



INDIAN HILL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

E-Newsletter July 2025 Vol. 27

What's Been Going On?

Green Acres Walking Tour and Annual Meeting of the Society

On Sunday, April 13th, members and guests of the Indian Hill Historical Society gathered for a special walking tour of the greenhouses, barns, and equestrian center at Greenacres. The event began with a brief annual meeting held in the Event Center—formerly Julius Fleischmann’s home, “Winding Creek”.

Following the meeting, attendees toured the greenhouses, which were in full production with seedlings destined to cover approximately four acres with vegetables, fruits, and flowers. The group then continued to the historic stables, originally built for Julius Fleischmann, where the craftsmanship and architectural details were particularly admired.

The tour concluded at the new equestrian center and indoor riding ring, both of which are state-of-the-art facilities that complement the estate’s rich history.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the tour and came away with a deeper appreciation of Greenacres - its legacy and its on-going work today.



Among the seedlings



Gathering at the stables



Andrew Stirling, Eric Holzapfel,
Chip Hunter, Susan Holzapfel



Indoor arena at the Riding Center



Chickens



Andrew Wiebold,
Janine Melink Hueber

The Patron Party at Cobble Court

The annual “thank-you” party for Patron supporters of the Historical Society was held at Cobble Court on May 18th. This historic home, completed in 1934, is in the Norman French manor farmhouse style and is a magnificent and welcoming abode. The use of stone walls, wood timbers, richly toned brick, and wood carvings throughout the house create an enchanting effect. The library is the grandest room and is referred to as the “Canterbury Room.” It has a high vaulted ceiling with old, carved chestnut trusses, and a spectacular large window at the end of the room with stained-glass figures representing pilgrims in Chaucer’s *Canterbury Tales*.

The day was a beautiful spring afternoon, and the guests thoroughly enjoyed the warm welcome from the home’s owners and the opportunity to visit a spectacular, historic home in the Village.



Cobble Court



Jane Clark, Clark Sole,
Pam Middendorff, Tony Woodward



Don McGraw, Janet Sayre
Eppa & Buffie Rixey



Deb Bradley & John Mitchell



Mitchell & Samuel Kaeser



Julia Wesselkamper,
Chip Hunter, Janet Reynolds



Ashley Kothegal & Gabriel Pagani-Estevez

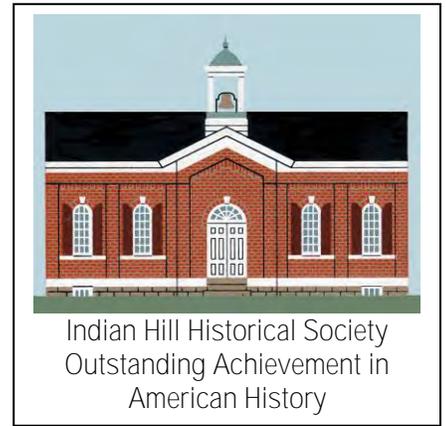


Susan Hunter, Sheila & Reed
Schroeder, Ruthann Little

Outstanding Achievement in American History Award

Starting in 2014 with the generosity of the Nippert Foundation, the Indian Hill Historical Society has been granting awards annually to two students, one at Cincinnati Country Day School and one at Indian Hill High School, for “*Outstanding Achievement in American History.*” The awards are \$1,000 for each student. The winners are selected by their teachers at the respective schools, and the award is based on the students’ participation in co-curricular activities related to American history and student government.

The Historical Society is pleased to announce the following winners for 2025 and share their teachers’ comments:



- **Kier Smith** of Cincinnati Country Day School: “Kier's natural ability and curiosity about history rise above and beyond that of his peers. Despite just doing well on assessments for the course, his willingness to read, watch and debate history is evident in his conversations with his peers and teachers. This mastery of the facts and ability to craft a sophisticated argument are most evident in his writing. His sense of humor is also keen, as he is most likely to "get" a clever joke used by a history teacher.”
- **Nathan Chamot** of Indian Hill High School: “Nathan is a wonderfully relentless questioner and seeks to understand not only why something is right, but why the other options are not. He is respectful and appreciative of the time spent helping him pursue knowledge. He rewards an educator and enriches his peers when he uses that knowledge to draw connections from unit to unit in the flow of class conversations.”

