

Bell Acres History...

Box Socials

During the early 1900s, Box Socials were popular community events that were used to raise money for schools and churches. It involved young women preparing a picnic style meal for two that might include sandwiches, fruit and a dessert. The young lady placed the food along with her name into a shoebox that was decorated with fancy paper, ribbons and bows. The colorful boxes were then auctioned to the young men in attendance. Spirited bidding ensued, with shouts and cheers urging higher and higher bids. Only after opening his chosen box, did the young man discover with whom he would be sharing his meal.



Undated photo of Jenny School children in grades one through four.

Box Social Raises Fund for Children of France

A box social Friday night in the Jenny School in the Camp Meeting Road, Sewickley Township, realized \$45 for the fatherless children of France.

(P-G 13 April 1919)

Social a Success

A box and pie social was held by the pupils of the Jenny School Monday evening in Sewickley [Township]. The net proceeds of the social amounted to \$56. This money is to be used by the pupils to purchase a new bell for their school.

(Pittsburgh Press 17 March 1920)

Box and Pie Social at Jenny School

On Friday evening, April 30, the pupils of the Jenny School, with the assistance of their teacher, Samuel H. Kennedy, held a box and pie social. This is the second social the pupils of this school have held this term. The proceeds of the social are to be used to purchase a stage curtain for the class plays and entertainments. A 500-pound bell was purchased with the proceeds obtained from the first social which was held in March. Owing to the railroad strike the bell has not been received yet.

The pupils hope to have enough money left after buying the curtain to purchase pictures for the school and ice cream for their picnic.

Pittsburgh Press May 1, 1920