4.2.3 – We discussed the need to advertise these items. Options that we discussed included advertisements in area newspapers, sports-related websites, and printed sale bills to be posted in sports-related businesses (with some given to our auctioneer for posting at sales that he conducts prior to the Bicentennial)

4.2.4 – We asked Kirk to establish the reserve price for each item that he has to sell. Kirk and Fred will develop a list of the reserve prices.

4.2.5 – Any item that does not sell at the reserve price will be placed on e-Bay – with benefits going to the Darrrtown Bicentennial.

4.3 – We accepted Kirk’s offer to invite Pete Johnson, former Ohio State University and Cincinnati Bengal football player to set up a sales tent at the Bicentennial.

4.4 – Kirk reported that he knows an experienced parachutist, who will perform at the Bicentennial – at no cost to us. Joe and Jack will consider this offer, as they develop the schedule of Bicentennial events.

5. CLASSIC CARS DISPLAY; A VISIT WITH MARVIN RUSSELL:

5.1 – Marvin Russell, of Hamilton, Ohio stopped by today’s meeting for a brief visit. Marvin, a native of Darrrtown, has agreed to organize a display of classic automobiles at the Bicentennial.

5.2 – Marvin anticipates 50-75 cars participating – at invitation only. Marvin will manage the invitations.

5.3 – Marvin agreed that E-dot Park has enough room to accommodate the car display. If the ground is not soft/wet, he prefers to locate the cars in a grassy area. Otherwise, we will use a paved portion of E-Dot Park for the display.

5.4 – Marvin agreed to consider the idea of having the cars assemble at some location in or nearby Darrrtown and then, on a given signal, drive to E-dot Park, in the manner of a parade.

6. NEXT-DOOR NEIGHBOR; A VISIT WITH GEORGE LEUGERS:

6.1 – George Leugers, who lives at that south edge of E-Dot Park met with us for a few minutes. George has, in the past, offered to assist the Bicentennial effort in a variety of ways. Today, George offered the use of a storage facility on his property. Jack thought this would solve a security problem related to the storage of the borrowed golf carts overnight.

We adjourned the meeting at approximately 2 PM.

=====

Darrrtown Bicentennial Steering Committee ~ October 14, 2013
Lindley residence

In attendance: Jack Daniels, Betty Daniels, Ron Wiley, Joe Pater, and Fred Lindley

Agenda items:

1. Should we have just a one-day event? After discussion, we concurred that we should continue with our plans for a two-day event.
2. Discuss Nov. 9 dinner – We reviewed a “Staffing” document that we used for the March dinner/fundraiser and made adjustments as needed. Fred will summarize and send a copy to all committee members.
3. Paver Project – Ron reported the latest figures, which Fred will summarize and report to all committee members.
4. Exact number of tables (round, rectangular?) We estimated 40 mixed.
5. Exact number of chairs? We estimated 200.
6. Exact number of tents? Jack is working on this.
7. Review Bicentennial Duty Sheets – We discussed the difference between an “Information center” at the main gate and the “welcome center” at the middle of the event. We brainstormed ideas of things that will be hosted inside the welcome center. For example, a register of guests, a record of how far some people traveled, a table to display/sell Darrrtown memorabilia/ an “old-timers” corner; an Ancestry table/booth, and and a table to promote the idea of forming a “Darrrtown Historical Society.”
8. Charge for the booths. We decided to not charge for any booths.
9. Township Trustees and related issues. In a recent email, Paul said the township could/would close some streets, as needed. We plan to develop a list of things that we will ask the Trustees to do. Ron and Jack will compile the list and present it to a meeting of the Trustees.
10. Postcards? We agreed to the idea of printing two packs of postcards with six images/postcards in each pack. We agreed to print a total of 200 packs. Fred will try to design and deliver the images and captions to the printer in time for the November 9 Harvest Dinner.
11. Printed program: After much discussion, Fred will use the

committee's ideas to design a tentative program to be presented to the entire committee.

12. Advertising for November 9 Harvest Dinner: Ron has two advertisements scheduled: one in the Oxford Press (Friday, November 1) and one in the Hamilton Journal (Tuesday, November 5).

=====

Notes from our Meeting on Oovoo – October 21, 2013 ~ 7 PM

Participants: Ron Wiley, Jack Daniels, Betty Daniels, Joe Pater, and Fred Lindley

1. Number of trash cans available for Nov. 9 Harvest Dinner? Joe reported that Paul said the township has four to six available in the Community Center. Ron will purchase two more, since we plan to set up dining tables in the gym and four other rooms on the first floor.
2. Report on food vendors: Jack and Betty have contacted an area vendor who sells all manner of fried veggies and agreed to sell at the Bicentennial.
3. Postcard preparation and printing: Betty reported that 18 images from Darrrtown's past are ready to be printed on postcards. Betty recommended that the 18 postcards be packaged and sold in three packets of six postcards/images. It will cost \$796 to print 1800 black and white postcards (100 copies of the 18 images). After discussion and/or conjecture about how well the postcards might sell, we unanimously agreed to this plan/cost. We will have the postcards available for sale at the November 9 Harvest Dinner. Betty will prepare a display of the postcards to promote purchases.
4. Gospel singing at the Bicentennial: Carolyn Russell suggested that we consider asking the three churches to have gospel singing on Sunday. The consensus was favorable; however, we had several questions (one choir from each of three churches or three choirs performing separately? Jack will talk with Carolyn about the particulars and report back to us.
5. How to distribute/sell raffle tickets in advance of the November 9 Harvest Dinner? We decided that we will distribute raffle tickets among our committee at our next face-to-face meeting, which we set for 10 AM, October 30. At that meeting we will discuss a strategy for selling raffle tickets in advance of the event.
6. Guests at our next meeting:
 - 6A. We agreed to invite Denny Byrd to our next meeting to discuss the music/bands that will perform at the Bicentennial. Jack or Joe will invite Denny to join us, at 1 PM.

6B We agreed to invite Carolyn Coley to our next meeting to discuss her role as a contact between the Bicentennial and area radio and television stations. Fred will invite Carolyn to join us at 10 AM.

7. Better price on the Veterans Monument? Harry Ogle has offered to seek a lower price on the veterans' monument. Ron and Harry will meet with Harry's contact this Thursday. Ron will make certain that the offer/bid is commensurate to the one that we already have.

8. List of Bicentennial-related requests to be presented to the Milford Township Trustees? Ron and Jack agreed to attend an upcoming meeting of the Trustees and present a list of items related to the readiness of E-dot Park.

9. 10'x15' U.S. flag to be used as backdrop on stage: Jack has a contact who will rent such a flag to us for the Bicentennial weekend at a cost of \$25. We agreed to this expense.

10. Boom truck for large flag on main street? Joe's first contact does not want to provide his truck. Joe and Jack will continue to investigate.

11. Two "Tickets Sold Here" posters for Don's Carry-Out and Dunklebergers? Ron picked up these posters at the printer and delivered them to Don's and Dunklebergers.

12. Bicentennial parking space / near-by fields? Joe and Jack have learned identity of property owners and will investigate possible use.

13. Contact with Boy Scouts? Joe and Jack have a name and will investigate.

14. Parachutist that was recommended by Kirk Mee: Fred has written Kirk and asked for details/contact info.

15. Discuss the difference between an "Information center" at the main gate and the "welcome center" at the middle of the event. We agreed to the following plan:

15.1. Do not provide a tent at the entrance to the blacktop area (next to the Leuger residence). Instead, plan to have volunteers working that entrance, along with other entrances, such as the openings in the ball field fence. Train these workers to act as greeters, distribute printed programs, answer questions, and encourage people to visit the large tent (name to be decided) at the center of activities (see 15.2 below)

15. 2. Set up a large tent (name to be decided) at the center of activities that will serve as a combination "information/welcome/reunion center." Choose a name ("Welcome Center" or "Bicentennial Central" or ____?) and create a banner with that name to be displayed on the tent.

16. Sign for entrance to Community Center: Joe reported that he will pick up a sign for the outside of the Community Center that directs people to the entrance that we want them to use during the November 9 Harvest Dinner.

17. Stephenson Oil gift cards: Joe reported that he has receive two \$25 gift cards; not the \$100 card that we anticipated.

18. Blue spruce tree set in village square: Ron reported that a blue spruce was delivered to the village square today. Reffitt's Garage & Towing Service moved the tree, from Imfeld's Nursery in McGonigle to Darrtown, at no cost to the Bicentennial Fund. Ron has received gifts/donations to cover the cost of the tree.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM

Items not discussed:

A. Publicity regarding Nov. 9 dinner: newspaper ads, Milford Twp. Newsletter, electronic newsletter, FaceBook, other?

B. Brainstorm ideas of things that will be hosted inside the "main tent."

Some ideas:

- > a register of guests,
- > a record of how far some people traveled,
- > a table to display/sell Bicentennial memorabilia
- > a table to display Darrtown memorabilia that others bring as "show and tell"
- > an "old-timers" corner - mostly chairs to sit and chat - check with Dale for his ideas
- > an Ancestry table/booth
- > a table to promote the idea of forming a "Darrtown Historical Society."

=====

NOTES FROM BICENTENNIAL STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, October 30, 2013 - 9:30 AM
Daniels' residence

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. November 9 Dinner and Fundraiser
We reviewed our "Tasks & Staffing" document; assigned duties to those who volunteered to help. Fred will summarize our discussion today, revise the sheet, and send to all volunteer workers this weekend.

2. July 5-6 Bicentennial

We assessed our progress and direction from two aspects: financial and purpose.

2.1 Financial:

Ron provided the following information:

Our current indebtedness:

Estimated Bicentennial expenses = \$11,177

- Cost of veterans' monument (based on bid from Janus Memorial Arts of Harrison, Ohio) = \$4,707
- Balance owed on paver project = \$1,544
- Total indebtedness = \$17,424

Cash on hand (in our account at the Somerville National Bank) = \$16,891.10

Difference between total indebtedness and cash on hand = (-\$536.90)

2.2 Purpose:

Fred explained that recently he was told that most people who will attend the Bicentennial would only be there for the food and music. This caused Fred to ask, "Is there a difference between a festival and a Bicentennial?" That raised the question about our purpose. In other words, "Where are we and where we headed?"

Fred then shared the following background, which he had retrieved from notes of previous committee meetings.