Upcoming Events:

July	August	September
<p>Friday, 4th, 10am <u>Indian Hill Village 4th of July Annual Parade</u> Join in the fun and be in the parade which starts at Cincinnati Country Day and ends at Stephan Field!</p> 	<p>Annual Program Mailer Look for the Historical Society’s brochure in the mail and mark your calendar for upcoming events & programs!</p> 	<p>Saturday, 20th <u>BBQ, Bourbon & Beer!</u> Come out and enjoy a mouthwatering pig roast! Savor tender, delicious pork fresh off the spit, sip on custom-crafted bourbon, and mingle with friends and neighbors in a lively, welcoming atmosphere.</p> 

Member News: *2nd Quarter, 2025 Updates*

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

New Members:

Kristin & Joe Carroll
Amy Griffin & Karl Bauman
Mary Guanciaie
Ashley & Austin Heidt

Jonathan Irish
Anne & Jonathan McCarren
Alan Miles
Christin & Tom Spurr

Renewals this quarter:

Lynda & Nate Bachman
Ryan Bartell
Gail Bechtold
Helene Bentley
Seema & Jagdish Bhati
Nancy Blum & Brian Critchell
Jill Lindner Boldt
Lissa & Mike Cambron
Lucy Davis & Ted Safrin
Jean Davison
Katharine DeWitt
Kit & Dick Duval
Christine Elfers & Dave
Hendren
Kathy & Stephen Fish
Val & Ted Folgers
Laila Frank
Dani & Greg Frappier
Jen & Chris Frutkin
Ann & Jeff Gibson

Amy & Eric Groh
Sandra Heimann
Sue & Bill Hill
Raia Hirsch
Doreen & Mark Isett
Chris & Bill Judd
Allison & Eric Kahn
Evelyn & Gary Kirschner
Ashley Kothehal & Gabriel
Pagani-Estevez
Barbara Kreider
Kym & Mark Kuenning
Patricia & Calvin Linnemann
Ruthann & Kent Little
Jane MacEachen
Molly & Ken Mahler
Alleen & Shayne Manning
Candace & Michael McCaw
Pam Middendorff
Leah & Tim Miller

Deb Bradley & John Mitchell
Tracey & Todd Motto
Hien & Ron Mueller
Michael Muth
Christopher Nicholson
Cora Ogle
Beth & Steve Onthank
Holly Rebensdorf
Lisa & Geoff Scharfenberger
Shirley Scharfenberger
Gregory Schmidt
Gloria Uziel & Patrick Shea
Joanne Sloneker
Nancy Steman
Sydney & David Tasner
Beth & Chalky Thomas
Lauren Toussaint
Mary Uhlenbrock
Barbara & Irwin Weinberg

Business Renewals this quarter:

Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra
Daley Design & Build
English Rose Design
Michael Gehrig, Attorney-at-Law
Holzapfel Law
InPrint Madeira

Mariemont Inn
Sibcy Cline
Turner Farm
The V Collective

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

Please [contact](#) the office if you have any questions.

Thanks to Our Business Members

 <p>Central Bark 8185 Camargo Rd.</p>	<p><u>Doggie</u> <u>Day</u> <u>Care</u></p>		
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	 <p>GINA DUBELL-SMITH 513-477-1219</p>	
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	<p><u>MICHAEL F. GEHRIG</u> Attorney At Law</p>	<p><u>ERIC HOLZAPFEL</u> Attorney At Law</p>
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<p>INDIAN HILL Neighbors Magazine</p>		 <p>Mariemont Inn Best Western Premier</p>
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From the President:

The History of Whitacre Park

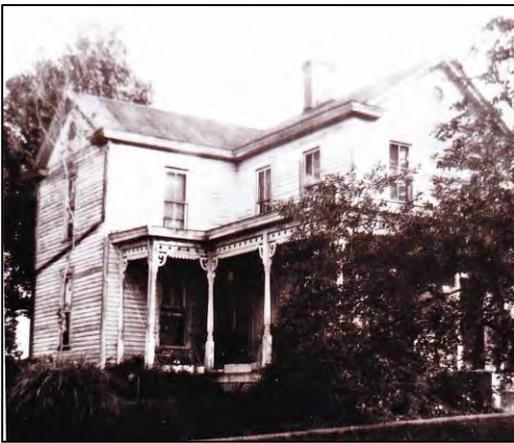
This 17-acre parcel on Given Road between Shawnee Run and Kugler Mill Road is a Village gem. Its background provides a glimpse into the life of the man who once lived there and whose descendants treasure their family history in Indian Hill.

