Indian Hill Historical Society

E-Newsletter July, 2021 Vol. 11

What's Been Happening This Past Quarter?

**Outstanding Achievement in American History Award**

With the generosity of the Nippert Foundation, each year the Indian Hill Historical Society awards two junior students, one at Cincinnati Country Day School (CCDS) and one at Indian Hill High School, with the “Outstanding Achievement in American History” award. The winner is selected by the teachers at the respective schools and is based on students’ participation in co-curricular activities related to American History and student government. This person also exemplifies a positive attitude, shows respect for others, and serves as a leader and role model in the school community.

The Historical Society is pleased to announce the 2021 winners:

**Tacey Hutten** is a junior at Indian Hill High School. Her teachers’ comments included:
- “She has tremendous prior knowledge of history and politics; she is naturally bright; she works incredibly hard; she has a great attitude, and she extends her knowledge and abilities outside the classroom.”
- “In the classroom, Tacey has already mastered A.P. European History, A.P. US History, A.P. World History, A.P. Macroeconomics, and A.P. Government. And, she still has a year to go!”
- “In the courtroom, she has become a feared and devastatingly lethal attorney who recently won the coveted Outstanding Attorney award in the Ohio Mock Trial State Finals.”
- “And in the ‘real world’, she is a pillar of her community who has done countless hours of community service.”

**Irene Wang** is a junior at Cincinnati County Day School. Her teachers’ comments included:
- “When Irene volunteered to become a docent for the Bent Towards Justice museum, she did it out of service to the community. She could envision how this project could pull us all together. Irene has a sophisticated sense of what theorist Benedict Anderson once called an ‘imagined community.’”
- “Through her storytelling of the long road to civil rights, to children as young as five, she made connections from the past to the present and from the Upper School to the Lower School.”
- “I applaud Irene for consistent excellence in her academic work and for making Country Day a better place.”
Virtual Program at Doscher’s Candy
Since gathering in-person was still not allowed due to COVID, a virtual program was created about a local manufacturer and merchant which has been in the area for 150+ years! The Doscher Candy Company is a remarkable candy enterprise in a historical house, the McGill Homestead (1835), in Newtown, OH.

Claus Doscher and his brothers started a candy store in downtown Cincinnati in 1871. Using real peppermint oil, cooking in copper kettles and working with their hands, they rolled, kneaded, striped and hooked candy canes. Through the succeeding years, they added and subtracted new confections. Today, the company still produces Candy Canes, French Chews and Candy Buttons. They also sell Bequet Caramels.

In addition to all of the tasty treats, the showrooms are very inviting and fun to see. With so many activities limited due to Covid, Doscher’s Candy is a nearby site to visit, and you might just go home with a pocket full of candy!

To view the video, please visit the Historical Society’s website.
**Member News, 2nd Quarter, 2021 Updates**

**New Members:**
Kym McBride  
Christopher Nicholson

**Renewals:**
Jane Birckhead  Sandra & Robert Heimann  Hien & Ron Mueller  
Nancy Tehan & Hugh Brandt  Julie & Rob Heidt  Natalie & Patrick Nesbitt  
Kathy & Stephen Fish  Christine Elfers & Dave  Mary Ann Ryan  
Susan & Burton Closson, Jr.  Hendren  Lucy Davis & Robert Safrin  
Jean Davison  Sue & Bill Hill  Greg Schmidt  
Carol & Troy DeBord  Marilyn & Gerard Hyland  Jane & Paul Stewart  
Kit & Dick Duval  Ed Jacobs  Barbara & Irwin Weinberg  
Blair Fleischmann  Chris & Bill Judd  William Weyand  
Louisa Fleischmann  Kym & Mark Kuenning  Polly Whittaker  
Dani & Greg Frappier  Carol & Bill Lichtenberg  Kristin & Holden Wilson  
Noralee & Lewis Gatch  Patricia & Calvin Linnemann  John Zinke  
Sharon & Bob Gill  Robert Lindner, Sr.  
Lisa & Mark Greene  Tracey & Todd Motto

**Business Renewals:**
English Rose Designs  Judy Recker – Sibcy Cline  
Michael F. Gehrig  Scott Concrete  
Holzapfel Law  Sibcy Cline  
InPrint Madeira  Taft: Focused Capitol Solutions  
Main Auction Galleries  Total Wealth Planning  
Mariemont Inn  Turner Farm  
Mortgage House of America  The V Collective

*Interested in becoming a member?  [Click here]*
Thanks to Our Business Members
The Battle of Fort Sumter started on April 12, 1861, and with it, so did the War between the States, or the Civil War. By May, the Army of the Grand Republic was rapidly building to wage war against the Confederate Army. Ohio contributed more soldiers to the war effort than any other northern state except New York.