An excerpt from the notes of our third meeting, November 2, 2011: "The conversation led us to this question: What is our purpose for hosting the Bicentennial? We realize that we need to be sure that we stay focused on the 200-year theme. The point was made that this is a one-time event/occasion. We are not interested in starting an annual event/festival/etc. We do not see the Bicentennial as a moneymaking project; therefore, we will consider limiting the size/scope of the Bicentennial. We will consider restricting the sale of items at the Bicentennial to only Darrtown-related products that convey the Bicentennial theme and are produced by Darrtown-related people."

An excerpt from the notes of our 24th meeting, June 27, 2013: "Item 3. Assessment of where we are and where we are going: At our last meeting, Dale suggested that we conduct an assessment of our progress and direction. To that end, the committee reviewed our Bicentennial Purpose Statement, which is: 'To acknowledge and celebrate the bicentennial year of Darrtown, through the provision and promotion of Darrtown-related activities, events, exhibits, and memorabilia that commemorate the 200 year history of the village.' A

discussion ensued regarding the events and activities that we are presently considering for the Bicentennial and we agreed to keep the Purpose Statement in mind as we finalize the list of Bicentennial events and activities."

Next, Fred offered the following points regarding our current (October 20, 2013) status and direction:

(A) Question: Is there a difference between a festival and a Bicentennial? Answer: Consider the following comparison of festivals and bicentennials.

Both festivals and Bicentennials involve people, music, food, events, and activities.

Festivals usually occur annually; Bicentennials occur ONCE and are NEVER REPEATED.

Festivals usually are conducted as money-makers; Bicentennials are history-makers.

(B) If one accepts the comparison shown in the above framework, then, yes, there is a difference between a festival and a bicentennial.

2a. Bicentennials focus on history; history of a particular place.

2b. But, all places have history. So, what makes Darrrtown's history different or special?

(C) We need to focus on the specialness of Darrrtown; the human connections, the stories we remember; the stories we share; the stories we pass on.

(D) The Darrrtown Bicentennial should be a reunion – a reunion of Darrrtown people and their relationships.

(D) The 2014 Darrrtown Bicentennial is an opportunity – an opportunity to:

Share the past
Enjoy the present
Preserve for the future

6. Fred suggested that the words expressed [in point (D) above] could be used as the Bicentennial motto.

A conversation ensued, during which committee members reaffirmed the intent/purpose of the Darrrtown Bicentennial (as noted above) and reiterated the need to create an event that honors the history of Darrrtown.

The committee then studied a poster-sized diagram of the E-Dot Park and discussed ideas about location of activities and tents. We agreed to place a large tent immediately inside the entrance to E-Dot Park that would invite and/or "funnel" visitors through the tent and

various historical displays therein. We discussed the possible creation/purchase of a continuous sheet of paper (commercially printed) that would display genealogy records for Darrrtown families. This record would be compiled from the Darrrtown Family Tree at Ancestry.com No action taken on these ideas, at this time.

2.3 Preparation

We then reviewed the (Excel) Duty Sheets - titled "Bicentennial Duty Sheet -v20-(2013-10-27) and made a few revisions.

3. Donor Recognition

We discussed whether to and how to acknowledge businesses that donate to the Bicentennial Fund. Ron reported that he wants to send a letter and two complementary dinner tickets to a recent donor, on behalf of the committee. The committee concurred. Discussion ensued. We identified other businesses that have donated to the Bicentennial. The committee accepted Betty's offer to send "thank you" letters to such businesses. The committee also approved the practice of displaying the logos of businesses that donate to the Bicentennial on the Darrrtown website and in the occasional electronic newsletter. The size and location of the logos will be predicated on the size of the donations.

4. Other?

Ron broached the subject of possibly using an outside organization for our bookkeeping. He described the amount of time required to maintain accurate financial records, including all the records and work related to the paver project. The committee agreed to meet with a representative from a local organization that provides such a service. Ron will schedule this meeting.

Dale commented on the amount of goodwill that our various projects have generated on behalf of Darrrtown and cited several examples. Others shared similar experiences. Dale asked if we should/would consider hosting another "gathering" similar to the Red Huber Christmas that we hosted last December. The committee agreed to consider this idea.

Meeting adjourned approximately 1:45 PM.

=====

Agenda - November 22, 2013, 9:30 AM - Wiley residence

Present: Paul Gillespie, Joe Pater, Betty Daniels, Jack Daniels, Dale Bufler, Ron Wiley, and Fred Lindley

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Bookkeeping (proposal):

In response to Ron's request that he be relieved from the Bicentennial bookkeeping duties, we invited Catherine Hollins, of the Oxford Community Foundation, to explain how the Foundation could handle our financial bookkeeping.

Catherine cited the following features:

- Administrative Support -- Acknowledgement letters and IRS gift receipts are provided for all donations. All stationary supplies and postage expenses are provided; Processing and managing all types of gifts to the fund, including cash and checks, appreciated securities, closely held stock, insurance policies, and bequests; Distribution of annual fund statements; An annual accounting of all receipts and expenditures within a fund; A list of all donors to the fund for recognition purposes; Fielding of telephone calls and written requests for information on behalf of each individual fund.
- Consistent and professional financial oversight – Investment management and stewardship; Annual Audit by an independent accounting firm; Current knowledge of changes in the tax laws and other legislation that affect charitable giving.
- Cost to us – To offset the cost of administering the funds, a 1.5% per annum administrative fee is assessed. This fee is charged against the fund balance quarterly after interest and earnings have been distributed. For example, if a fund has a balance of \$10,000 at the end of a quarter, \$37.50 is charged against the fund for administration – $\$10,000 \times .375\%$ (1.5% divided by four quarters is .375%).

Catherine explained that we retain control of our funds and that we may end the relationship if/when we choose.

2. Bookkeeping (decision):

After Catherine left, we reviewed the content of item #1 above and realized these points:

- Per Ron's request, we need to relieve him of the bookkeeping duties, as soon as possible.
- We saw three options: (1) another committee member could assume the bookkeeping duties; (2) we could ask the Milford Township Trustees to assume the bookkeeping for us; (3) we could arrange for the Oxford Community Foundation to handle our bookkeeping.
- Discussion revealed that no committee member was willing to assume the bookkeeping duties.
- Paul Gillespie expressed doubt that the Township Trustees

would/could assume the job.

- Therefore, upon a motion by Paul Gillespie and seconded by Dale Bufler, we voted (six "yea" and one abstention) to enter into an agreement with the Oxford Community Foundation that said organization will handle our bookkeeping – with these key understandings:

- (1) We may terminate the agreement at any time.
- (2) Any money left in the account at the end of the Bicentennial will be transferred to the Milford Township Trustees – primarily because the Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and welfare of the Darrtown village square.

3. FINANCIAL REPORT:

Ron provided the following information – current as of November 22, 2013:

Bicentennial Expenses – estimated	\$11,177.00
Veterans' Monument – actual	4,707.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$15,884.00

Cash on hand:	
Somerville Bank	\$20,949.45
Cash from pavers to be received	250.00
TOTAL CASH ON HAND	\$21,199.45

BALANCE	\$5,315.45
---------	------------

4. VILLAGE SQUARE ISSUES:

4a. Issues/guidelines for handling requests for paver placement and markers, such as memorial stones, plaques, etc. (recommendation to township Trustees for action)

Ron will develop written guidelines and present them to the Steering Committee. After we finalize the guidelines, we will present them to the Trustees and recommend that they adopt our guidelines for use with the paver project beyond the Bicentennial.

4b. Veterans' Monument – estimated final cost, estimated date of installation, thoughts about a dedication program (any connection to/with the 2014 Darrtown Cemetery Memorial Day service?)

- Final cost (confirmed with Janus) is \$4707.00.
- We agreed to conduct a dedication program on Memorial Day, May 31, 2014. Our program will be held in conjunction with the traditional Memorial Day ceremony at the Darrtown Cemetery, if Memorial Day committee is interested in doing so. Paul is a member of the Memorial Day committee and will discuss the idea with the committee members.

4c. Pricing of trees that people may donate? Do we have a price list from which people may choose?

Ron will develop a list of trees that are recommended for placement in the village square and provide approximate costs. Prices may change. If donors desire other species, we will consider their preferences.

4d. Source of trees? DeVore? Other landscapers?
We are not obligated to purchase all trees from John DeVore.

5. BICENTENNIAL ISSUES:

5a. Review latest version of Bicentennial Duty Sheets – version 20 – dated Oct. 27 (see attachment); update events, etc. and identify more helpers.

We reviewed the list of duties and made adjustments as warranted. Fred will provide an updated version, before our next meeting.

5b. Discuss space usage at E-Dot Park – attempt to finalize location of events, facilities, etc.

Time did not allow us to address/decide these issues.

5b1. Electricity and food vendors

5b2. Location for motor homes

5b3. Parking space for public

5b4. Drop-off zone at E-Dot Park entrance

5c. Clarify the music groups – Denny Byrd

Denny Byrd informed us of the six groups that he has in mind to perform – from 12:30 PM to 9:00 PM. He has spoken with/confirmed most of them. There is ample interest.

5d. Discuss a proposal from Rob Ogle that he host a concert during the Bicentennial weekend, in E-Dot Park, using the stage that we are renting.

We decided to decline Rob's offer.

5e. Estimate the number of tables and chairs that we need.

We are currently planning on 40 tables and 200 chairs.

5f. Estimate the number of programs that we need.

We are currently planning on 2,000 printed programs.

5g. Discuss possible printed program for the Bicentennial – number, cost, etc.

Fred distributed a mock-up of a tri-folded, double-sided, one sheet program. Jack has a lead on a donor who may pay for the cost of the printed programs.

5h. Discuss a proposal that we conduct "split the pot" raffles during the Bicentennial.

We decided that we would not conduct any raffles. We agreed to consider a "door prize" that might entice people to register at the Bicentennial.

6. CALENDAR ISSUES:

We coordinated our personal calendars from now through early April. We planned future committee meetings; future events, etc., as some committee members will be out of town for several weeks early in 2014.

=====

Notes from December 5, 2013, 9:30 AM meeting at the Pater residence

Present: Joe Pater, Jack Daniels, Betty Daniels, Ron Wiley, Dale Bufler, and Fred Lindley

1. Historical aspect of the Bicentennial

1a. We reviewed an example of a Darrrtown-related genealogy chart that we could create/display at the Bicentennial. This chart would include the lineage of Darrrtown-related families. After discussion, we agreed to consider such a display. Fred agreed to confer with Kim Johnson regarding the logistics of such a display, investigate probable cost, and report back to the committee.

