

The Ferry Landing

*The Martins Ferry Area Historical Society, Inc.
Summer 2006*

*Tom Thomas, President
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A Message from the President ...Tom Thomas

The summer has come and gone and school is in session again. The weather has turned cooler and fall is not far away. Football season is under way and the Purple Riders have started the season with a 4-0 record. I have a chance to look back on this past summer. At the museum, we had difficulties keeping the facility open as scheduled on the weekends. Our guide, Betty Douglas, had health problems and the rest of us had to scramble to provide time for people to tour and experience our city's heritage.

The weekend of the soap box derby was successful concerning our sale of root beer floats and people coming in to see our display of derby memorabilia. Also, our sale of Annie Tanks' new book, *A HISTORY OF MARTINS FERRY TO THE 1920S*, has proven to be extremely successful. We have sold almost 150 books, through the mail or at the Chamber of Commerce. We want to thank Alan Hartman at the Martins Ferry Office Supply and Phil Wallace at Ohio Valley Printing for their many hours of help. Thanks also to Dorothy Powell and Marian Klier at the Chamber for helping to sell the books to the public. If you want to purchase a book, you can still order them through the mail or in person at the Chamber on Walnut Street.

Later in the fall, work will begin on an addition to the museum. The back porch area will be walled-in and a sub-floor will be constructed. This will give us another area to store our printed materials and other items that we have stored elsewhere in the museum. This can be accomplished because of a grant we received from the Belmont County Tourism Council.

You can help us in these ways:

- Renew your membership and encourage others to do the same.
- Help with the day-to-day operation of the museum
- Serve on the Board of Directors, which requires attending the monthly meetings held the fourth Thursday of each month.
- We are looking for large items for our kitchen area, especially an "ice box" or something of that nature.
- We need Martins Ferry High School yearbooks, beginning in the 1970's to the present.

Ways to Support the Sedgwick House Museum

The Martins Ferry Area Historical Society operates the Sedgwick House Museum which is located at 627 Hanover Street in Martins Ferry, Ohio. The museum houses historical memorabilia and artifacts from Martins Ferry and the surrounding area. The museum helps Martins Ferry citizens share in the heritage of Ohio's first settlement.

It is important for the preservation and continued success of the Sedgwick House Museum to receive your financial support and gifts.

Your Will is a method you can use to establish gifts for the support of the Sedgwick House Museum to preserve the history contained in the museum. A Will can provide a bequest to the Sedgwick House Museum of a certain monetary amount. You can also benefit the Sedgwick House Museum in your estate plan, including provisions in trust, insurance policies and other methods to transfer a portion of your estate for that purpose.

A typical bequest in your Will could state:

Specific Bequest

I, John Smith, do hereby bequeath to the Martins Ferry Area Historical Society for the benefit of Sedgwick House Museum, located at Martins Ferry, Ohio, the sum of \$ _____ for the support of the Sedgwick House Museum and the preservation and continued success of the museum.

Percentage Bequest

I, Mary Smith, do hereby bequeath to the Martins Ferry Area Historical Society for the benefit of Sedgwick House Museum, located at Martins Ferry, Ohio, 50% of my estate to be used for the support of the Sedgwick House Museum and the preservation and continued success of the museum.

Please consult with your legal counsel and discuss adding a provision to your Will, trust or other documents to support the Sedgwick House Museum. Please call (740) 633-3430 or (740) 633-5559 for an appointment to view the Sedgwick House Museum.

MARTINS FERRY POLICE DEPARTMENT PATROLMAN PETER A. REDDY KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY

By: Tom Thomas

The citizens of Martins Ferry were in a holiday mood on December 20, 1928. That ended quickly when they learned of the death of Pete Reddy, patrolman in the Martins Ferry Police Department. He and his partner responded to a domestic violence report near Wilson Avenue. They found the suspect, Homer Smith, in the garage at his residence. They informed him of his arrest, but instead of surrendering, Smith opened fire upon the police. They returned the gunfire, killing Smith instantly. Officer Reddy was hit and died later that evening at the Martins Ferry Hospital.

