

# Eggs-traordinary Egg Hunts at Stan Hywet

### By Jennifer McDowell, Director of Public Programs

It's just before Easter, when the Stan Hywet staff would be putting all the last-minute touches on our very popular **Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast with Bunny & Friends** that we host the day before Easter. It's always a great event for families, and such a perfect way to welcome spring. But as we all know, it's a very different year, as we all stay safe and stay at home.

We will definitely miss hosting our many members and guests who join us for the tradition of this wonderful event. So much planning takes place in the off-season, and this year was no different. We were expecting 1,000 participants this year, so we had to prepare a lot of Easter Eggs! In February, Public Programs Assistant Linda Williams and our dedicated volunteers spent a busy 4 hours stuffing more than 4,000 colorful plastic eggs to help us get ready. We'd planned on including several "eggsstra" golden eggs for each of our three egg hunts, so more children would be able to find these coveted shiny eggs and redeem for additional small prizes.





Breakfast in the Manor House Reception Hall had sold out in record time, and the Easter Bunny and friends —including Mad Hatter, Mother Goose, Little Red Riding Hood, Little Miss Muffet, and Little Bo Peep — were looking forward to participating in all the activities with the kids.

Since we can't be together in person, we're sharing some history of past Easter egg hunts held by the Seiberling family. This is another wonderful reminder of the motto in the crest above the Manor House entryway – *Non Nobis Solum* (Not For Us Alone). There is also a GREAT photo from the roof of the Manor House during a recent Egg Hunt, and an activity to try at home. Have fun!



The Seiberling family hosted many egg hunts. This article from the April 13, 1933 edition of the Akron Beacon Journal describes how F.A. and Gertrude "planned special entertainment in the afternoon," hosting their grandchildren for an egg hunt following Easter dinner:



After the estate became a foundation in 1957, the volunteers organized an egg hunt to help open the second season at Stan Hywet. Here's the feature from March 30, 1958 in the Akron Beacon Journal. And, it was a great success! See the photo on the next page.

# Offers Big Program On Easter Egg Hunt At Stan Hywet

#### Photos on Page 1-B

Stan Hywet, the \$15,000.000 gift to the Akron area, will have its "formal" opening for the 1958 season Easter Sunday with a monster egg hunt for children.

The whole program, next+

tailored for the youngsters. style show. And a magic show. silver eggs will be given East-And a fairy dell with a ginger- er candy.

bread house and toadstools three feet high to delight the youngsters.

MORE THAN 1.000 eggs Boss, will be at 2 p. m. will be hidden on the Stan Hywet grounds. Some of them show, and at 3:30, the Easter sons from 48 states toured the will be painted in gold and baskets will be distributed in grounds and house. Stan Hysome in silver, and each child front of the Manor House. finding either a gold or silver egg will receive a prize.

Sunday afternoon, will be Easter basket in which to carry the eggs, and those young-There's to be a children's sters who fail to find gold and

open at 1:30 p. m. The magic show, by Edward

Each child will be given an gather at the Carriage House of Trustees.

where the candy and prizes will be distributed.

For Easter Sunday, adults will be admitted to Stan Hywet grounds for 50 cents each. There will be no charge for children up to the age of 9. And 9, too, is the age limit for the egg hunt.

HOWEVER, no children will be admitted unless accompanied by an adult. Children. 9 GATES, next Sunday, will through 16, will be charged 25 cents admission,

This is the second year of Stan Hywet operation. Last At 2:45 will come the style season more than 26,000 perwet, given to the city of Ak-When the big egg hunt is ron by the Seiberling family. concluded, the children will is being operated by a Board



It was called "the biggest Easter egg hunt in Akron history" and encouraged the then-president of the Stan Hywet Foundation, Robert Pflueger to announce that it would become an "annual affair." And while they did not have enough eggs at the time to meet the demand because of the unexpected huge crowd, we loved how Mr. Pflueger was quoted in ABJ as saying, "I guess we'll just have to color a lot more eggs next year."

hunt to the "Oklahoma Land Rush." Everyone was dressed in their "Sunday

best."

**YES.** Believe it or not, "egg committees" at Stan Hywet were working hard to actually dye 1,000 –2,000 hard-cooked eggs for the event. We love this photo (right) from the ABJ, March 30, 1958.

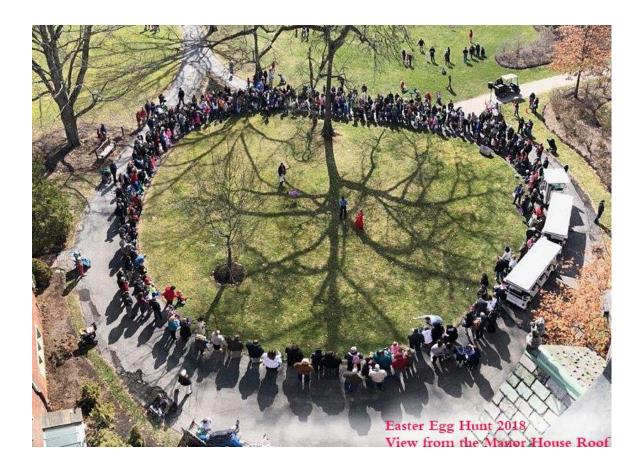
Note the caption says, "oops! one less for Stan Hywet egg hunt" because one of the committee ladies is shown accidentally dropping one of the eggs!

While we now use plastic eggs stuffed with candies and prizes, we can only imagine how happy some of the estate's wildlife must have been, later finding any of those hard-boiled eggs that may have accidentally been missed by the children during the event!

Even though we cannot celebrate together on the estate this year, please know the Stan Hywet staff and volunteers appreciate your ongoing support and participation in this annual tradition. We look forward to seeing you and your family on the estate, after we are able to reopen. Know that in the future we will be sharing this year's world events as part of our own story in history.



JEAN BENNETT, SHIRLEY FLOWERS OF COPLEY HIGH ...oops! one less for Stan Hywet egg hunt



## Try this At Home: Dying Easter Eggs with Natural Dyes

In 1958, the Stan Hywet "egg committee" dyed hard-boiled eggs to place around the estate for the egg hunt. To try something different at home, rather than using purchased dye tablets, have you considered using natural dyes? There are many resources online to help guide you to which ingredients will provide different colors. Here are a few examples:

Blue – red cabbage	Yellow – carrots or orange peels
Dark Blue - blueberries	Brown – coffee
Orange – onion skins	Pink – beets
Yellow / gold – turmeric	Green – spinach

Try alternating dyes to create your own mixture of colors – for example, dye eggs in beet solution first and then red cabbage to create Lavender eggs.

Most recipes call for bringing your dye ingredient and about 2 cups of water to a boil, simmering for at least 15-30 minutes, straining out any solids and skins, and then adding 2-3 teaspoons of white vinegar. Dye the eggs in the hot or warm liquid mixture. Just like with a dye tablet mixture, the longer the eggs sit in the dye solution, the more vibrant the colors will become.

## Be sure to experiment and have fun!

Here are a few websites to get you started:

<u>Country Living</u> <u>All Recipes.com</u> <u>What's Cooking America</u> <u>Good Housekeeping</u> <u>Martha Stewart</u>