1b. We recognized that such a display must be integrated with other events and/or activities that we plan to provide/schedule and may require another tent.

2. Duty Sheets

2a. We reviewed and updated the Duty sheets. Fred will provide an updated version of these sheets.

3. Meeting with workers

We decided that we will meet with all worker in late April – for the purpose of explaining the overall plans for the Bicentennial and promoting team spirit.

4. Map of Events

4a. We discussed the likely location of tents/vendors. Joe reported that he met with Jeff Beckett regarding the location of Jeff's food trailer. As part of that discussion, we decided that we would ask Jeff to take over the sale of pop and water at the Bicentennial and that we would seek a percentage of his sales.

5. Master of Ceremonies role

5a. We agreed to engage Doug Ross as the emcee for the opening ceremony and Dennis Byrd as the emcee for the introduction of musical groups).

6. Guidelines for signage in the village square:

6a. Ron is developing the guidelines.

7. Proposal that we use some of our Bicentennial funds to purchase trees for the village square

7a. Ron pointed out that the south quadrant of the village square only had one tree and suggested that the committee may need to purchase some trees. We decided to wait until spring and see if donors may take care of this.

Other items that surfaced during the meeting:

- Advertising: We agreed to pay for newspaper advertising that will run twice (June 6 and June 27) in local newspapers; we will seek a quarter-page advertisement that we assume will cost approximately \$750. Ron will pursue actual costs; Fred will design the ad – with input from the committee.
- RV Parking: Some people have requested parking space for their recreational vehicles. Jack will check on using the Baptist church property and/or the north edge of E-Dot Park.
- Vendor letters: Joe reported that he sent a letter to all vendors to confirm their appearance at the Bicentennial.
- Ron quoted John DeVore's comments about the uniqueness of the paver layout. Fred agreed to contact Bob Ratterman about a possible newspaper story.
- Jack noted that some former Darrtown residents do not have descendants who will purchase pavers in their memory. Ron suggested that, between now and our next meeting, we develop a list of such people. We discussed the possible need to use committee money to purchase pavers in the memory of such individuals. Fred agreed to publicize this situation in the Darrtown newsletter and seek donations for this cause.
- Financial report: Ron reported that our current balance equals \$6,760.45
- Next meeting: December 30.

=====

Agenda – December 30, 2013, 9:30 AM – Pater residence

Present: Joe Pater, Jack Daniels, Betty Daniels, Paul Gillespie, Ron Wiley, Dale Bufler, and Fred Lindley

1. Advertising – Discuss and decide how much to spend on advertising the Bicentennial in local newspapers. Per Ron's investigation of black & white, quarter-page; local section; weekday:
 - a. Journal News (one time = \$299.75) (three times = \$248.79, each time)
 - b. Oxford Press (one time = \$282.65) (three times = \$234.60 each time)

ACTION: After discussion, Jack moved and Paul seconded that we authorize (and Ron arrange for) one ad in the Oxford Press (to run June 27, 2014) and two ads in the Hamilton and Middletown Journal (to run June 19 and June 26) at a total cost of \$882.15. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Donation Jar – Discuss and decide whether to have a “donation jar” placed somewhere at the Bicentennial. One related suggestion; have a large dinner bell mounted on a tall pole that donors may ring, when they make a donation (one ding for each dollar?). ACTION: After discussion, we decided to not pursue this idea.

3. Barkers' Ornaments – We received a report from Joe about “Christmas in July” tent/display – provided by the vendor. ACTION: We agreed to support this idea. Fred will provide images from the Darrtown website that the Barkers may use on their ornaments, if they like.

4. T-shirts and caps – We discussed the idea of inviting a vendor to produce and sell Darrtown Bicentennial apparel; this would shift the financial risk from us to the vendor. ACTION: We agreed to support this idea. Joe will contact the company from which we purchased staff T-shirts and ask if they are interested. Once the vendor is selected/invited, Fred will provide Darrtown and/or Bicentennial images/logos that the vendor may use.

5. Electronic Card-reader – We discussed the idea of securing a credit card reader to be used at the Bicentennial to process sales and donations. ACTION: Betty moved and Paul seconded a motion to secure a card reader; motion passed unanimously. Ron will contact his computer person who will advise the best way to secure a card reader and a compatible telephone. We only need a phone for two days of use (July 5-6, 2014); hence, we probably need to purchase a phone with committee money and then, after two days of use, offer it for sale to the highest bidder.

6. Family Tree chart – As of December 26, 2013, the Darrtown Family Tree included 2,656 people (and approximately 57 families). Kim Johnson and Fred Lindley will continue to identify and add families for, at least, another three months. At some point (April, 2014?), they will stop adding names, finalize the display, and allow time for the printing of the sheet to occur. Between now and then, Kim and Fred

will pursue costs involved in printing and exhibiting such a display of Darrtown families and report back to the committee. In addition to the cost of printing, we have figure out how to display such an exhibit (blue boards, posts, something else?) and calculate the cost (or seek donations). ACTION: Fred, Ron, and Dale expressed their belief that this genealogy/reunion theme of this display is central to the Bicentennial and voiced support for funding this project. The committee agreed that Fred should pursue the costs and logistics of this exhibit and report back.

7. Flash Mob – We discussed the idea of having flash mob appear at the Bicentennial, as part of the entertainment in front of the stage. ACTION: With the understanding that this activity would NOT be an expense to the Bicentennial fund and would be organized by persons other than the committee, we agreed to the concept. Fred will pursue possible groups and report to the committee.

8. Fly-over – We discussed the idea of having one or more bi-planes fly-over during the Bicentennial opening ceremony and/or during the dedication of the flagpole. ACTION: Same as item 17-C below; Discussion led to the idea of a bi-plane “fly-over” as part of the flagpole dedication. Ron will contact a friend about the possibility.

9. Geocaching – ACTION: None taken; specifics to be provided, after Fred and Ron meet with Frank Paige.

10. Jobs List – We discussed the idea of creating a “jobs list” that would show the kind of jobs we have and the kind of helpers we need. With input from the committee, Fred will develop the list, which could be displayed in our electronic newsletter, printed and distributed at township church services, posted at Don’s Carryout, etc. ACTION: See: Other – item 24 (e) below.

11. Meeting with Church representatives – We received an update from Dale, Ron, Joe, and Fred regarding a meeting with representatives from the three Darrtown churches – during the week of January 13–17. ACTION: No news to report; still in process of scheduling the meeting. Ron will contact Kathy Richardson (Methodist church) and Fred will contact Duane Clark (Lutheran church) and Rev. Mike Botts (Baptist church).

12. Meeting with Volunteers – We discussed the idea that we host a meeting (in mid-to-late April) for all volunteers for the purpose of sharing the “big picture” of the Bicentennial, answer questions, build spirit. ACTION: Details will be resolved between now and April. We think we need to provide light refreshments at such a meeting. Fred will begin to advertise the fact such a meeting will occur.

13. Nametags – We discussed the idea of (a) providing nametags as part of the registration process at the Bicentennial and (b) having someone, with good penmanship, print the names on the tags, as people register. ACTION: We agreed and support this idea. We need to secure the nametags and identify the persons who will print the names on the nametags.

14. Recognition of Darr descendants – We discussed the idea of recognizing the descendants of Conrad Darr. ACTION: None taken at this time; we favor some form of recognition – however, the manner of doing

so is undecided.

15. Recognition of others who have contributed to Darrrtown's welfare – We discussed possible recipients. ACTION: Discussion to be continued at a future meeting. Additionally, Fred introduced the idea of creating a "Notables" section on the Darrrtown website that would list Darrrtown-related people who have attained notable success. We acknowledged that such a project would run the risk of overlooking someone; however, we also believe that such a form of recognition seems worthwhile and anyone who is omitted could be added in the future. Fred will draft such a preliminary "notables" list and present it to the committee for consideration.

16. Souvenir Pavers – We discussed the idea of selling souvenir pavers at the Bicentennial. ACTION: After discussion, Betty moved and Joe seconded that we sell souvenir pavers for \$25 each. Pavers will be sold in advance of the Bicentennial and during the Bicentennial, as long as supplies last. Motion passed unanimously. Then, Dale moved and Joe seconded that, as soon as possible, Ron order 50 pavers (25 will read "Darrrtown Bicentennial – July 5-6, 2014" and 25 will read "Darrrtown Bicentennial 1814-2014.") Motion passed unanimously. Fred will, as soon as possible, advertise this sale in all available media (website, FaceBook, newsletters – Darrrtown, Milford Township, rural electric, water association. Persons, who order pavers prior to the Bicentennial, pay in advance (PayPal) and pick up their purchased pavers during the Bicentennial. If pre-Bicentennial sales warrant, we will consider ordering more pavers.

17. Sunday events/activities – Ron requested at our last meeting that we "think creatively" about things for people to do on Sunday. He stressed that, out of consideration for our guests who are traveling great distances to attend the Bicentennial, we need to schedule purposeful events for Sunday. ACTION: IDEA 17-A – Jack reported that the Lane Library bookmobile is available on both Saturday and Sunday, July 5-6. Library personnel will provide a story time for children, under an awing that is attached to the bookmobile. The committee approved the idea/offer. Jack also reported that the Bookmobile is willing to begin servicing Darrrtown – with a scheduled stop. Joe suggested the Lane Library could advertise such a service with flyers in the Eric's Pizza boxes. IDEA17-B – Betty suggested a "chili cook-off." We could ask the Fire Department if they want to host/arrange this, as part of the Bicentennial, with all proceeds going to their financial gain. IDEA 17-C – Discussion led to the idea of a bi-plane "fly-over" as part of the flagpole dedication. Ron will contact a friend about the possibility. IDEA 17-D – Betty and Jack will contact Steve Baker about singing the National Anthem at the flagpole dedication.

18. Videotaping – We discussed the idea of videotaping Bicentennial events. ACTION: None taken at this time; however, we favor the idea, if it does not involve significant funding. Discussion is to continue at future meetings.