Harvey Constable Whitacre was born in 1880 in Warren County, Ohio. His elementary education was in Butlerville, a small farming hamlet. The Boxwell Law of 1895 allowed rural children access to high school if the student passed an exam after 8th grade. The township school board paid the tuition for those who qualified. Harvey passed and graduated from Blanchester High School in Clinton County. Then he attended the National Normal University in Lebanon, a teachers' college from which he received a BS degree in 1901. He married Edith Ludlum the same year. They were both professional educators. Edith taught music and Harvey became principal of Butlerville School, which he had attended in his youth. They started their family in 1902 and eventually had 6 children. They owned two adjoining farms in Butlerville. H.C. (who used his initials because he did not like the name Harvey) graduated from Yale in the class of 1908 and received a law degree from the University of Chicago soon after. That he achieved this with his wife and children living in Ohio is remarkable.



Edith & Harvey Whitacre

In 1911, H.C. purchased a farm at the southwest corner of Given and Kugler Mill Roads. The family moved there but kept possession of their Butlerville property. H.C. called the Indian Hill farm "the homeplace." He taught school at Withrow and practiced law at night and on weekends. During other hours, he farmed. He was an avid reader and both brilliant and ambitious. A staunch Republican, he enjoyed political discussions. According to family records, he served as a justice of the peace at some point in his career. His law office, which he shared with a partner, was in downtown Cincinnati. H.C. wore a navy-blue suit, white shirt, and tie when he went to the city, but he shed that attire as soon as he came home and put on his farming clothes. He also deposited his false teeth into a cup on a kitchen shelf.



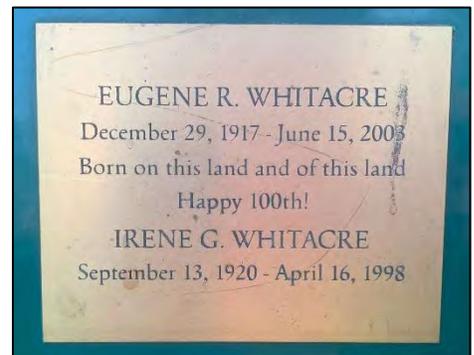
The homeplace consisted of a two-story clapboard house, a barn, a garage, and a few other outbuildings. H.C.'s vegetable garden was large and prolific. Besides vegetables he raised tobacco for his own use and grew broom corn from which he made brooms. There were raspberry vines, grape arbors, and an orchard with cherry and apple trees. H.C. owned two horses which were used on the farm for planting and harvesting. Livestock also included a dairy cow and an occasional pig.

H.C.'s wife died in 1956, and he passed away in 1972 at age 92. His farm was acquired by the Nature Conservancy, a national organization dedicated to preserving and protecting natural areas. It held the property until Indian Hill Village could buy it. The Nature Conservancy provided this service through a fund designed to facilitate preservation

of rural acreage. The Village applied for a matching grant from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and was awarded the funds a few years later.

In 1978 Indian Hill bought the Whitacre acreage and converted it to a park to be used for passive recreation. It features a circular walking trail which meanders through a second growth forest. Bridle trails connect to the existing network of equine trails throughout the Village.

In 2010 descendants of H.C. Whitacre honored him by donating a bench in his name to the park. From various states, the family gathered there to share a picnic lunch and brief ceremony before unveiling the bench. They reminisced and shared stories about H.C. -- a man of many talents. Since then, the Whitacre family has added another bench. Several trees have also been planted as memorials. Whitacre Park, once a working farm named "the homeplace," is now a popular place to stroll, ride, relax, and reflect.



Office News:

In addition to the renovation work at Buckingham Lodge (which is 99% complete), the front landscaping has been refreshed. Local resident, John Gantt proposed the update to the gardens and plantings as his Eagle Scout project for Scouting America. Master Gardener Frank Welsh selected the plants for the front of the house which include Colocasias, Peonies, Beautyberry bushes, Boxwoods, and Reed Grass. John and crew toiled to dig up the existing weed-filled beds and ready the soil for planting, placed the plants, and finished with mulch. The landscaping provides a pleasant look for this historic Village house.



Buckingham Lodge



----- Work in Progress -----

Completed!

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

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