

# Footprints

## Christmas Gala Dec. 2.

Look for your invitation in the mail soon for the Delhi Christmas Gala.



The Society

will honor the Friedhoff Flo-ristas at this year's Holiday Gala on Sunday, Dec. 2, as we con-

tinue to recognize the importance of the Greenhouse industry in Delhi.

## Details:

- College of Mount St. Joseph Scrumptious Dinner served at your seat!
- Same great price as last year
- Live and Silent Auctions including, golf, wine, restaurants, plus more.

**This event is the major fundraiser for the Delhi Historical Society.** Your patronage ensures that the Farmhouse Museum can continue to provide quality exhibits, programming and preservation of Delhi's history.

## Upcoming Dates

- Nov 12 - William Howard Taft, 7 p.m. Delhi Park Lodge.
- Nov. 15 - Farmhouse closes for the winter...reopens March 1, 2013
- Farmhouse Christmas Teas - Dec. 1, 2, 8 and 9.
- Delhi Christmas Gala - Dec. 2, College of Mount St. Joseph Fifth Third Bank Hall.

## Society News

### Delhi Christmas Parade Dec. 1

The annual Delhi Christmas parade takes place Saturday, December 1, along Delhi Road. The historical society is a perennial winner of trophies at this event as we participate in costume and old time vehicles.

We can always use more participants. It's a great and festive atmosphere. Please let Sue Timmer know if you are interested in participating by calling her at 922-7085 or through e-mail at [suzietimmer@msn.com](mailto:suzietimmer@msn.com).

### Best of Delhi

Thank you to everyone who purchased chances on our Best of Delhi Raffle. Winners are:

- Frisch's Gift Basket: Henrietta Grosjean
- Brunch at Mount St. Joseph: Paul Gangloff
- Skyline gift card: Mary Beth Duebber
- Robben Gift Card: Sandi Melillo
- McCabe Do-It Center Package: Pam Hubert
- Kroger Gift Card: Rita Wall

Congratulations to our winners!

### New Board Members Needed

Two of our current board members wish to step down because of other commitments. The board meets for one hour five

times a year. If you are interested in becoming a board member, contact the historical society at 513.451.4313.

### 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](http://facebook.com/delhihistory).

### New Donations

We received two interesting donations in late September from member Mike Kelsch. The first is a 1950s detailed map of Hamilton County. It's very interesting to see the changes in our township. The second is a bound 1929 volume of the *Cincinnati Enquirer*. We find ourselves just browsing the ads, photos and articles that show what life was like 85 years ago. Thanks, Mike!

**The date on your mailing label tells you when your membership expires. Don't miss out on everything your membership offers. Renew your membership! (If no date appears then you are a life member.)**

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## The Delhi Historical Society

### Farmhouse Museum closes

**November 15 for the winter and reopens March 1, 2013.**

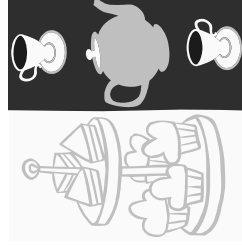
**Hours are noon-3 p.m.**

**Tuesday, Thursday &**

**Sunday.**

## It's Tea Time

It's not too late to make reservations for Holiday Teas at the Farmhouse. Tea dates are Dec 1, 2, 8 and 9 - cost is \$16 per person. Reservations go quickly so call Nancy Cusick, 922-4538, TODAY to reserve your seating. Groups are



## Upcoming Program November 12:

**Influences of the Taft Women: The Women Behind the Men**  
High atop one of Cincinnati's most prominent hilltops stands the large yellow house where William Howard Taft

was born and grew up. Located in the once-affluent suburb of Mount Auburn, the two-story Greek Revival house is a reminder of the elegant era when those of means could escape the dirt, heat, and crowded conditions of the lower city.

Today, the house where the only man to serve both as President and Chief Justice, is a museum operated by the National Park Service. Join us Monday, November 12, at 7 p.m. as Park Ranger Reggie Murray presents a program on Taft, his mother and wife, and his childhood home.

Born in 1857, Taft spent most of his first 25 years living in the house...except for time away at Yale College, and some periods when his father, Alphonso Taft was in foreign service.

Bring a snack to share.



## From the Archives

### Hidden Cemeteries Not Forgotten

*Within the past month or so, we've had three requests for information about burials in long-forgotten cemeteries in Delhi. One person requested information about where remains of the old Mount Alverno Boys Home cemetery were moved when a subdivision was put on the location. Another is researching an ancestor, Elijah Sargent, who is possibly buried in the old South Bend/Hopewell Baptist Cemetery on Neeb Road. And the last request came from a descendant of Charles Schumann, whose family plot is located between Hillside and River roads below Mount St. Joseph. So we take a look at long-lost cemeteries in Delhi.*

### South Bend Baptist Church Burial Grounds

Also known as Stony Creek and Hopewell Baptist Church, this cemetery contains the oldest marked grave in Delhi - that of 37-year-old Betsy Cottle Mayhew, who died in 1817. Its original location is now the site of the Delhi Township Administrative offices and police department on Neeb Road north of Rapid Run. South Bend Church was organized April 17, 1803, and disbanded October 3, 1835. A 1930 survey of Hamilton County cemeteries lists 46 graves in the cemetery, but there surely were more as the abandonment of the graveyard left many headstones broken and buried underground. During the Great Depression, this graveyard was the burial place for some of Delhi's poorest who could not afford to pay for burial.

In 1960 when Delhi decided to develop the land, burials were rearranged into the northernmost portion. Today there are 25 marked graves in the cemetery.