19. Kids and ribbon cutting – We discuss the idea of involving children as "ribbon cutters" at the Bicentennial. ACTION: None taken

at this time; however, we favor the idea, if it does not involve significant funding. Discussion is to continue at future meetings.

20. Closing ceremony? – Dale suggested that we consider adding a “closing ceremony” to the Bicentennial, which be organized around the idea of a Darrtown “Ball,” at the Community Center, for example. To reduce the workload of the Committee, the dinner and drinks could be catered. Music and dancing could be included. We could ask/pay someone outside the committee to arrange all details. Admission would be by tickets sold in advance. If our budget permitted, we could underwrite some of the costs and reduce the admission fee to (perhaps?) \$5 per person. ACTION: While some committee members voiced appreciation for the idea, we decided to delay a decision until our next meeting (January 8, 2014). This will give us time to reflect on the implications of such a project.

21. Village Square Signage – Ron distributed copies of a policy that he recommended we ask the Township Trustees to adopt as guidelines for pavers that are installed in the village square after the Bicentennial concludes. The recommendation read as: “Any markers for contributed plantings, or other items, honoring individuals, families, structures, or events in the four quadrants of the Township properties, in Darrtown, must conform to the following guidelines: An engraved boulder is to be no more than 18 inches wide at its largest diameter and no more than 14 inches high – OR – an engraved, granite marker is to be no more than 4 inches by 8 inches.” ACTION: Jack moved and Paul seconded a motion in support of Ron’s policy language. Motion passed unanimously.

22. Duty Sheets – We briefly reviewed the sheets. ACTION: None taken – To be continued at our next meeting.

23. Tent location and tent usage – We briefly reviewed the following information. NO ACTION TAKEN ON THIS ITEM; TO BE DETERMINED AS EVENTS EVOLVE: Discuss and decide (1) where each tent will be located and (2) which activity/display will go inside each tent. IDEA: Try to locate the first tent, immediately inside the paved lot and encourage the foot traffic to flow through the Welcome Center, the Memorabilia Mall, the Reunion Central, and the Ancestry Arena. Staff members, standing and circulating at the south gate of E-Dot Park, will greet guests and guide them to the Welcome Center tent, which is the first tent inside the south gate. Tentatively, the following four tents would be situated on the pavement inside the south gate.

a. Welcome Center (20’x20’ tent; donated by Berkley Square) – Staff members invite guests to register, hand out the printed “Program of Events,” explain the layout of the Bicentennial, ask the guests if they have any questions, and encourage the guests to visit the Memorabilia Mall. Guests complete and submit individual registration cards. Each registration table has a person to print the name of the person on a nametag. Staff members collect and file (alphabetically) the completed registration cards.

b. Memorabilia Mall (20’x20’ tent; Donated by Berkley Square) – This is where guests may view/purchase official Bicentennial memorabilia (playing cards, key fobs, decks of playing cards, walking

sticks, etc.)

c. Reunion Central (20'x40' tent; donated by Greg Elam) – Large area with chairs and round tables where guests may sit and talk.

Reunion Central includes a "Connection Board" where guests may post their cell phone numbers for others see and connect with each other.

d. Ancestry Arena (30'x50' tent; would have to be rented) – This is an area where the Darrrtown Family Tree genealogy charts are displayed and where Kim Johnson is set up with a computer and Wi-Fi connection to the Darrrtown Family Tree at Ancestry.com.

24. Other?

a. Mode of operation during the months of January, February, and March, when committee members are out of town: ACTION: The committee agreed to understand and support the idea that some items of business may need to be finalized during the time that the full committee is not available for face-to-face meetings. We will do our best to make decisions and maintain up-to-date communications via e-mail, telephones, and videoconferences.

b. Activities for children: ACTION: Regarding item 17 above, as a courtesy to Pamela Jewell (who is coordinating children's activities at the Bicentennial), Betty will contact Pamela and inform her of the story time activity being offered by the Lane Library bookmobile.

c. Bicentennial Pencils: Ron has 1,000 pencils that advertise the Bicentennial. ACTION: Allot 500 pencils for distribution/advertisement prior to the Bicentennial (Don's Carryout, Dunkleberger's, etc.). Retain 500 pencils for distribution at the Bicentennial/registration, etc.

d. Support requested of Township Trustees: ACTION: The following items of concern were identified and expressed to Paul, as a representative of the three township trustees. Paul agreed to relay these items to the other two trustees:

i. Garbage collection during the event

ii. Provision of barricades for specified locations on specified streets

iii. Safety check; walk-through E-Dot Park, several weeks prior to the Bicentennial – look for safety issues that need to be addressed/eliminated.

iv. Permanent restrooms – close them to the public.

v. Mowing and clean up of the park

vi. Parking area next to the Hitching Post – "square-up" and cleanup the space as illustrated in the landscaping diagram

e. List of volunteer workers needed: Fred will advertise these positions in various mediums. We identified the following types of workers; more may be added:

i. Greeters at the main gate

ii. Registrars; collect names and addresses, dispense information/printed programs

iii. Nametag writers; print the names of registered guests on nametags

iv. Sales clerks; sell Darrrtown Bicentennial products (commemorative pavers, playing cards, key fobs, postcards, walking

sticks, etc.)

- v. Car parkers; direct drivers to parking locations in field at end of Oxford Street
- vi. Barricade workers; stop traffic at specified locations; move barricades for emergency vehicles and then replace the barricades
- vii. Flag placers; place small U.S. flags in designated areas, prior to the event
- viii. Wagon assistants; ride wagons to assist people when they board and to signal tractor drivers when to stop and proceed
- ix. Golf cart drivers; pick up and deliver handicapped persons – between their cars and the park and vice versa
- x. Village square ambassadors; greet visitors, answer questions, provide directions

=====

Committee members:

Below, you will find a summary of the five hours that Joe and I spent in and around Darrtown yesterday (March 7, 2014). We made good progress, thanks to a combination of:

- Joe's planning ahead (he scheduled people to meet with us at half-hour intervals)
- Running into Lady Luck, on several occasions

1. At 9 AM, when we met with Don Beckett and Bob Young at Don's Carry-out. Don agreed to our idea that we recognize him at the Bicentennial for his work with E-Dot Park. Bob will serve as the Task Manager for this project and he will contact/invite people from the Don's past and seek donations for some type of plaque, etc.

2. Lady Luck made her first appearance, when Natalie Martin (who lives near Jerico) came into the store. While talking with Natalie, I learned that the Little League program that had abandoned Darrtown several years ago is planning to return this spring. So, the Little League group will be upgrading the ball diamond in E-Dot Park. That group has already met with the Milford Township Trustees regarding use of the ball fields in Darrtown and Collinsville. I offered to help Natalie advertise the baseball events and I made sure that her group knows about the Bicentennial dates. She said the Milford Township Trustees reminded her group of the Bicentennial dates. We discussed how we might want to engage the kids in the program that recognizes Don's and we talked (briefly) about the notion that the kids might help with the Bicentennial (this might be the youth group that we have been seeking).

3. Catherine Hollins came into the store and she mentioned

receiving a bill from DeVore Nursery for "a tree." I suggested that she check with Ron. Later in the day, I noticed, what I believe to be, a new tree in the southwest quadrant of the town square.

4. We moved to E-Dot Park to meet with Virg Otto and Ernie Sauerland about the "pioneer village" exhibit. They asked for their encampment to be located inside the ball field fence, near the RIGHT FIELD foul line – not the left field foul line. They anticipate needing a space for, at least, six units. So, they need an area of 25' by 125'. They also seek a pick-up truckload of dry firewood.

5. George Leuger appeared along his fence line and we talked with him awhile. George again offered to house our golf carts, overnight, under a roofed space on his property.

6. Eddie "Rock" Stang and Linn Weiss arrived and we discussed parking and transportation. Joe drove the four of us to the various locations around town that we can use for parking. Rock agreed to provide, at least, four tractors for the wagons that we plan to borrow from Isaac Walton. While parked at the west end of West Street, we noticed (for the first time) that a 12" to 15" swale runs south to north – between the end of West Street and the field in which we want to park cars. Cars would definitely "bottom-out" at this point. This is a problem to be solved.

7. Rick Gann arrived and we reviewed our electrical needs. Rick said he would donate the usage of a temporary, "roll around" unit that would provide sufficient electric for the food vendors and the stage. We need to determine if the bookmobile and the RV/post office need electrical power. Joe will investigate how much power the sound system requires and inform Rick. We may need some temporary posts (2x4's) to keep the lines overhead. Lady Luck smiled at us, when Rick said he would do the electrical work at no cost to us; he may charge us for any materials that he cannot reuse.

8. Paul and Nathan Gillespie arrived to discuss the tractor exhibit. Nathan asked how many tractors and cars we want to display. I then telephoned Marvin Russell (and being lucky again, he answered). Marvin had the same question; "how many?" Nathan and I then measured the field where we plan to display the tractors and cars. It measured 144' by 152' and we calculated that would accommodate a maximum of 90 display spaces. So, we are, initially, planning on 45 cars and 45 tractors. We may wind up with more cars than tractors. Nathan asked and I agreed to design a black and white flyer that he can use to advertise/invite LOCAL tractor owners to exhibit their tractors. He will need 100 copies of the flyer.

9. We broke for lunch; cheeseburgers and beers from Don's place; sat in the sun in front of Don's and greeted the numerous patrons as they came and went; lots of truck drivers.

10. After lunch, we walked over to the Memorial Park and reset the "paver" sign that had fallen over. We quickly reviewed the pavers and noted that some guy named "Kilroy" had been there before us.

11. As we drove back to E-Dot Park, we stopped to visit with Todd Collins who lives across from E-Dot Park. We confirmed that Todd's wife, Tini, would sell her products from their front yard. Todd plays with three different bands, so if Denny Byrd needs any more groups, Todd may be a resource.

12. We then went back to E-Dot and measured spots where tents might be placed. Again, good luck befell us. On the spur of the moment, Joe called Jeff Beckett about meeting us. Jeff and Heather were able to drive over to the park and meet with us. We discussed Jeff's request to place his three food units next to the gateway between the paved area and the shelter.

13. While at the park, we checked for an Internet signal, using my laptop. I found about seven potential connections. Five of those bore names, so we can check with those owners about using their signals for the Darrtown Family Tree exhibit.

