



ViewPoints



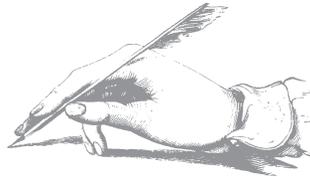
Winter, 2003

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AN OCCASIONAL NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS/MARBLE CLIFF HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Dear Society Members and Friends,

I hope your holidays were warm and happy. Grandview businesses and homes looked as beautiful as ever with all the lights and decorations. I look forward now to the greening of spring!

Our preservation of materials project is continuing with the acquisition of our own computer and scanner, which make possible the digitizing of materials upon receipt.

Appointments can be made for immediate copying of photos and other items which a contributor may wish to add to our archives while retaining possession of the originals.

Our sincerest thanks to Board Member Wayne Carlson for his help in getting this equipment in place!

On March 1 your society will be participating along with a number of central Ohio historical societies in a program entitled "Franklin County Histories: Bits and Pieces", hosted by the Columbus Metropolitan Library. This is a fine opportunity for us to work with other societies, sharing ideas and information with the public. See details of this event elsewhere in this issue.

The 2003 Decorator Showhouse will be the Lindenberg/Voelker/Valachovic residence on Lincoln Road. We have been working closely with the committee and have provided historical information and photographs of the home. We are pleased that the Showhouse committee is working with respect for the building's unique style and history. Board Member Tom DeMaria worked with Channel 10 on a filmed segment. We do not have an airing date, but will watch for it with interest!

Longtime Board Member Lorna "Skip" Karlovec has been officially designated Trustee Emerita. She has been a dedicated member of our group from its beginning, and we are pleased that she will continue as a consultant and volunteer with the society.

Sincerely,

Tracy Liberatore, President

Grandview Heights Public Library:

AN APPRECIATION

by Wayne Carlson

When the Grandview Heights/Marble Cliff Historical Society came into existence in 1974, the founders envisioned an organization that would document the rich history of the Tri-Village area, as well as begin an archive of historical documents and artifacts. When space was needed to house this archive, the Grandview Heights Public Library graciously came forward with an offer to locate that space in their building. They offered the fledgling volunteer group a small room in what is now their reference area, which is still in use today. Thus began a great symbiotic relationship between two important contributors to the residents of our communities.

The Library has been a very supportive host for our Society activities. In addition to providing our Society "headquarters," they provide meeting space for our monthly board meetings and our annual meeting. The wonderfully professional library staff have helped us in many ways. They constantly answer questions of patrons regarding the activities of the Society, they advise us on techniques and approaches for gathering and storing documents and photographs, and they treat our valuable materials as if they were their own.

Library director Carol Pelz and Mary Ludlum in particular have been incredible friends of the Society and the historical activities that represent what we are about. Recently they wrote and received a grant to digitize all of the Grandview Heights High School yearbooks and put them online, a project which parallels the efforts of our own archiving initiatives. This project has made a rich resource of historical information immediately available to Grandview residents (and the world!). You can access these digitized yearbook archives and other digitized photos at <http://www.photoohio.org/search/>

Several years ago the Society decided to embark on a new archiving effort by creating a web site that would contain links to virtual representations of our resources.

With our limited budget, we faced a problem in procuring a service provider to host our site. The Library came through for us again. Carol Pelz arranged with the Central (Ohio) Library Consortium in Lithopolis to provide



This issue sponsored by

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NEW DISCOVERIES: 6

The GHMCHS is grateful for all donations to our archives. We recently acquired a number of exciting new images from two of our members. As a change of pace I am sharing some unique photos in this issue. Special thanks to Galen Gonser, whose avid interest in early photographs often prompts him to share items from his collection.

Many thanks also to Pat Behmer Preble of Daytona Beach, Florida for sharing the marvelous photos of her grandfather, Fred Behmer, Sr. Pat wrote that her grandfather was a professional photographer from age 16 until well into his 70's. He began his career with Baker Studio and also worked for the Columbus Star. Behmer was the first to take pictures of away Ohio State football games for publication in the next morning's paper. He dried photo plates on a potbelly stove on the return train trip from the game. He worked as a commercial photographer at Jeffrey Manufacturing for over 50 years. His son, Fred Behmer, Jr. also worked with his father as a photographer at Jeffrey until his retirement. Fred Behmer, Sr. is immortalized on the next page as one of the "Wyandotte Indians".



Carl Lindenberg House: This rare photograph shows the home of Carl Lindenberg as originally designed by Frank Packard in 1903, with its brown shingle siding. This view is of the front of the house, which faced west. This home, at the corner of Cambridge Boulevard and Village Court, retains the large overhangs, but has been stuccoed and the porte-cochere has been removed. It is now entered from Cambridge Boulevard, the original rear of the home.

