

Footprints

Volume 36, Issue 1

Delhi Historical Society

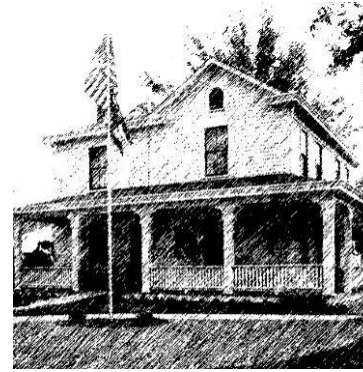
468 Anderson Ferry Rd.
Cincinnati, OH 45238

Phone: 513.451.4313
FAX: 513.451.4300
E-mail: delhi.history@fuse.net
Delhihistoricalsociety.org

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DELHI HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Winter 2013

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New Exhibit highlights Delhi Businesses



A new exhibit will feature the history of business in Delhi Township, from its earliest days to the present. We will be pulling lots of photos and artifacts from our archives that will show the type of work people engaged in during the 1800s, from Klawitter's General Store, Bens Blacksmith Shop, Witsken Dairy, The Five-Points Inn, Monterey Tavern (shown at left), and the many greenhouses. We will show the transition from a rural to a suburban economy and the development of shopping centers in the 1940s and 50s. The exhibit opens March 1.

Upcoming Dates

- Feb. 11 - Shawnee Storyteller 7 p.m. Delhi Park Lodge.
- Mar. 1 - Farmhouse re-opens with Delhi Business Exhibit
- Mar 11 - Endangered Cincinnati, 7 p.m. Delhi Park Lodge

Society News



Historical Society Wins Best Theme

Our float in the annual Delhi Christmas parade on December 1 took first place for Best Theme. The theme of our float was A Patriotic Christmas and featured military uniforms of the past, from Revolutionary times to the Gulf War. Congratulations to Ben Schmidt and Sue Timmer and participants shown above.

New Board Member

Welcome new board member Jan Audette. Jan was chosen to fill the unexpired term of Pam Hubert at the November meeting. Jan and her husband Al are long-time members of the society. She spent many years coordinating the silent auction for the society's gala and also is a trusted volunteer for our teas. Also returning are Bob Schaefer, Mary Finn, Frankie Sahnd and Wanda Smith.

Condolences

Condolences go out to the families of Irene Deller and Marian Doll, who both died in December. Irene was a great volunteer for the society, performing many characters in Grandma's Attic skits for many years, volunteering at our annual teas, Pioneer Days, and as a house docent. Marian helped her husband Jack with photos, and was the office manager for the Farmhouse in the early 1990s.

Like Us On Facebook

If you are already on Facebook, please consider "liking" us. We post many interesting old photos and share information. We encourage those who are researching their families to post queries on here so that others can help answer them. Our Facebook page is: facebook.com/delhihistory.

February 11 Program Features Shawnee Storyteller

On Monday, February 11, Fred Shaw - also known as Neeake - will share stories from his Native American ancestors at the Delhi Park Lodge, 5125 Foley Road. Sponsored by the Delhi Historical Society, this event is free and open to the public. The program begins at 7 p.m.

A retired Methodist minister, Neeake, whose name means "He-Talks-as-He Flies" or the Canada Goose, is a Shawnee descendant and a traditional storyteller of the culture, sharing stories in a variety of national and international venues He is one of ten American Indian storytellers invited to share in the first-ever National Native American Indian Storytelling Festival.

Fred depicts the 1789 era of the Shawnee People in clothing, paint and accouterments. He tells stories about the Shawnee Nation and about the interconnectedness of the

The Delhi Historical Society Farmhouse Museum reopens March 1, 2013. Hours are noon-3 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday.

world, nature and all people. His stories include history, music, humor, cultural perspectives, words as art, ecology and spirituality.

Fred has been sharing the stories of his people since 1971. They are part of



an oral tradition that has been handed down from one generation to the next for centuries and include history, music, humor, cultural perspectives, words as art, and ecology. Shaw holds the stories of his people as a sacred trust that expresses the balance of all life. They are "bibadinsawawachitah," the proper way to walk upon the earth.

Don't miss this entertaining and enlightening evening! Bring a snack to share.

Upcoming...March 11

Endangered Cincinnati, Margo Warminski from the Cincinnati Preservation Association talks about endangered historic sites.

So Long Alf - You will Be Missed

On January 17, the Delhi Historical Society lost part of its heart, with the death of Alfred Zeiser.

In the early 1990s, Alf and his wife, Doris, were instrumental in securing the Farmhouse Museum. From that point on he could be found there almost every day, changing light bulbs, picking up trash, and working on minor plumbing and electric issues. His knowledge of the inner workings of the house was invaluable. In 2009 he was awarded the first and only "Golden Plunger Award" for all the work he did at the Farmhouse.

But he was much more than a handyman. He used his talents as a singer in Grandma's Attic troupe, shared his family's and Sedamsville history in a way no one else could. He served on the board of trustees for many years, and was the only retiring board member to be named board member emeritus - a title to honor his long and faithful service.

In 2008 Alf and Doris donated money for a perennial garden on both sides of the sidewalk from the parking lot to the entrance. The garden was dedicated to them in the fall of 2009 after Doris' death. Remembrance donations will gladly be accepted in Alfred's name for the upkeep of these gardens.



Alfred Zeiser (front center) with his children and grandchildren at the dedication of the Zeiser Garden at the Historical Society.

From the Archives

The Business of Delhi: the Changing Way People Work

Most early pioneers in Delhi lived off of the land. Some turned it into a business with truck gardens and greenhouses, or selling milk from their cows. A few opened general stores, taverns and blacksmith shops to supply residents with the services and supplies they couldn't get on their own.

By 1900, things were changing. The small villages of Lower Delhi (Sayler Park), Sedamsville and Warsaw were booming retail centers where Delhi residents could shop for almost anything they needed. Transportation made a trip to downtown on a street car a regular event. Still the Delhi community had its own businesses, garages and service stations such as those to the right, as well as grocery stores and dairies. The country peddler was a common site in the early 1900s.

The big change came after the Second World War, when the automobile turned former greenhouses and farms into sprawling shopping centers with huge parking lots and fast food chains. Then came the mega retail centers and big box stores, which siphoned off shoppers from the Mom and Pop places as well as the local shopping centers.

By 2000, Delhi business was changing again - as it tried to find a place in a world of ever-changing storefronts. We hope you will take the time to visit our new exhibit which explores 200 years of business in Delhi.



Delhi Christmas Gala 2011

More than 100 people enjoyed an evening of dinner, entertainment and auction at the annual Christmas Gala in December.

The Society honored Friedhoff Florists for its many years as a Delhi business. On hand were brothers Ed and Jeff Friedhoff, grandsons of Friedhoff founder Edwin Friedhoff. Cheryl Sieve, township fiscal officer representing the Delhi Trustees, presented the business with a proclamation naming December 2, Friedhoff Florist Day in Delhi Township.

At right, Cheryl Sieve congratulates the Friedhoffs. Below Mary Finn helps WKRC anchor Bob Herzog auction items. Lower right, John Cusick looks at the program while Gala attendees mingle and shop the silent auction tables.



Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State ___ zip _____

Phone: _____ e-mail: _____

Make checks payable to: Delhi Historical Society,
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Membership Levels

Senior Citizen or Student (\$10) _____

Regular Annual (\$20) _____

Regular Family (\$35) _____

Sustaining Individual/Family (\$50) _____

Patron Individual/Family (\$100) _____

Business (\$100) _____

Benefactor (\$500) _____

Founder (\$1,000) _____