14. Joe and I then drove to Dunkleberger's and left a request/invitation for them to set up a display at the Bicentennial and/or place a unit in the parade. They have some old mowers that would look good in an exhibit at the Bicentennial. If any one has influence at Dunkleberger's, please urge them to participate.

15. Next we drove to Schollenbarger Road and left ten key fobs at the home of Greg Elam. Greg was not available.

16. As we drove back into Darrtown, we stopped to chat with Jimmy Bowman. He has a sharp dump truck that he might place in the parade.

17. On our way back to E-Dot Park, we revisited the swale at the west end of West Street. Lady Luck was with us again, as we found Rick Dowd at home. Rick owns the property at the end of West Street, just before the entrance into the field where we want to park cars. In our conversation with Rick, Lady Luck appeared again, when we learned that:

a. Rick and _____ "Jake" Jacob (who farms the field for Mark and Dianna Luethhold) will donate their labor to install the B-19 and galvanized pipe in the swale, if we provide the materials. Joe will check with "Township Danny" about the availability of any used pipe (two 12" by 12') and will investigate whether Dingleline's will donate the B-19 (20 ton).

b. Rick Dowd has two vehicles that are "parade worthy" and he

knows of several other local car owners that might be willing to exhibit. I will connect Rick with Marvin Russell.

With that, Joe and I called it a day and we both headed home.

=====

Committee members:

Below, you will find a summary of the seven hours that Joe and I spent in on Bicentennial issues last Thursday, March 27, 2014. Thanks to Joe for providing the taxi service.

Fred

1. We met at 9:30 AM in E-Dot Park. Discussed our schedule. Both ball diamonds have been recently "worked" or leveled. Baseball people may be protective of the infields. Fred will confirm with Paul that four days are reserved for the Bicentennial (July 3, 4, 5, & 6).
2. We met with John and Linda Newman at their house (the former Mee home just north of the Lutheran church. Both want to volunteer. We invited them to the 3/24 meeting. Acquired their email address.
3. We spoke with Geo. Leuger about using his Internet signal for the Darrtown Family Tree. George is ok w/it; but, said we need to check with his wife, Betsy, as she operates the computer at the Leuger home. Someone from Steering Committee (SC) needs to contact Betsy.
4. We drove the streets in Darrtown and calculated the number and location of "parking" signs needed. Fred took notes and will share list with the SC. Signs will have to be ordered and placed.
5. We noted the poor (and embarrassing) condition of the Bicentennial signs in the village square. (5a.) We took a "phone vote" and then called Paul to request that he have the township remove the signs. (5a.) Paul will have the signs removed. (5b.) Perhaps we should discuss replacing the signs. Fred will add this item to the April 8th agenda.
6. We drove to Carthel Zimmerman's to discuss parking in his north field (next to Darrtown Road; he was not home. Someone from the SC needs to contact Carthel.
7. Joe drove a stake in the ground at the end of West Street to mark where B19 is to be unloaded. In phone conversation with Linn Weiss, we learned that Dingledine would provide a good price on B19. Linn will inform us of exact cost; we told Linn to invoice the B19 to the Bicentennial Fund. Joe will wait for Linn to call with B19 price and

date of delivery. Joe will then arrange for the purchase and delivery of a drainage pipe.

8. We drove to Indian Ridge Golf Course; manager told us he does not have any golf carts to loan us. Perhaps we should discuss renting golf carts. Fred will add this item to the April 8th agenda.

9. After lunch in Oxford, we stopped at the Young Funeral Home and sought funding for the Ancestry project. (9a) Paul Young said they would consider it; brother Adam plans to bring his team of horses and cart for rides. (9b) Harry and Kim Ogle were there; Kim mentioned "Alston Day" at Miami Univ. (9b) Fred will add this item to the April 8th agenda.

10. We stopped at Koenig John Deere to request use of a "Gator" to transport band member equipment. Stu Merkamp said "yes" to Gator and "maybe" to providing a larger tractor for display.

11. We stopped at the Miami University motor pool to inquire about borrowing golf carts. We learned that MU rents the majority of their golf carts; none to loan to us.

12. We drove to Hamilton and visited the Weigel Funeral Home to seek funding for the Ancestry project Rob Weigel met with us; he said he would relay the info and discuss our request with his father. We wait...

13. We stopped at Bethart – just for PR. Cindy on duty; no news from her. We updated her on BC plans.

14. We drove to Fairfield to check with Raper RV regarding the loaner that was promised to us. We wait to see Pete Brichant; eventually Pete referred us to Dave Bryan. RV is confirmed; Dave gave us the info we needed about delivery, etc. We will need 120-volt electric power (30 amp) and an RV marine plug.

That ended our day.

=====

**Minutes of the Darrrtown Bicentennial Steering Committee Meeting
0930 AM – April 8, 2014 – Pater residence**

1. Review financial status / Treasurer's Report: Ron provided copies of the latest figures. Bottom line, at the start of today's meeting, we show a balance of \$16,665.08. NOTE: THIS BALANCE CHANGED, as we dealt with other business items, during today's meeting. See bottom line figures at the bottom of this report.
2. Review Duty Sheets (v30 – 2014-04-08) which included the following items:

- a. Proposed geocache project – Approved, with understanding that it will not involve any of our funds. Fred will coordinate this project with Frank Page and Kim Johnson.
 - b. Tents and electricity – Fred distributed a sheet that reflected location and needs, based on input from Jack and Joe. This is subject to change.
 - c. Parachute jump – Approved. This will need to be coordinated with the Opening Ceremony schedule.
 - d. Street barricades – Paul confirmed that the township would provide employees to work the barricades during the event.
 - e. Tractor show – Paul confirmed that most, if not all, tractors would be displayed both days.
 - f. Cemetery tours – Jack and Joe confirmed that the tours are scheduled.
 - g. Rent golf carts? – Joe and Fred reported that a local golf course would NOT loan carts, as we previously believed. Dale said he has a relative who will loan one cart to us. After discussion, we agreed to rent five other golf carts.
 - h. Purchase more radios/walkie-talkies? After discussion, we agreed to purchase four more radios, bringing our total to ten radios purchased.
 - i. U.S. flags along Main Street? Around paver walkways? We plan to have the miniature flags placed along Main Street and in the village square, along the paver walkways.
3. Music groups – Denny was unable to attend this meeting; Jack will continue to communicate with Denny about the music schedule.
 4. April 24th Volunteer Meeting – We will finalize the structure of this April 24 meeting at our next Committee meeting on April 21.
 5. April 24th Volunteer Meeting – This meeting was announced via our electronic newsletter. Additionally, we decided to extend personal invitations. Using a previously generated list of people to be invited, each of us volunteered to make a personal contact and extend the invitation.
 6. Alston Day at Miami University – Ron will coordinate the date and details with MU representatives and Kim Ogle. Given the Bicentennial work that we have to achieve, we are reluctant to take on another project. If Kim wishes to organize a parade from Darrrtown to the MU ballpark, we will help disseminate the information.
 7. Landscaping of village park – Paul stressed the need to get new plantings in place soon, if we want them to look their best during the Bicentennial. After much discussion, we proposed to Paul that:
 - a. The Bicentennial Committee and the Township Trustees agree to a “matching funds” approach for Village Square landscaping work, which would begin as soon as possible.
 - b. The Township Trustees inform us of the amount of funds that they will commit to this project.
 - c. The Bicentennial Committee will commit a maximum of \$2,500 from our budget.Paul will inform us of the Trustees’ decision.
 8. Replace the two Village Square “Bicentennial” signs? The two

4'x8' plywood "Bicentennial" signs that stood in the village square did not survive the winter. We agreed to replace them with two smaller (2'x8') signs.

9. Purchase "Directional" signs for parking – We agreed to purchase signs that will guide people to the parking areas throughout the village.

10. Cloggers from Robin's Dance Studio – We agreed to invite this group, since it involves local youth.

11. Flash mob as dancers; and another as band? Carolyn Coley is investigating this possibility.

12. Security at night? July 3 set-up equals three nights with things out in the open.

13. Recognition of Don Beckett – Fred reported that Bob Young agreed to organize this event. In an effort to place a commemorative sign in E-Dot Park, Bob is pursuing donations from individuals and the Township Trustees.

14. Bottom-line financial standing – at end of today: Given our bank balance, our anticipated expenses, and the commitment in item 7 above, our current balance is \$2,754.88

=====

**Summary – Darrtown Bicentennial Steering Committee
0930 AM – April 21, 2014 – Lindley residence**

1. We discussed the organization of our 7:00 PM meeting with volunteers on April 24 at the Lutheran Church

a. We anticipate 35-50 people to attend, based on the feedback we have received.

b. We established two goals/purposes for the meeting: (1) provide the "Big Picture" (describe plans for the Bicentennial) and identify areas where we need help.

c. We decided on the following format for the meeting:

i. Provide nametags and "Volunteer Sign-up Sheets" before the meeting.

ii. Welcome – Betty Daniels

iii. Bicentennial plans – Fred Lindley

iv. Progress on the Village Square – Ron Wiley

v. Break-out sessions (seven coordinators = seven small groups, in which we answer questions)

vi. Collect sign-up sheets, before people leave

2. We reviewed our financial standing. Ron reported on transactions since we last met. Bottom line: we show a balance of \$2,495.

3. We discussed items related to the village square.

a. We agreed that the flagpole should be placed in the spot that John DeVore designated on his original drawings.

b. We agreed that Jack should order two 3' x 5' flags that display the five branches of military service (one flag for use now and one to replace the first, when needed).

