

INDIAN HILL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*Keeping Indian Hill's
Past and Present Alive
for Tomorrow*

E-Newsletter

January 2024

Vol. 21

What's Been Going On?

Authors Series: Lincoln and Democracy with Author Dr. Allen Guelzo

For the second year, the Historical Society hosted a nationally prominent author and teamed up with Cincinnati Country Day School (CCDS) and Indian Hill High School (IHHS) to help connect the community and schools in an effort to understand history and its impact on the world.

On October 12th and 13th, Dr. Allen Guelzo visited the schools to talk about Abraham Lincoln and his views on democracy which were summed up in 10 words of the Gettysburg address:

“... government of the people, by the people, for the people ...”

In Cincinnati Country Day School's Keeler Theater, Dr. Guelzo spoke to a large audience eager to learn about Abraham Lincoln and how democracy performed in such contentious times. Dr. Guelzo, a highly respected scholar on the 16th President, shared his vast knowledge on the subject. It was a very interesting and thought-provoking evening. There was a question-and-answer period afterward which was equally captivating and insightful. The event at Cincinnati Country Day School was free and open to the public, and well attended.

The next morning, Dr. Guelzo met with several history classes at Indian Hill High School where he focused on Abraham Lincoln's upbringing and how it influenced the man and President whom he became. Once again, the presentation and discussion with the students was conversant and informative.



Dr. Guelzo speaking to a full crowd at CCDS



John Armstrong, Rosemary Welsh
Dr. Allen Guelzo



CCDS Headmaster
Rob Zimmerman



Dr. Guelzo speaking to students at IHHS



Dr. Guelzo talking with students at IHHS after his presentation



John Armstrong, IHHS Principal
Jeff Damadeo, Miles Taylor,
Dr. Allen Guelzo

The 43rd Annual Village Christmas Party

On Sunday, December 4th, the Little Red Schoolhouse's doors were opened awaiting Santa Claus. Turner Farm's crew did a wonderful job delivering Santa in a decorated wagon pulled by a beloved horse. The children were filled with excitement when the carriage was spotted coming along Given Rd. There were squeals of joy, hugs, and lots of smiles as they all headed into the Schoolhouse for their special time with Old Saint Nick.

In addition to visiting with Santa, there were other entertainment options: a balloon artist was in full gear churning out fantastical balloon animals and other shapes; the magician amazed everyone with fun tricks; a face-painter added colorful decorations to faces and hands; and coloring and card making tables allowed the children to write notes to Santa or other loved ones.

To keep all this energy going, there were tables filled with cookies and other treats plus fruit punch and eggnog. Indian Hill High School's String Quartet and Cincinnati Country Day School's Nighthawk Band provided wonderful holiday music, too.

It was a fun afternoon to enjoy the 150-year-old Schoolhouse and start the holiday season.





Upcoming Events:

| February | March | April |
|--|---|---|
| <p>27th & 28th mornings 4th Grade One-Room Schoolhouse Experience The Little Red Schoolhouse opens its doors for local 4th grade students to attend a school day as it was in the late 1800s. Dip pen writing, slate arithmetic, McGuffey Reader recitations, and recess marbles are part of the curriculum.</p> <p>This program is in its 31st year!</p> | <p>17th, 4:30 p.m. A History of Queen City Cuisine with Polly Campbell Cincinnati has a unique food culture from casual and family friendly to fine dining. Polly Campbell, the former <i>Cincinnati Enquirer</i> food critic, unfolds how Cincinnati's history has set the table for our menu today.</p> | <p>21st, 4:30 p.m. Covalt's Station: An Ohio Frontier Settlement with Author Steven Early In 1790, 45 white settlers traveled up the Little Miami River to establish Covalt's Station in today's Terrace Park. The land they claimed was used as seasonal hunting grounds by the Miami & Shawnee Native Americans. This is a story of two cultures colliding as one empire began, and another began to disappear.</p> |

Please visit the website: www.indianhill.org for more details on these programs.



Member News: 4th Quarter, 2023 Updates

Thank you to all the new & renewing members this past quarter!

New Members this quarter:

Catherine & Costa Andreou
Lydia & James Chantilas
Joseph Cheng family

Lauren Gucciardo
Samuel & Mitchell Kaeser
Brenda & Morley Thompson

Renewals this quarter:

Judith Affatato
Jennifer & Harold Angus
Sharon & Rick Arquilla
Bonnie Bachman
Ann & Todd Bailey
Ryan Bartell
Jane & Larry Bennett
Ann & Stephen Bjornson
Michael Camacci
Jeanie & Rob Champlin
Moiria & Jeff Grainger
Louise Head & Edmund Jones
Kathy & Rich Hidy
Kim & Mike Hoeting

Diana Jaeger
Valerie Jacobs & Michael
Kreimer
Ann & Jon Keeling
Meredith Leslie
Mary & Michael McGraw
Judith Mitchell
Linnea Nadel
Marjorie Rabenold
Stephanie & Keith Rabenold
Emma & Warner Off
Lynn & Steve Phillips
Janet Reynolds
Lauren & Sterling Sams

Lisa & Geoff Scharfenberger
Emily & Jeff Schoeny
Sheila & Reed Schroeder
Lauren & Tom Shafer
Melinda & Bob Sherman
Sarah & Steve Steinman
Coco & George Taliaferro
Lauren Toussaint
Ginger & David Warner
Ginny & Al White
Andrew Wiebold
Abby & Tom Xanders

Business Member Renewals this quarter:

First Edition Rare Books

Interested in becoming a member? [Click here](#)



