

The Mahoning Valley Historical Society Newsletter

HISTORICAL HAPPENINGS



PRESERVING THE VALLEY'S HISTORY FOR 132 YEARS

Volume 35 Issue 2

September & October 2007

In this issue

- **Feature Story:**
Remembering Black Monday, 1977-2007
- **From This Direction**
- **Get Your Hands On: Summer Fun!**
- **Artifact-ually Speaking:**
Charles Dayton Arms
Part 7 of 7
- **Sight & Sound:**
The Business and Media Archives of the Mahoning Valley

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Remembering Black Monday, 1977-2007

September 19, 1977 is a date that resonates with many Valley residents, when Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company announced the closing of the Campbell Works plant and put thousands of local workers on the unemployment line.

The MVHS Young Leaders Advisory Board is co-sponsoring an event to remember Black Monday with the Ohio Historical Society's Youngstown Historical Center, YSU Center for Working Class Studies, YSU Center for Applied History, the Mahoning Valley Association of Churches, and the Office of Social Action/Diocese of Youngstown.

This FREE event will be held on Wednesday, September 19, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the Youngstown Historical Center (Steel Museum), 151 West Wood Street in Youngstown.

The event will be moderated by Dr. Sherry Linkon from YSU's Center for Working Class Studies, and will begin with a viewing of some portions of the documentary film *Shout Youngstown*. A panel discussion will follow that will include William Farragher, a former steel company marketing manager; Staughton Lynd, a labor attorney for the Ecumenical Coalition; Reverend Edward Weisheimer, of the Ecumenical Coalition; and Gerald Dickey, United Steel Workers of America member and activist. The audience will be invited to ask questions.

A reception will follow and guests will be able to view the exhibits at the Steel Museum.

For the Young Leaders Advisory Board, this will serve as the kickoff event for their 2007-2008 *History to Go* lecture series. The group has planned some compelling events for this fall and winter, including an architectural tour of the Mahoning County Courthouse in November; a look at Irish immigration to the Valley in March; and a historic walking tour of Fellows Riverside Gardens in June. See the calendar of events for dates and times. ✪



Youngstown Sheet & Tube Company's Campbell Works at night ca. 1950.

Founders Day Celebrations

Founders Day Open House

Sunday September 16 will be a fun filled day at the Arms Family Museum with games, food, crafts, historic photographs and a petting zoo. Stop by from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. for a free tour of the museum and have some fun with your family.

Founders Day Dinner

This year's dinner will be held on Tuesday, September 18, from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. at the Tod Homestead Cemetery, 2200 Belmont Avenue in Youngstown. Please join MVHS members and friends for a buffet dinner on the porch and learn more about this architectural treasure and recipient of a 2007 Historic Preservation Award. The chapel and offices will be open for inspection. Cost for the event is \$29 for members, \$34 for guests. Please RSVP by Wednesday, September 12. ✪

Welcome!

Our New Members

Ms. Carol Baird
 Elayne M.S. Bozick
 Mr. Samuel R. Faccioben
 Mr. and Mrs. John Fleming
 Mr. Jeff Grdic
 Mr. Richard W. Gunn
 Mr. and Mrs. A. Norman Into, Jr.
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Preservation Society

Thanks for your continued support!

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Canteen Service of Steel Valley, Inc.

From This Direction

Black Monday, September 19, 1977, was a pivotal day in the Mahoning Valley. It marked the beginning of the end of the region's iron and steel industry as it had been known in the community and throughout the world for several generations. The notification by The Youngstown Sheet & Tube Company of shutdowns and massive layoffs of employees at their Campbell Works, followed by similar announcements at Sheet & Tube's Brier Hill Works, all of U.S. Steel Corporation's District operations and the Republic Steel Corporation in Youngstown in quick succession, affected most of the local population in one form or another.