- c. Paul reported that the installation of the foundations for the Veterans' monument and the flagpole is scheduled for the second week in May. Fred expressed interest in taking photographs of the work.
- d. We discussed the need for a plan to control weed growth and other maintenance issues in the village square. Joe volunteered to contact Linn Weiss and ask if he would assume a volunteer role in such maintenance, with the Township covering the cost of material (Round-up, Snapshot, etc.).
4. We discussed signage needed for the Bicentennial.
 - a. Paul is to order two 2' x 8' signs to be installed in the village square – each will display the word "Bicentennial," the dates (July 5-6) and an arrow that points (west) toward the parking area at the end of Oxford Street.
 - b. Ron and Joe will determine and order other directional signs that will be placed at appropriate locations in the village.
5. Fred reported that he ordered a (free) credit card reader from PayPal, which should arrive within a week. Ron and Fred will test it with the iPad that Ron will borrow for Bicentennial sales.
6. We briefly reviewed the "Duty Sheets." No significant changes were noted.
 - a. We calculated that we have a sufficient number of T-shirts for workers.
 - b. Jack reported that we would not be able to park cars at the Zimmerman farm.
 - c. Jack reminded Fred the "Program of Events" should be finished, as early as possible – to enable printing and proofreading of work at American Press. Greg Elam will pay for the printing of the programs.
 - d. Jack reported that Greg Elam agreed to pay half of the cost for the Port-0-Lets.
7. We agreed to place the Port-0-Lets along West Street, on the street side of the play area fence.
8. In response to an inquiry, we decided to not engage another food vendor. We will rely on the assurances of Jeff Beckett that he will provide sufficient food and servers. Joe will contact Jeff to determine the number of staff that Jeff intends to employ/provide.
9. We discussed a different location of the classic cars, as Marvin Russell reported that car owners want to avoid the dirt infield). We decided to use the area on the outside of the outfield fence at the north ball field.
10. We agreed to donate a paver to Tina Vrabel's May 17 "Relay for Life" poker tournament. Fred will inform Tina and connect her with Ron – who will handle the specifics of the donation/engraving, etc.
11. We discussed the question of how we might provide pavers for people who do not have any living relatives (for example, Nelle and Maria Davis). Betty agreed to collect names.
12. Paul reported that Col. Dean Smittle agreed to speak at the Memorial Day service in the cemetery and at the dedication of the veterans' monument in the village square.
13. Ron reported that he contacted Harry Ogle and requested a meeting about the Alston memorabilia display. Harry is to let Ron know

the date and time.

14. Fred and Ron agreed to prepare the schedule/events related to the Opening Ceremony.

=====

Summary – Darrtown Bicentennial Steering Committee
0900 AM – April 28, 2014 – Wiley residence

Present: Dale Bufler, Betty Daniels, Jack Daniels, Paul Gillespie, Fred Lindley, and Ron Wiley.

1. We reviewed the names collected at the April 24th Volunteers' Meeting.
2. We discussed the assignment of volunteer workers to various jobs and decided that each committee member/coordinator would contact possible workers for her/his area/tasks. Fred will design and distribute an Excel sheet that all committee members/coordinators may use to keep track of assignments, days, hours, etc.
3. Ron reported that no significant changes have occurred in our financial standing. We discussed and then agreed that Ron should acquire a credit card in the name of the Bicentennial Fund.
4. Jack reported no significant news regarding the parade.
5. Joe reported no significant news regarding the plans for parking.
6. Fred reported that he has a meeting scheduled with Frank Page regarding the geocache project.
7. Ron reported on the recent installation of pavers in the park.
8. Paul reported that he will contact RAC Signs in Seven Mile regarding the directional signs for parking at the west end of Oxford Street.
9. Paul reported that the township workers are scheduled to pour the footers for the veterans' monument and flagpole during the second week of May.
10. Paul reported that the May 25th Memorial Day services will begin at 2:00 PM at the Darrtown cemetery. The dedication of the Veterans' Monument will follow in the village square. In case of rain, the program will take place in the Methodist church.
11. We discussed the TENTATIVE plans for the May 25th Dedication of the Veterans' Monument:

- a. Musical selection by the Talawanda HS band (to be confirmed)
- b. Provide reason for assembling
- c. Message by Col. Dean Smittle
- d. Unveil the monument (all seven committee members)
- e. Express appreciation to those who assisted in making the monument a reality.
- f. Musical selection by the Talawanda HS band (to be confirmed)

12. Dale reviewed TENTATIVE plans for July 6th Dedication of Veterans' Flagpole.

- a. Call to order
- b. Provide reason for assembling
- c. Message (reference to Francis Scott Key)
- d. Recognize veterans of foreign wars who are in attendance
- e. Present a Darrtown "Medal of Honor" to the veterans
- f. Read names of those killed in action
- g. Raise the flag (Paul Gillespie)
- h. National Anthem (Alan Dunkleberger)
- i. Honor Guard salute
- j. Taps

13. Fred led a review of the Bicentennial newspaper advertisement.

14. Ron and Fred reviewed the TENTATIVE plans for the Bicentennial opening ceremony, which will begin at 11:00 AM, Saturday, July 5.

- a. Simultaneous ringing of the three church bells (1 minute)
- b. Welcome – Doug Ross? (2 minutes) – we will provide a script for Doug to use.
- c. Invocation – by John Witt (3 minutes?)
- d. National Anthem – Steve Baker (3 minutes?)
- e. Recognition of dignitaries – Doug Ross (4 minutes?)
- f. Proclamation from Governor – by ____? (3 minutes?)
- g. Choir? – "American The Beautiful" – (4 minutes?)
- h. Fly-over by bi-planes (5 minutes?)
- i. Parachutist (3 minutes?)
- j. Recognition of Don Beckett and the naming of Don Beckett Field (10 minutes?)
- k. Recognition of Darr descendants (or wait until later in the day?)

15. Jack introduced the idea of moving the parking spaces that are currently planned for the northwest quadrant of the village square to the southwest quadrant. The committee recognized several advantages in this thought (one being an improved line of sight when backing out onto Route 177) and recommended to Paul Gillespie that he pursue this idea with the other two fellow Township Trustees.

=====

Summary – Darrtown Bicentennial Steering Committee
09:30 AM – May 12, 2014 – Wiley residence

1. Old Business: carry-over items from our last meeting:
 - a. Credit card for Steering Committee purchases – Ron reported that he is in the process of completing the necessary paperwork.
 - b. “Parking” signs with directional arrows in village square – Paul reported that the signs should be installed this week – on the west side of Main Street, in the village square.
 - c. Foundations for monument and flagpole in village square – Paul reported that he talked with Danny Burkholder this morning at the park; depending on the weather, the foundations may be poured this week.
 - d. Proposal to relocate parking spaces from NW quadrant to SW quadrant – Paul reported that the work is scheduled to occur after the Memorial Day service and before the Bicentennial (i.e., in June).
 - e. Programs for three upcoming events (the dedication of the Veterans’ Monument; the Bicentennial Opening Ceremony; and the dedication of the Veterans’ flagpole) – Fred distributed a report, with current details; the committee discussed and revised the report (see notes at the bottom of this report).
2. New Business
 - a. Establish the prices of items to be sold in Souvenir Center:
 - i. After some discussion, the committee agreed with Betty’s recommendations and adopted the following prices:
 1. Postcards @ \$4 per pack or \$10 for three packs
 2. Playing cards @ \$4 per deck or \$10 for three decks
 3. Key fobs – numbered @ \$10 per fob (for chance to win \$100 drawing)
 4. Key fobs – unnumbered @ \$4 per fob or \$10 for three fobs
 5. Commemorative pavers @ \$20 per paver
 6. Walking sticks (Ron will price these individually)
 - b. Decide whether to print and distribute posters/flyers that advertise the Bicentennial – After some discussion the committee agreed that, in addition to the scheduled newspaper advertisements in late June, we will increase our advertising by posting flyers in area locations. Ron volunteered to print black and white, 8.5 x 11 inch copies of the newspaper ads, which committee members will distribute. Fred will provide the digital file to Ron.
 - c. Discuss idea of providing “Descendant” stickers, as part of the Family Tree display – Fred explained an idea suggested by Kim Johnson that would make the Family Tree display more interactive. Bicentennial guests would be invited to observe the exhibit and count and report the number of Darrtown “pioneers” that appear in their branch of the Family Tree. We would provide stickers for each pioneer to be pasted onto nametags. The committee agreed that Fred may

investigate the cost and report back to the committee.

d. Review the names of volunteers that each of us has contacted/confirmed to work – After discussion, we agreed that each committee member will contact volunteers as needed and report the names and hours of such volunteers at our next meeting.

e. Discuss/decide how to recognize/honor any Darr descendants that attend the Bicentennial. After discussion, we agreed that we will prepare/present the following to each Darr descendant in attendance: one Bicentennial commemorative paver; one copy of the original plat of Darrrtown, as laid out by Conrad Darr; and one “goodie bag” containing a Bicentennial key fob and a deck of Bicentennial playing cards. The committee asked Joe to ask Janet to prepare the “goodie” bags.

f. Discuss/decide the signs that we need (road signs/parking; stage signs, tent signs; price signs; other?) During discussion, Ron reported that he and Bob Young made a trip to RAC Signs in Seven Mile, Ohio (Bob was checking on the Don Beckett Field sign). Ron discussed signage for the Bicentennial bandstand; Randy Couch of RAC recommended two large, vinyl signs and offered to donate them. The committee agreed to order other signs with RAC.

i. We agreed that the following signs are needed:

1. On the stage – two signs that acknowledge the event and the stage sponsor (Fred to design; Ron and Fred to arrange for production at RAC in Seven Mile, Ohio.)

2. On the following tents – at least one each for (a) the Welcome Center; (b) the Souvenir Center; (c) the Reunion Center; (d) the Ancestry Arena; and (e) the one-day, commemorative Post Office.

ii. We agreed that the following posters are needed: (a) a price list within the Souvenir Center; (b) a map to display the home towns/states of our guests. As other posters are identified, Fred will design them and arrange to have them printed at Bethart Printing.

iii. We agreed that easels are needed to support the posters; Ron will ask Holli Moorish if we may borrow easels from the school district.

g. We discussed the Darrrtown “Medal of Honor” that could be presented to the veterans who are being honored at Flagpole dedication. Fred shared a design that he fashioned from a sketch that Dale Bufler submitted at our last meeting. The committee expressed interest in such an endeavor. Ron will investigate the cost.

h. Jack and Joe agreed to develop a list of people who will be given parking passes at the Bicentennial.

i. Jack and Joe agreed to develop a list of people who will be given the use of 12 two-way radios during the Bicentennial.

j. Dale requested that ask Denny Byrd to attend our next meeting to give us an update on the schedule of bands that will appear at the Bicentennial. Jack will invite Denny.

k. Ron reported that Darrrtown resident Bob Yeakle offered to ask the Hamilton Community Foundation to fund the village square flagpole through a fund that Bob’s father established with the HCF.

l. Ron reported that a representative of the Butler County Health Department contacted him about health permits for the Bicentennial food vendors. Ron told her that each vendor is responsible for her/his own permit.

m. Ron reported that he met with Harry and Kim Ogle regarding the Alston display of memorabilia at the Lutheran Church on Saturday, July 5th. Ron shared a list of items that the Ogles are willing to display. Ron reminded us that we must clean the display case, before it will be usable.

n. Fred reported on the credit card reader that we received from PayPal. We need to create a list of the items we wish to sell, along with the respective prices. Additionally, we need to establish a way to provide receipts.