Born in Bellaire on June 26, 1872, his parents Patrick and Mary Reddy moved to Martins Ferry soon after. He was a resident of the city for over fifty years. After the death of his first wife, Pete married Della May Reddy. They lived with their children from his first marriage...Francis, Olive, and Hubert.

Reddy was very active in civic affairs. He was a member of the police department for twenty-two years. He was a charter member of the Martins Ferry Fire Department and was a member of that department's championship hose racing team. He belonged to the Knights of Columbus, Elks Lodge, Aerie of Eagles, and being an accomplished musician, was a member of the Wheeling Musicians Union. He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and was the director of the choir.

Funeral arrangements were handled by Heslop's Mortuary Home, and the body lay for viewing at the family home on North Fifth Street. Services were held at St. Mary's Church. In attendance were hundreds of Martins Ferry residents, members of the Martins Ferry Police and Fire Departments. Representatives from police and fire departments in the Ohio Valley, from Bellaire to East Liverpool, were there to honor their fallen comrade. Father C. A. Mulhearn led a meaningful requiem high mass, including a tearful eulogy for Reddy. He was carried to his resting place in St. Mary's Cemetery in the Alert pumper. The Evening Times of Martins Ferry said of the funeral of Officer Pete Reddy, "The city dismissed its Christmas preparations to honor the fallen soldier of peace. Officer Reddy, the victim of an assassin's bullet, received the heartfelt homage of a sorrowing city."



SCHOOL DAYS



FERRYVIEW SCHOOL

Gone for many years now, Ferryview School stood on a ridge about two miles west of Bridgeport.

Originally a log-cabin structure, the one room school was a testimonial to early America's educational system.

Steeped in local history, it stood near the last home of Betty Zane.

Miss Hannah Goff was the school's last teacher. She dismissed her class for the final time at the end of the 1954 school year.

This photo was taken by Annie C. Tanks.

Although we do not know where this little girl attended school, she wrote these articles in a composition book about 1885. It is now at the Sedgwick House Museum.

School

It is very important for children to go to school, especially while they are young. Some children are very fond of going to school but I am not. It is only by hard study and constant attendance at school that we can prepare ourselves for the duties of life. I wish I did like to go to school, as my lessons would seem easier. The teacher added: "And my compositions would be longer."

Ambition

Every body has some kind of ambition. I think the best kind is to try and excel in every thing that is good. This would be a very stupid and dull world with out a sufficient quantity of ambition to keep us actively employed. I imagine a person without ambition would never succeed in anything he attempted to go at. A person too ambitious may commit a wrong act to gain his point, but this kind is not approved of.

FOR SALE FROM THE SEDGWICK HOUSE MUSEUM

NOTE: Books make good Christmas presents. A book ordered as a present before December 5th, 2006 can be mailed directly to the recipient, and a gift card will be included.

	Museum Pick Up (Includes Tax)	Mailed (Includes S/H)
<u>Annie Tanks' Martins Ferry</u> By Annie C. Tanks	\$16.05	\$19.00
<u>A Town of Grandeur</u> By Annie C. Tanks	\$13.00	\$15.50
<u>Lillie</u> By Jacob C. Williams, Jr.	\$16.00	\$18.50
<u>Bulltown</u> By Andy Shemenski	\$4.00	\$ 5.00
<u>The Zane Genealogy in the Ebenezer Martin Line</u> Compiled by A. Alma Martin Phyllis Kane, Myra Martin, Diane Nichols	\$20.00	\$22.50
<u>Through One Man's Eyes</u> By Paul E. Rieger	\$ 7.00	\$ 9.50
<u>Remembrances of Nutbusters and Beauty Queens</u> By Bill Burge	\$11.00	\$13.50
<u>Harry Northwood The Early Years 1881-1900</u> By William Heacock, James Measell, Berry Wiggins	\$20.00	\$22.50
Note Cards, pkg. of eight Artist, Jean Gwinn	\$3.00	\$4.00

Mail to: Name: _____

 Address: _____

 City, State, Zip Code: _____

Mail orders to:
Martins Ferry Area Historical Society
P.O. Box 422, Martins Ferry, OH 43935