Black Monday occurred in the first month of my freshman year of high school here in the Youngstown area. Over the next three years, many boys and girls I had known from grade school left—some in the middle of school years, most during the summers—as their parents accepted transfers from Youngstown Sheet & Tube, U.S. Steel or Republic Steel to work in other plants, or lost their jobs and went out in search of employment elsewhere. Not long after my high school graduation in June 1981, Republic Steel phased out all remaining basic steel operations at their Haselton plant, and the last blast furnace in Youngstown proper went cold.

Thirty years later many individuals—along with local governments, school districts and social service agencies—still confront the economic and emotional aftermath of the collapse of the local steel industry. New generations were born and came of age with no concept of what steel meant to this community. Yet all who live, work and go to school in the Valley today are affected by the wake of the transformation that occurred, however unwelcome or unknown are their memories of Black Monday.

On Wednesday, September 19, at 7:00 P.M. in the Youngstown Historical Center (Steel Museum) on Wood Street in downtown, the community will gather for a program to mark 30 years and to take account of where we are now. I hope many MVHS members will be there to participate, and to remember. 🦄

~H. William Lawson

The MVHS staff is blogging!

Check out our blog at:
www.mahoninghistory.blogspot.com

Get your Hands-On: Summer Fun!

Rebecca Whittenberger, Curator of Education



Patrons enjoying the suitcase presentation at the Main Library

The Education Department has had a busy, successful, "hands-on" summer!

During July and August, we partnered with the public libraries of Mahoning County and visited eight libraries with our traveling Native American and Pioneer Life suitcases. Attendance was high and children enjoyed learning about the earliest inhabitants of our Valley through original artifacts, clothing and toys from the MVHS education collection.

We also hosted a local teacher workshop on August 16th in partnership with the Vindicator Newspapers in Education Coordinator, Sue Ann Taylor. Participating teachers received a guided house tour, free educational materials and an in-depth look at how the MVHS can provide them with local history classroom resources.

Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens in Akron was the site of our August museum guide meeting.



MVHS Guides & Staff at Stan Hywet

With many thanks to the generous hospitality of the staff of Stan Hywet, our guides received an in-depth tour of the manor house which gave them greater insight, understanding and appreciation for historic house interpretation.

The Education Department was invited to participate in "Pioneer Day" at Lanterman's Mill in Mill Creek Park on August 25th. Two live presentations of the Pioneer Life suitcase were given by our Curator of Education, and the audience felt history come alive in a hands-on way through grinding coffee, hefting a sad iron, and playing with authentic pioneer-era toys.

Would you like to have one of our special educational resources presented for your classroom or organization? The school year has started and the best time to reserve a resource is now! Call 330-743-2589 to reserve a program and experience local history coming alive! 🦄

Artifact-ually Speaking

Pamela L. Speis, Archivist

Charles Dayton Arms led an adventurous life and was dearly missed by his family and community after his death on January 17, 1896.. Hannah Arms wrote in her diary, April 29, 1898, on what would have been his 72nd birthday "Over to cemetery all the afternoon. Cad & I took over beautiful roses for Annie and myself. Papa's birthday and he loved roses...." Tributes written about him were many, containing personal anecdotes as well as basic facts about his life. His family was center stage, however, even after his death.



The Arms Family

Charles Dayton Arms stipulated in his will income for his wife and daughters, fifteen thousand dollars annually for Hannah, who died in 1898, and six hundred dollars annually to his unmarried daughters. After one year, each of his six daughters received one thousand dollars annually. After ten years, the executors, Henry M. Robinson being the last one surviving, were to distribute the balance of the estate: to Hannah, 1/3 part both real and personal, in lieu of dower. The remaining 2/3 equally to his daughters, "and in case any of my daughters shall die before the... ten years then the share of such daughter