Ohio’s governor, William Dennison, asked George McClellan to command the Ohio militia. He began organizing military camps for recruiting, training, and mustering-in troops. Property in New Germany, Ohio was selected for the site for Camp Dennison because the land was fairly level, had access to the railroad and nearby turnpike (today’s S.R. 126 & 50), and the Little Miami River provided water and transportation options. Dr. Alfred Buckingham and Nimrod Price leased approximately 700 acres of land in the “Big Bottoms”, as the area was called then, for $12 - $20 per acre, per month – a very lucrative deal for both men.

The first group of recruits to arrive, about 1,500 men, found crudely erected barracks which were 18’x12’, had a dirt floor, and housed 12 men. As more men came, the Camp was rapidly overpopulated, and new enlistees slept in tents. Eventually larger barracks were constructed to be 100’ x 22’ and contained 3-tiered bunks on each side. These new buildings held an entire company of troops. Talk about tight quarters! At any time, there were as many as 12,000 soldiers stationed there. To be expected, tensions existed and clashes occurred. The weather could exacerbate the living conditions and often turned the area into what became known as “Mud Lake”. There were 18 Commandants at the Camp over its 4 years of operations – it was a difficult posting.

Each soldier was paid $13 per month in green backs. Every unit was responsible for their own food and laundry. There was a sutler in the Camp, I. A. Hutchinson, who ran the local post office, and sold canned foods, playing cards, toiletries, candles, and the like – at inflated prices. He paid 10¢ per soldier / officer
to the Camp administration for the privilege of this exclusive arrangement. Credit could be extended to soldiers by using tokens. The Camp diet generally consisted of beans, rice, salt pork, potatoes, bacon, and coffee. Sometimes, meat and vegetables could be purchased from the neighboring farmers to supplement a unit’s diet. Officers often brought their own domestic help.

As the war waged on, a hospital with over 200 beds was established. Local resident, Dr. Alfred Buckingham was put in charge of the Seventh Division Hospital at the Camp. The customary medicines included calomel, quinine, and whiskey. Childhood diseases were common in the Camp, particularly measles. Many of the wounded soldiers from the Battle of Shiloh were treated at Camp Dennison. It is also reported that injured Confederate troops were treated there as well.

Local residents often visited the Camp to watch the troops conduct drills on the parade grounds or to attend social events, such as dances. One story about these events involved the daughters of Ira Broadwell who lived at the corner of Given and Shawnee Run roads. There were 5 girls: Nancy, Cordelia, Deborah, Julia, and Emma Elizabeth. They were all invited to an Officers’ Ball at the Camp. Cordelia met, and later married, Captain James Bodine. Sadly, the marriage was short-lived, as Captain Bodine was killed at the Battle of Shiloh.

Over the four years of the Camp’s operations, more than 50,000 soldiers were mustered in or out at Camp Dennison. Many dignitaries, including purportedly President Abraham Lincoln in 1864, visited the troops there. Today, one of the roads in the area is named for him.

At the end of the war, the Camp was dismantled. Some of the soldiers and domestic help at the Camp opted to stay in the area. Many of the local residents reused the barracks materials to construct houses and other buildings. One such house on Park Road was built from 3 of the structures!

Camp Dennison played a major role in providing troops for the Civil War, yet today it feels just like another great place to live, take a walk, watch our kids play soccer, etc. — the history is not in the forefront of most people’s experience there. So, the next time you are in Camp Dennison, stop, look around, and imagine! We walk in the footsteps of history each day, and often don’t realize it.

The Daughters of the American Revolution, Ohio State Society, maintain the Camp Dennison Museum at the Christian Waldschmidt Homestead in Camp Dennison on S.R. 126. For additional information, please visit their website: http://www.waldschmidthouse.org/dar/walindex.html

Source materials included: Hither and Yon on Indian Hill, The Warren County Historical Society’s Historical Log, Cincinnati Enquirer, and The Indian Hill Historical Society’s The Bicentennial Gazette and related subject files.
From the President:
The Little Red Schoolhouse of Palm Beach, Florida

Aficionados of Indian Hill’s Little Red Schoolhouse at 8100 Given Road know its rich history as an educational institution for more than 60 years (1874-1940) and value its presence as a current day community center and home of the Indian Hill Historical Society. The Washington Heights School, its formal name, was one of many country schools that formed the backbone of American education throughout the late 1800s and the first half of the twentieth century. Here, young Americans learned the three Rs and followed a curriculum steeped in values such as honesty, industry, sobriety, and patriotism. Though some rural schools have been razed, many have been preserved, and they are a testament to the legacy of our forebearers.

One such structure is the Little Red Schoolhouse in Palm Beach, Florida. When it opened in 1886, it was the first and only schoolhouse in Dade County, a swath of settlements covering an area the size of Massachusetts. The county granted $200 to pay for the lumber to construct the 22’ x 44’ one-room building. Laborers from the area donated their efforts to erect it. The local Ladies’ Aid Society sold embroidery and quilts to raise an additional $200, which was used to purchase furniture and supplies. The establishment of the school was a community project.