Galen Gonser Collection. Undated, but after 1903



Marble Cliff Station: Panoramic view looking east from approximately the site of Highlights for Children building on Rt. 33. To the right, along Fifth Avenue starting at the tracks, are the Marble Cliff Railroad Station and post office/general store. The Price family homes are along the ridge to the right. The distinguished appearing young men are standing on the railroad spur leading into the quarry. They remain unidentified, and we hope some reader may know who they are.

Galen Gonser Collection. Undated, but after 1890



Arlington (later Aladdin) Country Club: A view taken from the railroad tracks. Note the footbridge, which led from the clubhouse to the men's locker room and the first tee of the nine-hole golf course.

Galen Gonser Collection. Undated.



'PICTURES FROM THE PAST'

by Tom DeMaria



Wyandotte Indians: Fred A. Behmer is the fifth "Indian" from the left. The "Wyandottes" won first prize in the 1922 Field Day Parade. A newspaper article of the day states that 96% of Wyandotte Road residents who could walk participated. Men, women and children covered themselves with grease paint and participated in various tableaux on floats that stretched for three blocks. A portrayal of the Execution of Chief Leatherlips made spectators gasp with awe.

Pat Preble. Circa 1922

Fred A. Behmer, Sr. Mr. Behmer (1885-1972) standing on the running board. The license plate is 1916, and the photo is probably from the Field Day Celebration that year.

Pat Preble. Circa 1916



Visit the "New Additions" section of our web site to see more photographs. www.ghmchs.org As always, we welcome your input and opportunities to copy your memorabilia for our archives.

Franklin County Histories: BITS AND PIECES

On Saturday, March 1, 2003 GHMCHS will participate with more than ten other historical societies in a first-ever collaborative program. Sponsored by the Biography, History and Travel Division of Columbus Metropolitan Library, the event will feature displays of memorabilia and photographs along with presentations of local history stories relevant to Franklin County heritage.

This free program is scheduled from 1-3 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Main Library at 96 South Grant Avenue in downtown Columbus. Parking is available in the library's parking garage

on the north end of the building. Following the program in the auditorium a preview of Columbus Metropolitan Library's Ohio History slide shows: "The Columbus Quilt" and "Columbus Gone but Not Forgotten" will be shown on the third floor of the Main Library.

Grandview Heights/Marble Cliff Historical Society plans to showcase our publications and other materials at this Franklin County Bicentennial event. We will also participate in the storytelling. All are invited to attend!



BECOME A MEMBER

of the Grandview Heights/Marble Cliff Historical Society!

Please complete the information below and send with your check made out to: **GH/MC Historical Society** Mail or drop off at the **Grandview Heights Library, 1685 West First Avenue, Columbus, OH 43212**

NAME _____

SPOUSE
(IF COUPLE MEMBERSHIP) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____

Please check the appropriate membership box:

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

YEARLY DUES (OCT. 1-SEPT. 30)

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Couple \$15.00

Organization \$25.00

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

ONE-TIME PAYMENT

Single \$100.00

Couple \$150.00

Organization \$500.00

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Contact Editor Patrick Mooney
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ideas or to discuss photo contributions.

***Please note change
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Grandview Heights Public Library... *CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1*

the web hosting services that we needed. Wayne Thomas of the library consortium helped us get online, and continues to be a knowledgeable technical resource with help for our archiving efforts. These individuals and the Library staff are always friendly and ever so helpful with visitors to the Library who desire to get access to our web site on their computers.

We believe it is important to recognize the Grandview Heights Public Library and its staff, and for all of us to realize how much their mission influences us as a community. As a group which has had such a positive, long term collaborative relationship with the library, we want to take this opportunity to offer our profound thanks for all that they have done and continue to do for us and for all Grandview and Marble Cliff residents.

BOARD MEMBER PROFILE

New Board Member Joe Miller became actively involved in GHMCHS because of his appreciation for Grandview's neighborhoods and special attributes and his long appreciation for local history. Originally from suburban Chicago, Joe attended Ohio State and returned to Columbus after graduating from Harvard Law School in 1997. In 2001 he bought his home on Second Avenue in Grandview Heights. Joe is an attorney with a civil litigation practice at Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP. In addition to GHMCHS, Joe is actively involved with the Tri-Village Rotary Club and St. Christopher Church. In his spare time he enjoys travel, golf and involvement in local politics.

1685 WEST FIRST AVENUE
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The Grandview
Heights/Marble Cliff
Historical Society