INVENTORY AND APPRAISEMENT.		
Estate of <u>Charles D. Arms</u> Deceased.		
SCHEDULE D		
PERSONAL GOODS AND CHATTELS		
The following personal goods and chattels, belonging to the estate of the said <u>Charles D. Arms</u> , which are assets in the hands of the said <u>Charles D. Arms</u> , are exhibited as follows:		
No.	Description of such chattels.	Appraised value.
1	1/2 doz. Silver Tea Set	\$750.00
2	1/2 doz. Silver Tea Set	\$750.00
3	1/2 doz. Silver Tea Set	\$750.00
4	1/2 doz. Silver Tea Set	\$750.00
5	1/2 doz. Silver Tea Set	\$750.00
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8	1/2 doz. Silver Tea Set	\$750.00
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97	1/2 doz. Silver Tea Set	\$750.00
98	1/2 doz. Silver Tea Set	\$750.00
99	1/2 doz. Silver Tea Set	\$750.00
100	1/2 doz. Silver Tea Set	\$750.00

shall go to the heirs ... of such... precisely as it would have done had I died intestate." Final distribution of this portion of the estate amounted to \$785,113.00. The final appraised value of the estate in 1906 was just shy of \$1.6 million. He also stipulated that "in no event, shall any of the furniture, books, pictures, plate, or household goods of any kind in the family homestead, nor any of the horses, cows, carriages or other articles in and about the stables be included in the inventory as all such articles are the property of my wife, and do not pertain to my estate."



the Arms Family Museum dining room. ✨

Much of the personal estate of Charles Dayton Arms and his wife Hannah became the possessions of their last surviving daughter Olive F. A. Arms, directly or through her sisters' estates. Many of the pieces continue to be displayed in the museum. The Silver Tea Set pictured is a fine example. It is in

Sight & Sound

Business & Media Archives of the Mahoning Valley

Black Monday. If you lived in the Mahoning Valley on September 19, 1977, you know what those words meant. The Business & Media Archives collection preserves the memories of those sad days; the closing of the mills, the optimism of the workers that some how their jobs and way of life could be saved and the dimming of hope as time wore on. Also preserved are the efforts of the Ecumenical Coalition to re-open the mills under worker-community ownership, and of course footage of the mills being torn down.



Pictures taken from WKBN news footage.



Tricia Perry of WKBN-TV 27 has incorporated footage from the BMAMV collection for a story on Black Monday that will air the week of September 19th. An extended version will be available on www.wkbn.com following the broadcast. ✨

Tod Engine

In July the MVHS staff took a trip to visit the Tod Engine Heritage Park on Hubbard Road on Youngstown's Northeast side. Built in 1914 by the William Tod company and used in the Brier Hill Company, the Tod Engine powered several pieces of mill equipment until retirement in 1979. The massive engine is a significant piece steel industry history in Youngstown and is being preserved by Rick Rowlands and the Tod Engine Foundation.



The staff standing in front of the engine gives a reference for the massive size.

Rowlands hopes to restore the engine to working order in its original 1914 appearance. A complete set of engineering drawings were also preserved with the engine. Rowlands hopes to build an enclosed structure and eventually power the engine to run at slow speeds. Learn more about this project at the Tod Engine Foundation website, www.todengine.org. ✨

The Mahoning Valley Historical Society,

founded in 1875, educates and promotes an interest in the history of the Mahoning Valley by collecting, preserving and developing material representative of the people who have inhabited the region.



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Upcoming Events

September 16	Founders Day Open House	1:00-5:00 p.m.
	Arms Family Museum of Local History	
September 18	Founders Day Dinner	5:00 to 7:30 p.m.
	Tod Homestead Cemetery	
September 19	History to Go	7:00 p.m.
	Remembering Black Monday 1977-2007 Youngstown Historical Center (Steel Museum)	
November	History to Go	Date/Time TBD
	Mahoning County Courthouse Tour	
November 30	Holiday Open House	5:00-7:00 p.m.
	Arms Family Museum of Local History	
March 10, 2008	History to Go	7:00 p.m.
	Irish Immigration at St. Patrick's Church	
June 12, 2008	History to Go	Time TBD
	Historic Fellows Riverside Gardens Tour	

You can stay on top of upcoming events and special announcements by joining the MVHS Email List.

Send an email with "subscribe" in the subject line to: mvhs@mahoninghistory.org

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