We agreed that our next meeting will be held at 9:30 AM, Tuesday, May 27, at the Pater residence.

2. Handouts (Veterans' Monument / Bicentennial Opening Ceremony / Veterans' Flagpole)

May 25th - Dedication of the Veterans' Monument in the Darrrtown village square - approx. 3:30 PM - follows the 2:00 PM Memorial Day program at the Darrrtown cemetery

1. Musical selection by the Talawanda HS band [Paul to confirm]
2. Introduction - Dale
3. Provide reason for assembling - Dale
4. Introduction of guest speaker - Dale
5. Message by guest speaker - Col. Dean Smittle
6. Unveil the monument (all seven committee members)
7. Express appreciation to those who assisted in making the monument a reality - Ron
8. Musical selection by the Talawanda HS band [Paul to confirm]

July 5th - Bicentennial opening ceremony on the temporary stage, in the north field of E-Dot Park - which begins at 11:00 AM; ends before noon

1. [11:00 AM] Simultaneous ringing of the three church bells (1 minute) [Joe & Jack to confirm]
2. [11:01 AM] Welcome - Doug Ross? (2 minutes) - [Ron & Fred to provide script for Doug]
3. [11:03 AM] Proclamation from Governor - by ____? (3 minutes?) [Joe to ck. w/Carolyn Coley in June regarding the Governor's schedule]
4. [11:06 AM] Invocation - John Witt (3 minutes?)
5. [11:09 AM] National Anthem - Steve Baker (3 minutes?)
6. [11:12 AM] Recognition of dignitaries - Doug Ross (4 minutes?)
7. [11:16 AM] Recognition of Darr descendants - Kim Johnson (5

minutes?)

8. [11:21 AM] Choir? – “American The Beautiful” – (4 minutes?) [Joe to confirm w/Mike Botts]
9. [11:25 AM] Fly-over by bi-planes (5 minutes?)
10. [11:30 AM] Parachutist – Jumps, lands, and gives object to a runner, who delivers the object to Doug Ross. Doug “discovers” the object to be a baseball, signed by the Bicentennial Committee, to be presented to Don Beckett (8 minutes?) [Ron to secure white softball for autographs]
11. [11:38 AM] Recognition of Don Beckett and the naming of Don Beckett Field (10 minutes?) – by whom? [Ron to ask Bob, if he will speak; recognize Don] This last event leads to the unveiling of the new sign for “Beckett Field,” which will be located somewhere away from the stage.

July 6th – Dedication of Veterans’ Flagpole in the Darrtown village square – which begins at 1:00 PM.

We discussed the following and decided to wait for Dale to conduct further research and report updates.

1. Call to order – by whom?
2. Provide reason for assembling – Dale?
3. Message (reference to Francis Scott Key) – Dale?
4. Present the flag – by whom?
5. Raise the flag (Paul Gillespie)
6. Pledge of Allegiance and/or the National Anthem?
7. Read names of those killed in action – Doug Ross?
8. Recognize veterans of foreign wars who are present – Doug Ross?
9. Present a Darrtown “Medal of Honor” to the veterans who are present – (presented by whom?)
10. National Anthem (Alan Dunkleberger)
11. Honor Guard salute [to be confirmed]
12. Taps [to be confirmed]

=====

Summary – Darrtown Bicentennial Steering Committee
09:30 AM – May 27, 2014 – Pater residence

Present: Joe Pater, Jack Daniels, Betty Daniels, Dale Bufler, Ron Wiley, and Fred Lindley

1. Old business: carry-over items from our May 12 meeting:
 - a. Credit card for Steering Committee purchases – Ron reported that the application is being processed.
 - b. “Parking” signs with directional arrows (placed in village

square) – No report, as Paul was absent.

c. Progress on relocating parking spaces from NW quadrant to SW quadrant – No report, as Paul was absent.

d. Programs for two Bicentennial events (the Opening Ceremony and the dedication of the Veterans' flagpole) See notes at the bottom of this report.

e. Flyers (8.5x11 inch, black & white) that advertise the Bicentennial – We reviewed the flyer and agreed that it is ready for publication. Each member is to produce the number of copies needed and post them in the Butler County area.

f. "Descendant" stickers, as part of the Family Tree display – Fred reported that this idea is being dropped.

g. Report on the names of volunteers that each of us has contacted/confirmed to work – We briefly discussed progress; each committee member is to make her/his assignments, according to available volunteers.

h. Darr descendants – goodie bags – Fred will provide Janet Pater with a list of items to be included.

i. Signage – Ron and Fred (stage & tents) / Joe and Jack (streets) – the signs are being processed

j. Easels – Ron will check with Holli Moorish (or

k. Darrtown "Medal of Honor" – Dale read a list of names for which he plans to provide medals. More conversation is needed regarding qualification criteria.

l. Parking passes – Jack and Joe (list of people) The list is being finalized.

m. Two-way radios – Joe and Jack (list of people) The list is being finalized.

n. Update on band schedule – Jack and Denny Byrd (also; Oxford Community Band?) We will plan on the list of seven bands that Denny has identified. Since all time slots are covered, we decided to not include the Oxford Community Band.

o. Update on Hamilton Community Foundation funds for flagpole – Ron reported that the check has been received.

p. Update on Alston display – Ron (display case?) – We plan to clean the display case during our next committee meeting.

q. Report on receipts for purchases of Bicentennial items – Betty reported that she will provide a receipt book.

2. New business:

a. Financial report – Ron provided a printed report that revealed nearly \$18,000 on the books. We have about \$4,000 in outstanding bills. So, that equals about \$14,000 available. Our budgeted expenses total about \$10,800. The difference, or surplus, equals about \$3,200.

b. Budgetary issues related to the Darrtown Family Tree exhibit – Fred displayed a 32-foot descendant chart that was printed for the Darr family. This chart will be on display in the Ancestry Arena. The cost of the Darr chart is nearly \$250. We have budgeted \$1500 for printing related to the Darrtown Family Tree. We discussed the pros and cons of spending money for the printing of charts vs. the printing

of booklets. Ron made a motion, Joe seconded the motion, and the committee unanimously approved that we:

- i. Print only the Darr family in chart form.
 - ii. Print two booklets for each of the 70 some Darrrtown "pioneers." One copy of each booklet will be displayed (taped down) on the tables in the Ancestry Arena tent. The other copy of each booklet will be kept at the main table in the tent.
 - iii. ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS: We could purchase a printer and use it during the Bicentennial to print copies of Descendant booklets – as requested and paid for by Bicentennial guests. We could sell the printer to the highest bidder at the end of the Bicentennial.
 - c. Revisit the idea of placing a sign/plaque/boulder in the village square that acknowledges the work of the Bicentennial Steering Committee and includes the names of the seven members – Joe and Fred led a discussion of this idea. All six members agreed to pursue this idea.
3. Next meeting:
- a. To be held at 9:30 AM, Wednesday, June 4, at E-Dot Park. Following this meeting, we plan to clean the display case that will be used for the Walter Alston exhibit.

JULY 5TH – BICENTENNIAL OPENING CEREMONY ON THE TEMPORARY STAGE, IN THE NORTH FIELD OF E-DOT PARK – BEGINS AT 11:00 AM; ENDS BEFORE NOON

1. [11:00 AM] Simultaneous ringing of the three church bells (1 minute) [Joe & Jack to confirm]
2. [11:01 AM] Welcome – Doug Ross? (2 minutes) – [Ron & Fred to provide script for Doug]
3. [11:03 AM] Proclamation from Governor – by ____? (3 minutes?) [Joe to ck. w/Carolyn Coley in June regarding the Governor's schedule]
4. [11:06 AM] Invocation – John Witt (3 minutes?)
5. [11:09 AM] National Anthem – Steve Baker (3 minutes?)
6. [11:12 AM] Recognition of dignitaries – Doug Ross (4 minutes?)
7. [11:16 AM] Recognition of Darr descendants – Kim Johnson (5 minutes?)
8. [11:21 AM] Choir? – "American The Beautiful" – (4 minutes?) [Joe to confirm w/Mike Botts]
9. [11:25 AM] Fly-over by bi-planes (5 minutes?)
10. [11:30 AM] Parachutist – Jumps, lands, and gives object to a runner, who delivers the object to Doug Ross. Doug "discovers" the object to be a baseball, signed by the Bicentennial Committee, to be presented to Don Beckett (8 minutes?) [Ron to secure white softball for autographs]
11. [11:38 AM] Recognition of Don Beckett and the naming of Don Beckett Field (10 minutes?) – by whom? [Ron to ask Bob, if he will speak; recognize Don] This last event leads to the unveiling of the new sign for "Beckett Field," which will be located somewhere away

from the stage.

JULY 6TH – DEDICATION OF VETERANS’ FLAGPOLE (VILLAGE SQUARE –1:00 PM)
(Dale to report on latest plans.)

Call to order – by whom?

Provide reason for assembling – Dale?

Message (reference to Francis Scott Key) – Dale?

Present the flag – by whom?

Raise the flag (Paul Gillespie)

Pledge of Allegiance and/or the National Anthem?

Read names of those killed in action – Doug Ross?

Recognize veterans of foreign wars who are present – Doug Ross?

Present a Darrtown “Medal of Honor” to the veterans who are present –
(presented by whom?)

National Anthem (Alan Dunkleberger)

Honor Guard salute [to be confirmed]

=====

Summary – Darrtown Bicentennial Steering Committee

09:30 AM – June 7, 2014 – E-dot Park

Present at 9:30 AM: Ron Wiley, Joe Pater, Jack Daniels, Betty Daniels, Dale Bufler, and Fred Lindley. Paul Gillespie arrived around 10:30 AM.