Thanks to Our Business Members

| | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
|  <p>Central Bark Doggie Day Care 8185 Camargo Rd.</p> |  |  |  |
|  <p>GINA DUBELL-SMITH 513-477-1219</p> | |  | |
| <p>MICHAEL F. GEHRIG Attorney At Law</p> | <p>ERIC HOLZAPFEL Attorney At Law</p> |  |  <p>Mariemont Inn Best Western Premier</p> |
|  | | <p>Taft FOCUSED CAPITOL SOLUTIONS LLC</p> | |
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From the President:

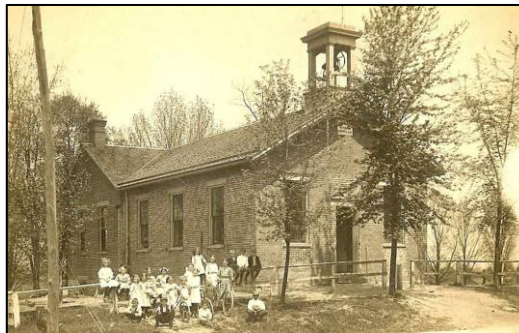
The Churches of Indian Hill

Three houses of worship have welcomed parishioners for multiple decades in Indian Hill. Methodists, Episcopalians, Presbyterians, and Quakers have all practiced their faith in churches within the Village.

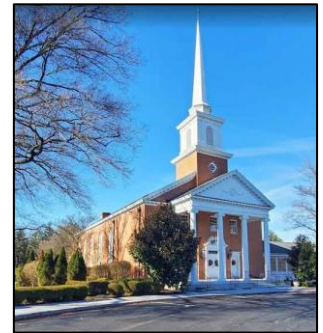
The oldest church is Armstrong Chapel at the southeast corner of Drake and Indian Hill Roads. The Armstrong family, early settlers in the area, attended Methodist classes led by circuit-riding preachers in nearby Milford. At age 81, Nathaniel, the patriarch, deeded part of his property to provide a burial ground and meeting house for Methodists in Indian Hill. Completed in 1831, the Old Chapel and Armstrong Cemetery are still vital to Armstrong Church. By the 1950s, the congregation had outgrown the small chapel. After a successful fundraising campaign, a new and larger Armstrong Church was constructed diagonally across the street at the same intersection. It was dedicated in 1959. The old Jefferson School at the northeast corner of Drake and Indian Hill Road was renamed Jefferson Center and became the administrative office of the Armstrong Chapel United Methodist Church. The Church was renovated in 2010 and expanded by adding new spaces for worship, a youth center, a theater, and an education center. A spacious atrium welcomed congregants, and the parking lot was enlarged for easy access. The Methodists currently have three structures at a prominent Village location, and their presence now spans almost two centuries.



Original Armstrong Chapel



Franklin School



New Armstrong Chapel

During the 1920s and 1930s, many newcomers to Indian Hill were affiliated with Episcopalian and Presbyterian churches in downtown Cincinnati. There was a common desire to hold religious services “on the hill,” and in 1933 a group of forty people made an arrangement with Armstrong Chapel to hold Vespers services there for \$15 each Sunday. Thus began the combined worship of two denominations. Sunday Vespers were held in late afternoon and were simple, brief, and informal. Some members attended in riding attire, leaving their horses tied up outside. By 1946 with the increased population of Indian Hill, it became obvious that a new church was needed. The two congregations, Episcopalian and Presbyterian, were formally organized and federated with each other. Church membership and policy were decided by each denomination, but the church property was vested in a corporation of which both groups were members. Individual parishioners could join the Indian Hill Church without choosing a denomination. This marked the creation of the first such church in the



Indian Hill Church

country. In 1948, eight acres of land were purchased at 6000 Drake Road, and a new church was built. It was dedicated on Thanksgiving Day, 1952. Since then, two clergy, one from each denomination, have led the congregation in worship. Over the years, a Sunday School and Nursery School, a Guild Hall, and a free-standing Youth Center were added. In 2012 the infrastructure, grounds, and sanctuary were renovated, and the seating capacity of the church was increased. In 2023 additional improvements to increase accessibility were completed. The Indian Hill Church recently celebrated its 75th anniversary as one of the few dual denominational churches in the nation, evidence that Christians have established a dynamic unity and a unique ecumenicity.



Cincinnati Friends Meetinghouse

The most recently built house of worship in Indian Hill is the Cincinnati Friends Meeting at 8075 Keller Road. The Friends have worshipped in Cincinnati since the 1800s and moved to this neighborhood in the 1960s. Quakers, also known as the Society of Friends, emphasize an individual approach to religion. Known for humanitarianism, Friends have a strong tradition of community service and voluntarism. The Cincinnati

Friends Meeting is Christian by tradition and, according to its website, “recognizes that the world is interdependent, composed of many cultures and faith traditions” and values “simplicity, peace, integrity, community and equality.” The brick meeting house is nestled into a tree filled, five-acre lot, and has space for youths, a kitchen, an office, and a library. The large room for worship is light and airy with Douglas fir beams spanning its ceiling. On the Sabbath, the pastor gives a brief message, and for about the next hour the time is spent in silent open worship. On occasion a Friend speaks or requests a hymn. There is no formal creed or prescribed liturgy. Members seek to grow together spiritually while working for a more compassionate and loving world. The Friends marked their 50th anniversary in the Village in 2023.

All three churches are landmarks in the serene setting of Indian Hill, and each has provided spiritual sustenance to its members.

Rosemary Welsh
President



Office News:

The holidays are over, and winter is upon us. Today it is 10° outside with a brisk breeze – a good day to be indoors. Preparations for the upcoming events are in full swing. Additionally, plans for renovation of the 1880s Buckingham Lodge are percolating to update and improve the work environment / flow for the 2020's and beyond.



Buckingham Lodge

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

Happy Winter and Warm Wishes!

The Indian Hill Historical Society

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