

ROCKY RIVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P O Box 16445, Rocky River, Ohio 44116, Ph: 440-895-0983
<http://rockyriverhistoricalsociety.org/>

A Centennial City

1903-2003

Summer 2014 News Edition



ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC AUGUST 14, 2014 • 5-8 PM ELMWOOD PARK CABIN

Jennifer Dieringer,
Co-President and Archivist

Jack Nickels,
Co-President

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Michael Thomas
Treasurer

Cheryl McCoy
Corresponding Secretary

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Carol Benyo
Gay Christensen-Dean
Janet Cipriani
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Jay Rounds

Honorary Member
Dr. Michael Shoaf

The Historical Society's annual summer picnic will be held on Thursday, August 14, 2014 at the Elmwood Cabin in Elmwood Park. Be sure to bring your family and friends! Don't miss this fun evening!

The Society will furnish table service, baked ham, rolls and beverages. You are asked to bring a dish for 6-8 people. In order to ensure a variety in the menu, we suggest you bring the following if your last name begins with:

A - G - Dessert

H - O - Salad or Side Dish

P - Z - Appetizers

There will be a \$5.00 per person charge to cover the expenses to be paid upon arrival. We will also be having our annual raffle so be sure to participate. There are always great prizes and gifts!!

Please fill out inserted form to RSVP and send your check by August 10, 2014 to:
(Fill out the inserted form enclosed:)

Dottie O'Neill
3167 Linden Drive #610
Rocky River, OH 44116
440-331-5267



See Page one of the Newsletter for Further information.

Please fill out inserted form to RSVP and send your check by August 10, 2014 to:

Dottie O'Neill
3167 Linden Drive #610
Rocky River, OH 44116
440-331-5267

Name: _____

Number Attending: _____

Phone Number: _____

I will Bring: _____

“BEAUTIFUL OHIO”, OUR STATE SONG

By Gay A. Christensen-Dean

In 1918, Mary Earl wrote the music for “Beautiful Ohio”. It was a waltz. It was not written specifically to be the state song, but was just adopted as such because of its popularity, like some other state songs (“My Old Kentucky Home”, for example). And actually, it was not really written by Mary Earl, but that was a pseudonym of Robert A. “Bobo” King, born Robert Keiser. King collaborated with Ballard Mac-



Donald who wrote the words, neither of whom was from Ohio. They also wrote songs about other states, such as “Back Home Again in Indiana”. In 1969, Ohio still did not have an official state song although “Beautiful Ohio” had become the standard. On October 14, 1969, the state legislature officially adopted it.

The lyrics were originally written as a love song and referred to two lovers floating down the Ohio River. The legislature intended to change some of the lyrics so the song would reflect the whole state. But, Ballard Macdonald’s widow would not allow any changes and the legislature had to wait until the copyright expired in 1974. Actually, they waited much longer because it was not until 1989 that Wilbert B. McBride, a Youngstown attorney, re-wrote the lyrics to reflect the state better (cities, factories, “golden grain”), instead of the two lovers. On November 6, 1989, an amendment was added to the Ohio Revised Code, General Provisions, Section 5.09 to adopt the new lyrics.

Source: www.ohiohistorycentral.org, www.ehow.com



BEAUTIFUL OHIO

Written By Ballard MacDonald
Special Lyrics By Wilbert B. McBride
Composed By Mary Earl

I sailed away;
Wandered afar;
Crossed the mighty restless sea;
Looked for where I ought to be.
Cities so grand, mountains above,
Led to this land I love.

Chorus

Beautiful Ohio, where the golden grain
Dwarf the lovely flowers in the summer rain.
Cities rising high, silhouette the sky.
Freedom is supreme in this majestic land;
Mighty factories seem to hum in tune, so grand.
Beautiful Ohio, thy wonders are in view,
Land where my dreams all come true!

"Original Chorus: as written by Ballard MacDonald:"

Drifting with the current down a moonlit stream
While above the Heavens in their glory gleam
And the stars on high
Twinkle in the sky
Seeming in a paradise of love divine
Dreaming of a pair of eyes that looked in mine
Beautiful Ohio, in dreams again I see
Visions of what used to be.

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MEETING DATES FOR 2014

Meetings are at the Rocky River Senior Center Auditorium at 7:00 P.M.

THE 2014 ROCKY RIVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY PROGRAMS:

September 11th, 2014

Clocks of the Western Reserve – Presented by Tom Barrett

NOTE CARDS AND BOOKS STILL AVAILABLE

If any member of the society would like to share their Rocky River memories, become more involved or just want to learn more about community, please contact Jenny Dieringer at 440-895-0983.