1. Old business: carry-over items from our May 12 meeting:
 - a. Credit card for Steering Committee purchases – Ron has secured the card.
 - b. “Parking” signs with directional arrows (placed in village square) –Jack reported that that signs are complete at RAC of Seven Mile; Jack agreed to deliver the signs to Paul.
 - c. Progress on relocating parking spaces from NW quadrant to SW quadrant – We noted that work has begun in the village square to complete this project.
 - d. Programs for Opening Ceremony (Ron and Fred) and flagpole dedication (Dale). No news – in progress.
 - e. Signage – Ron and Fred (stage & tents) / Joe and Jack (streets) No news – in progress.
 - f. Easels – Ron is checking with Tom Hogaback.
 - g. Darrtown “Medal of Honor” – Dale and Ron (establish criteria

for qualification) We decided that the criteria would be: If a person lives, or lived, in Milford Township and served in the military in the past or present, she/he would qualify to receive the Darrrtown Medal of Honor. If deceased, the next of kin would qualify to receive a medal. We have 50 medals on order; if we identify more than 50, we will have to place a supplemental order. Dale will develop and maintain the list of eligible persons.

h. Parking passes – Jack and Joe (list of people) No news – in progress.

i. Two-way radios – Joe and Jack (list of people) No news – in progress.

j. Update on Alston display – Ron has list of items to be displayed. He will prepare printed descriptions of the various items to be affixed to the display case.

k. Purchase of printer for Darrrtown Family Tree exhibit (see item 2b below)

l. Budgetary issues related to the Darrrtown Family Tree exhibit – Fred (see item 2b below)

2. New business:

a. Receive financial report – Ron distributed a printed report of balances (at the Somerville Bank and the Oxford Community Fund); outstanding deposits, and outstanding invoices. Our total bank balance, as of June 7, 2014, is \$18,307.83. Given our projected Bicentennial debts of \$11,582.28, we currently have an “on-paper” balance of \$6,725.55. However, we committed a maximum of \$2,500 to the village square-landscaping project, IF the Township Trustees contributed a matching amount. Paul reported that the township would allocate \$2,500 toward the village square landscaping. So, we must now deduct \$2,500 from the \$6,725.55, which leaves an “on-paper” balance of \$4,225.

b. Discuss a recommendation from Fred and Kim Johnson regarding the Darrrtown Family Tree exhibit. Ron moved; Betty seconded the motion; and the committee approved that Fred and Kim may spend the budgeted amount of \$1500 on the Ancestry.com/Darrrtown Family Tree exhibit – including the cost of a printer, ink cartridge, paper, and ink.

c. Review the Program of Events and the newspaper advertisement. Ads will appear in the Journal on June 19 and 26 and in the Oxford Press on June 27. Fred will send copy to Debbie Gross on Monday, June 9.

- d. Decide the number of programs to be printed at American Printing. We agreed to ask for 2,500 copies.
- e. Decide how auction items will be sold: We agreed that all auction items will be displayed from noon to 2 PM, at the Lutheran church, and then moved to the stage to be auctioned by Doug Ross, at 3 PM.
- f. Discuss when to release information about Bicentennial events, via newsletter, website, Facebook, etc. Such events include the Alston exhibit, auction, parade route, and/or parade units – Fred. We decided that our policy regarding the release of information would be: the sooner the better and as often as possible – without becoming annoying.
- g. Add historical speaker(s) to the event? Question from Rich Pieper – via Jack. We decided to decline the offer.
- h. Discuss “Plan B” – Inclement weather? We decided that seeking an indoor facility as a back-up in case of bad weather is not feasible.
- i. Revisit the idea of placing a sign/plaque/boulder in the village square that acknowledges the work of the Bicentennial Steering Committee and includes the names of the seven members – Joe and Fred. We agreed with the idea; details will be pursued at a future date.

j. Discuss/decide the number, style, and location of benches in the village square. We decided to investigate and discuss in the future.

3. Next meeting? We did not set a meeting date.

JULY 5TH – BICENTENNIAL OPENING CEREMONY ON THE TEMPORARY STAGE, IN THE NORTH FIELD OF E-DOT PARK – BEGINS AT 11:00 AM; ENDS BEFORE NOON

- 1. [11:00 AM] Simultaneous ringing of the three church bells (1 minute) [Joe & Jack to confirm]
- 2. [11:01 AM] Welcome – Doug Ross? (2 minutes) – [Ron & Fred to provide script for Doug]
- 3. [11:03 AM] Proclamation from Governor – by ____? (3 minutes?) [Joe to ck. w/Carolyn Coley in June regarding the Governor’s schedule]
- 4. [11:06 AM] Invocation – John Witt (3 minutes?)
- 5. [11:09 AM] National Anthem – Steve Baker (3 minutes?)
- 6. [11:12 AM] Recognition of dignitaries – Doug Ross (4 minutes?)
- 7. [11:16 AM] Recognition of Darr descendants – Kim Johnson (5 minutes?)
- 8. [11:21 AM] Choir? – “American The Beautiful” – (4 minutes?) [Joe to confirm w/Mike Botts]
- 9. [11:25 AM] Fly-over by bi-planes (5 minutes?)

10. [11:30 AM] Parachutist – Jumps, lands, and gives object to a runner, who delivers the object to Doug Ross. Doug “discovers” the object to be a baseball, signed by the Bicentennial Committee, to be presented to Don Beckett (8 minutes?) [Ron to secure white softball for autographs]

11. [11:38 AM] Recognition of Don Beckett and the naming of Don Beckett Field (10 minutes?) – by whom? [Ron to ask Bob, if he will speak; recognize Don] This last event leads to the unveiling of the new sign for “Beckett Field,” which will be located somewhere away from the stage.

JULY 6TH – DEDICATION OF VETERANS’ FLAGPOLE (VILLAGE SQUARE –1:00 PM)
(Dale to report on latest plans.)

Call to order – by whom?

Provide reason for assembling – Dale?

Message (reference to Francis Scott Key) – Dale?

Present the flag – by whom?

Raise the flag (Paul Gillespie)

Pledge of Allegiance and/or the National Anthem?

Read names of those killed in action – Doug Ross?

Recognize veterans of foreign wars who are present – Doug Ross?

Present a Darrtown “Medal of Honor” to the veterans who are present – (presented by whom?)

National Anthem (Alan Dunkleberger)

Honor Guard salute [to be confirmed]

Taps [to be confirmed]

=====

Darrtown Bicentennial Steering Committee

Tuesday, July 15, 2014, 9:30 AM – Wiley residence

1. Financial report – Ron reported that some bills remain to be paid and some revenue (for example, paver sales) is still arriving.

2. T-shirt sales – With Don Beckett’s cooperation, T-shirt orders will be taken at Don’s Carryout and over the phone/email by Betty – until the end of this month. Cost will be \$10, if ordered and picked up at Don’s; \$15 if ordered they must be mailed.

3. Darrtown Club – We discussed the transition from a Bicentennial Committee to a different organization that would carry on the types of activities that our committee has overseen for the past two years.

4. Distribution of money – OCF/SNB – We decided to leave all funds as they are – at the Oxford Community Foundation and the Somerville National Bank.

5. Linn Weiss work recognition – We decided to give Linn a gift certificate in recognition of the consistent, frequent, and notable work he did for the Bicentennial.

6. George Leugers work recognition – We decided to give Linn a gift certificate in recognition of the consistent, frequent, and notable work he did for the Bicentennial.
7. Community “thank you”? We discussed ideas regarding if and how to express our gratitude for the many acts of kindness and support demonstrated by so many community members prior to, during, and after the Bicentennial. We decided to build a list of such individuals and make a decision after reviewing such a list.
8. What to do with...the two-way radios, the key fobs, the printed programs, and the leftover pavers? We decided that committee members may purchase the radios for \$20 each or return them to Joe for re-sale. The key fobs will be placed at Don’s for distribution. The printed programs will be recycled.
9. Veterans' Medals of Honor – Since the ceremony, we learned that some deserving persons did not receive a medal. We will investigate a way to correct the unintended oversight.
10. What to do with large U.S. flag? We decided to place this free-standing U.S. flag at the Milford Township Community Center, with the proviso that we may borrow it, if we ever have the need.
11. What to do with U.S. map? Since this map was punctured with stickpins during the Bicentennial, we decided to trash it.
12. Volunteers’ Thank You? We referred to item 8 above.

=====

Steering Committee meeting – July 22, 2014 at the Daniels residence

Present: Ron Wiley, Dale Bufler, Fred Lindley, Betty Daniels, and Jack Daniels.

Ron reported that Joe would not be able to attend, as he was in the process of delivering a load of blank pavers to the engraver. Paul was absent due to his involvement in the Butler County Fair.

Jack posed a question about the disposition of the display case that John Woodruff loaned to us, which we used to display Walter Alston memorabilia in the Lutheran church. Jack agreed to check with John to ask whether he wants it returned. If he does not want the case, Dale will check with Tim Gillespie at Gramco regarding any interest in the case. Another option might be to ask Doug Ross if he will sell it at one of his auctions.

Dale questioned and we discussed the idea of mailing a “thank you” letter to the people who volunteered their services to the Bicentennial. We decided to rely upon the letter to the editor that Ron placed in the Oxford Press and the message that was included in the electronic newsletter.

Dale exchanged a list of veterans who received Medals of Honor with Betty. She will crosscheck Dale’s list with her list of veterans’

pavers in the village square and share the results with Ron. After that, Ron will order and secure any medallions that we need to present to deserving veterans.

Dale asked about the intended use of existing funds. Ron shared his ideas regarding village square items (i.e. – storyboards, benches, litter receptacles, and/or trees). More discussion is warranted, when all committee members are present.

Dale raised a concern about the maintenance of the village square. Ron echoed the concern and pointed out our intention to “assist the trustees.” We discussed the need to develop a plan (reference was made to Fred’s suggested “Darrtown Club”) to make the transition from the Bicentennial Committee to an on-going committee/task force that would oversee projects like the village square, E-Dot Park, and the Darrtown cemetery.

Resistance to the word/concept of “club” led us to a discussion of possible names for the transition group. We acknowledged the use of the word “club” in other organizations (Automobile Club, Optimist Club, Boys and Girls Club, 4-H Club, etc.). Ideas that surfaced:

- Darrtown Service Club
- DARR Club (Darrtown Annual Reunion Rally club)

The meeting ended at approximately 1 PM. We plan to meet in mid-August.

ADDENDUM – WITHIN THE WEEK FOLLOWING THIS MEETING, two other ideas for naming a club arose:

- The Darrtown Boosters Club
- Some kind of “block party” group.