### Darby/Lee Family Cemetery

Another early cemetery is that for the Darby and Lee families. Located behind Liberty at Riverview Nursing Home, it contains 13 marked graves - the earliest being Avaline D. Lee, daughter of R.J. and Sarah Lee, who died at the age of 8 in 1833. Three other children of the couple are also buried in the

graveyard. Most noted person in the cemetery is R.J.'s father Peter Lee, a Revolutionary War veteran (1756-1848). Lee owned 180 acres along the Ohio river and up the hillsides from Riverside to Saylor Park. He was one of the earliest settlers in the township, arriving in March 1790.

Over the years, a legend has grown up around the little cemetery. Henry Darby (1781-1852), was a member of the abolitionist party in the 1840s. His house, constructed in 1818, still stands at Darby and River roads. It was a well-known wayside inn for travelers between North Bend and Cincinnati. William Henry Harrison frequented the inn on his many trips between the two cities.

The legend is that Darby was reputed to be an enchanted or possessed fiddler in the cemetery who's music disturbed the neighborhood. It is possible that the legend was created to scare off slave bounty hunters, as the Darby land might have been a stop on the Underground Railroad.

### Schumann Cemetery

Charles Schumann (1795-1858) came to Delhi in the late 1830s and proceeded to develop his 123 acres of vineyards between the Ohio River and what is now Hillside Avenue. His property bordered the Darby land to the east below Mount St. Joseph. By 1850 most of his crop had been destroyed by grape rot, and he took to truck farming.

Before his death in 1858, Charles left specific instructions to bury him in his pasture land "with a small fence for protection against the

*'Bury me in my pasture land with a small fence for protection against the cattle.'*

**C.E. Schumann  
1795-1858**

summer underdrawers, I will have nothing else put on, not even socks." He also instructed his family to wait until the third day after his death to bury to assure that "my death is real and not a seeming death."

In addition to Charles, several other family members were buried in the pasture/cemetery, including his wife Mathilde, who died in 1903. The last burial was Charles' unmarried daughter Louise Schumann in 1922. In her will, she set aside the cemetery and a 30-foot-wide easement from River Road to remain a cemetery in perpetuity. The cemetery sits behind Industrial Rope company at 5228 River Road.

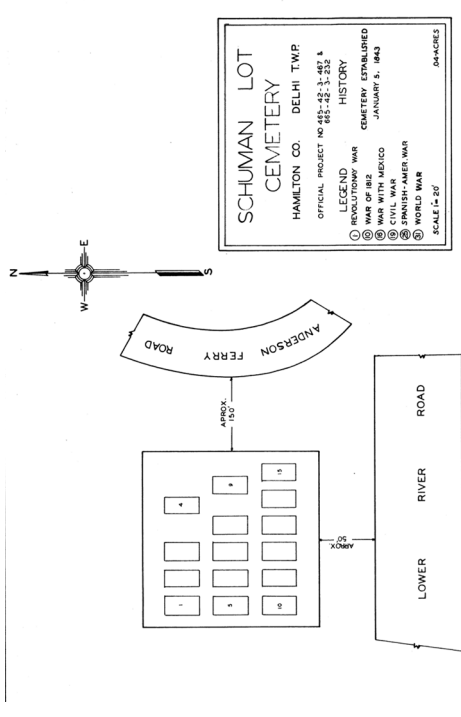
### Delphi Universalist Church

Often called the cemetery within a cemetery, Delphi Universalist contains 27 burials between 1843 and 1870. The graveyard was part of the Delphi Universalist Church, located on Covedale Road midway between Foley and Rapid Run. Many of the members of this church belonged to the former South Bend Baptist Church. The cemetery was the property of Buchtel College in Akron until it was transferred to St. Joseph Cemetery which surrounds it on three sides.

### Mount Alverno Boys Home Cemetery

Like most institutions the Brothers at Mount Alverno buried their dead on the property. A survey of Delhi cemeteries done in 1933 showed about 80 plots, although it seems a low number considering the number of boys and religious who lived at Mount Alverno from 1870 to 1930.

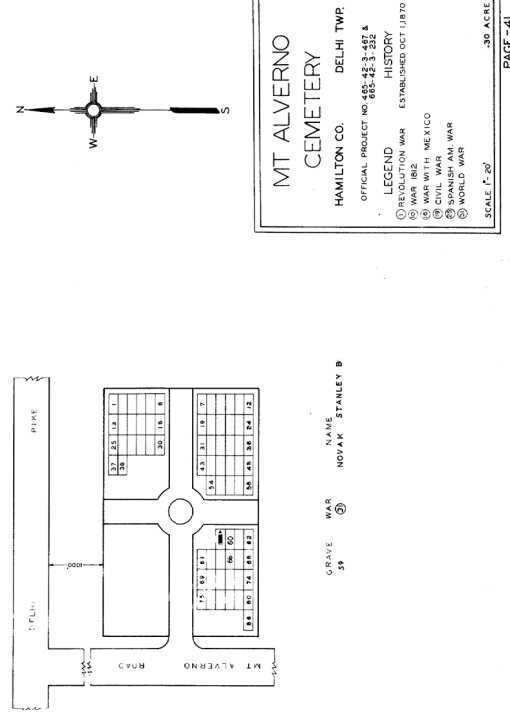
When Mount Alverno closed and the buildings razed for a subdivision in 1974, burials were removed to another cemetery. Occasionally the historical society gets phone calls from people who live in Mount Alverno estates who have come across headstones or other items



*Above: a survey of burial plots in the Schumann cemetery off of River Road below Mount St. Joseph.*

*Below: Mount Alverno Cemetery from the same survey. Note that there is a World War I veteran in buried there.*

*Source: Hamilton County Recorder's Office*



they think are associated with a cemetery. But it is unlikely that any graves were left during removal.

## Membership Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: Delhi Historical Society,  
468 Anderson Ferry Road, Cincinnati, OH 45238

### 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) \_\_\_\_\_