



## Sutter-Meyer Society Newsletter

Summer 2020

Preserving and celebrating University City's oldest building/house  
Built in 1873 ▪ Located at 6826 Chamberlain Court

Sutter-Meyer Society ▪ PO Box 300285 ▪ University City, MO 63130

## Sutter-Meyer Society Welcomes New President and Board Member

Because of coronavirus, we've had to cancel a few board meetings, as well as our annual meeting and open houses. But in May and June we met on the lawn and porch – at social distance and masked! At our May meeting, we elected officers: Chris Blumenhorst is our new president, Esley Hamiton is staying on as vice president, and Bill Meyer as treasurer. Jen Jensen is now recording secretary (with Carol Diaz-Granados as back-up) and Bonnie Tesson remains corresponding secretary. We will meet again in August, when we will welcome our newest board member, Susan Armstrong.



We'll also discuss new projects, including the possible addition of working shutters at the Farmhouse (as seen in this archival photo of the Meyers).



Board members setting up for an outdoor meeting

Pictured (l to r): Bill Meyer, Pat McCauley,  
Chris Blumenhorst, and Steve Aroesty

### Keeping the Sutter-Meyer Farmhouse In Shape During the Pandemic

Happily, our committee members have continued to complete necessary jobs during the pandemic. Bill and Bob Meyer of our Facilities Committee have varnished the wood porch and the well cover. In the picture at left, Bob is cleaning weeds out of the well – not an easy task! Bob has also repaired the garage door so it can be painted. Bill has gotten bids for shutters for the Farmhouse and bids to put a light on the stairs to the second floor. He also assisted the plumber who installed a faucet on the north side of the Farmhouse. Bonnie continues to tend our historic herb garden. Plus, our wonderful volunteer gardeners are keeping the butterfly garden looking good – and the butterflies happy.



## Thanks for the Gorgeous Flowers, Lexine!

We are fortunate to have wonderful volunteers who help us in so many ways to maintain and preserve the Sutter-Meyer Farmhouse. Here you see Lexine Pranschke in May planting perennials by our sign. The yellow Primrose (top right) bloomed in June and the Black-Eyed Susans (lower right) in July. We look forward to these beauties coming up every summer!



### Help us keep the past alive!

Email: [thepastlives@suttermeyer.org](mailto:thepastlives@suttermeyer.org) ■ Website: [www.suttermeyer.org](http://www.suttermeyer.org)  
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If you are interested in volunteering at the Sutter-Meyer Farmhouse or have a construction service that could help us with our many needs, please contact Chris Blumenhorst at: [thepastlives@suttermeyer.org](mailto:thepastlives@suttermeyer.org)

## The Sutter-Meyer White Iris by Elsie Glickert



The Iris plant pictured here arrived on a slow boat from Germany in 1914 – over 100 years ago. It was a condolence plant to the University City family of Roman Meyer, who had died in May of 1913. Barbara Meyer, his widow, and their daughter, Elsie, traveled to Baden-Baden Germany to visit Roman's family and share the news of his death.

The Iris was planted on the University City farm in Roman's memory. The Iris continued to propagate and bloom on the Meyer farm for many years thereafter. In 1968, Elsie Beck Glickert (Roman and Barbara's granddaughter, our own Elsie Glickert) received several tubers from her Uncle Edward and Aunt Bertha Meyer, who had been living on the farm since Roman's death. Aunt Bertha told Elsie, "Your grandmother and mother brought this Iris from Germany in 1914 and you should have a clump." It has been propagating since then in her yard on Etzel, the northern boundary of the original farm.

And now, 100+ years after its arrival from Baden-Baden in southwestern Germany, the Iris has returned to the landscape of the Sutter-Meyer Farmhouse! Look for its beautiful, slender leaf and its white flower that blooms from mid to late May.

### Sutter-Meyer Society Board of Directors

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*Vice President*

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