The first day of classes was March 1, 1886. In attendance were 8 students ranging in age from 7 to 17 years old. They were taught by Miss Hattie Gale, the 16-year-old daughter of Reverend Elbridge Gale, former professor of horticulture at Kansas State Agriculture College, who moved to the Lake Worth area to be a minister and local botanist. As was often the case with teachers in rural schools, Hattie was just a teenager and an age contemporary of some of her pupils.

The school served all the families around Lake Worth. Students arrived by boat, bicycle, or on foot and were taught together in one room. By the 1890s, enrollment had increased to 35 students. The building was used as a schoolhouse until 1904 when a new 4-room school opened in current day downtown West Palm Beach. The Little Red Schoolhouse was then moved to the Palm Beach estate of John Phipps, a steel and real estate magnate who once owned 28 miles of coastline between Miami and Palm Beach. There it was used as a potting shed for decades.

In 1960 the Gardeners’ Society of Palm Beach refurbished the deteriorating structure, and the Town of Palm Beach moved it to Phipps Ocean Park, where it stands today. In 1990 the Preservation Foundation restored the building to make it look like the original one-room schoolhouse. Though the school is closed to the public, there is a “living history” program which takes local fourth graders back in time for

Rosemary Welsh visiting the Palm Beach Little Red Schoolhouse
a day in a schoolroom of the 1890s. This field trip is similar to the educational outreach experience that the Indian Hill Historical Society has offered to area students for over 25 years at the Washington Heights School.

The fact that this Little Red Schoolhouse – the first in southeast Florida – has been preserved is praiseworthy. Plaques inform visitors of its story. Tourists and travelers who view the building can imagine what it was like in a bygone era and reflect on the impact that rural one-room schoolhouses had in shaping the citizens of this nation.

While touring the country this summer, keep an eye out for historic schoolhouses where the lessons of the past resonate today in the 21st century.

Rosemary D. Welsh
President

More information about the Little Red Schoolhouse in Palm Beach, FL may be found on the website: https://www.palmbeachpreservation.org/education/Little-Red-Schoolhouse

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Jane’s Apple Pie
from Treasured Recipes from Camargo to Indian Hill

Peel & thinly slice 10 apples (Jonathon apples are a tasty choice)

With the apples, add & mix together well:

2 t. lemon juice
¾ c. sugar
1 c. applesauce

Place in 9” unbaked pie shell

In a separate bowl, mix until crumbly:

1 c. brown sugar
1 t. cinnamon
4 oz. sweet butter
1 c. flour

Sprinkle the mixture over the apples

Bake at 450 degrees for 25 minutes
Then cover the crumbs with aluminum foil to avoid overbrowning
Reduce heat to 375 degrees and continue baking for 1 hour or until the apples are soft and the mixture bubbles

Serve with sweetened whipped cream or vanilla ice cream

YUM!
Office News:

Among all of the normal day to day activities in the office, some of the most interesting are the historical inquiries. Each month, the Historical Society staff answers numerous calls about various history related topics. Recently some of the topics involved the volumes of yearbooks from Cincinnati Country Day School, the various one-room schoolhouses in the area, the geology of the area and its influence on settlement, and Julius Fleischmann’s amazing trip throughout the South Pacific with his young family on his yacht, *Camargo*, in 1931-1932. The last query was posed by the grandson of one of the yacht’s crew members! It’s always fun to be part of these historical explorations.

Please mark your calendar for Sunday, September 12th at 4:30 p.m. at the Little Red Schoolhouse, and plan on joining the Historical Society on the front lawn under a tent for a “Welcome Back” gathering and the Annual Meeting. More details will be coming as the date nears.

Your continued support and membership are truly appreciated and critical for keeping this organization a vital part of our community.

Your comments and suggestions are always welcome. You may contact us through email: history@indianhill.org or phone: 513-891-1873.

Happy Summer!

*The Indian Hill Historical Society*

Indian Hill Historical Society Trustees

Rosemary Welsh, President  
George Glover, Vice President  
Greg Miller, Vice President  
Rosemary Ballard, Secretary  
Chip Hunter, Treasurer  
Ginny White, President Emeritus  
Judith Affatato  
John Armstrong  
Brenda Benzar  
Barbara Hauck  
Susan Holzapfel  
Ed Jacobs  
Cynthia King  
Kent Little  
Molly Lucien  
Andy MacKay  
Doug Manzler  
Pam Middendorff  
Dan Peters  
Janet Reynolds  
Lois Rust  
Ray Schilderink

Office Staff:

Lawre Bonekemper  
Administrator  
Lindsay McLean  
Historian  
Trish Krehbiel  
Librarian