

# Footprints

Volume 36, Issue 2

## Delhi Historical Society

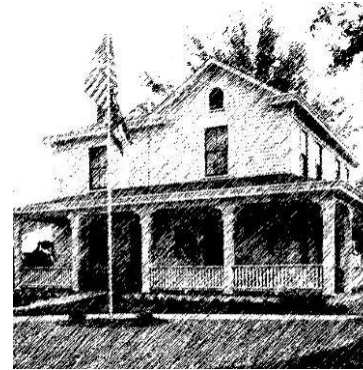
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### Upcoming Dates

- **April 8 Women in the Civil War, 7 p.m. Delhi Park Lodge.**
- **April 9 - History of Cheviot Hill Railroad, Delhi Branch Library 7 pm**
- **May 13 - The Taft Women, 7 p.m. Delhi Park Lodge**
- **June 4 - Spring Grove Cemetery and Sign Museum Tour.**

**The Delhi Historical Society Farmhouse Museum is open March-October from 12-3 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday.**

## Society Selects New Museum Coordinator/Consultant

The Delhi Historical Society board has chosen Rebecca Strand Johnson as Farmhouse Museum Coordinator. She will serve as a consultant for the historical society, focusing on Museum operations, archives, volunteer recruitment, and grant writing, fundraising.

Becky currently is an adjunct professor of history at Northern Kentucky University, but she has also worked as a public history consultant on large and small projects throughout Cincinnati. She recently developed text for an exhibit at the Harriet Beecher Stowe House State Historic Site, and is a board member and volun-

teer at the Wyoming Historical Society, where she developed a district-wide third grade history tour of Wyoming. She also authored the book "Wyoming, Ohio" and has written articles on various local history topics for American Heritage Magazine. She formerly worked as a full-time archivist for the Western Reserve Historical Society in Cleveland.

She replaces Peg Schmidt, who will continue to volunteer at the Farmhouse and focus on education and membership.



DELHI HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Spring 2013

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## April 8 Program Features Women in the Civil War

The fact that women disguised as men and served in both the Union and Confederate armies is one of the best kept secrets of the American Civil War.

Join us, Monday, April 8, at 7 p.m. as Jill Holt of the Cincinnati Civil War Roundtable talks about "Women in the Civil War." The program is at the Delhi Park Lodge 5125 Foley Road.

Popular perceptions of the women in the Civil War center on self-sacrificing nurses, romantic spies, prostitutes, or great ladies maintaining the home front. This picture does not tell the entire story: Men were not the only ones to march off to war. Women lived in dirt-ridden camps, fought horrific battles, suffered in appalling prisons and died miserably but honorably for their country.

The number of female soldiers serving for the Union is estimated at be-

tween 400 and 1,000 and for the Confederacy, between 100 and 250. Historians have documented evidence of about 250 female soldiers serving in the ranks of both armies. It must be remembered though, that unless a woman was publicly discovered or confessed, a record of her military service was lost to history. Three African-American women were known to have served, although the actual number is likely much higher. The total number of women will never be known.



### Upcoming....May 13 *The Taft Women*

Join us Monday, May 13, at 7 p.m. as Park Ranger Reggie Murray presents a program on Taft, his childhood home and the women who influenced his life. This is a re-schedule of the program from last fall.

As always, bring a snack to share.

## Society News

### We're Going on a Trip

We are planning a tour of the American Sign Museum and the Spring Grove Cemetery, with lunch tentatively planned for Camp Washington Chili.

The tour is limited by both venues to 25 people, so get your reservation in early. We will set up a wait list and if there is enough interest, we will expand to two tours.

### 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.

### Get Well

Wishes for a speedy and healthy recovery to former Board member Jan Chaney who recently had surgery.

## Library Presents History of Cheviot Hill Railroad

Noted rail historian and photographer Mike Brestel presents the story of the construction, 77 year life, and abandonment of Cheviot Hill, a mountain railroad entirely within Cincinnati's city limits. Tuesday, April 9, 7:00 p.m. Delhi Branch Library. Many of us remember the trestles along Queen City and beyond.



## From the Archives

### Neighborhood Taverns Date to Township's Earliest Days

Recently we posted three photos on the Delhi Historical Society's Facebook page that brought more people to the site than all of our other photos combined. The first was of Monterey Tavern at the corner of Rapid Run and Anderson Ferry, another of Klawitter's on Neeb Road (at right), and the last of Elkwood Park Tavern at Anderson Ferry and River Road.

It seems that our fondest (and some not so fond) memories are of the times we spent with friends and that can be said of our ancestors also.

Before radio and television, the tavern was often the place where folks picked up the news of the day, found out where the best buy was on a product they needed, and even get a meal.

Perhaps the earliest Delhi tavern was the Darby Inn, built in 1807 in Delhi's original settlement, South Bend Village, at River Road and Darby Lane. Henry Darby operated a tavern for travelers between North Bend and Cincinnati. Future U.S. president William Henry Harrison was thought to be a regular visitor.

Early maps show another early tavern called the 10-Mile House at Cleves Warsaw Pike near Hillside at what was then known as Ervina. It was the scene of what might be the first murder in the township - that of William Markland an ancestor of the Markland family for whom the Ohio River Dam is named. Not far from there was the Blue Ball Tavern on the Muddy Creek.

The Buckeye House opened around 1820 at Anderson Ferry and River Road. "Uncle Joe" Harrison advertized delicious Chicken Dinners there on Sundays. Later Elkwood Park would take over the establishment. Just across Anderson Ferry, Schulte's opened in the early 1900s, and the Trolley Tavern would follow later. It was a busy place, partly because it was the first stop after crossing the ferry and partly because after the 1870s, the interurban trolley line ended there.

At the other end of the township several other Taverns - most notably The Crows Nest at the end of the West Eighth Streetcar line. Opened in 1895 by an Irish immigrant named Mike Crow, the tavern was a popular stopping place after an Irish burial at St. Joseph Cemetery across the street. The tavern had a ball park behind it and a summer garden.

Not to be outdone, the Germans had their own establishment across the street called Fred Bold's, and John Doll Saloon at West Eighth and Overlook.

But it was the taverns located in the heart of the township that were gathering spots for the farmers of Delhi. Often the taverns would also serve as a general store, a post office, and in the case of Klawitters and Eddie's Tavern, as a meeting place for township meetings.

As early as 1865 a general store with a saloon was located opposite Our Lady of Victory. The proprietor of the store was John H. Brune. John died in 1869 leaving his son and namesake to run the business.

In the late 1895, the younger Brune sold the business to Edward Klawitter. Around the turn of the century, Edward added a beer garden and bowling alley - the first in the township. Brune's and Klawitter's was a hub of activity. As early as 1866 the township trustees were holding their meetings there. During the 1930s Joe Klawitter was paid \$25 a month for taking care of the fire telephone and siren.

Another murder took place at this establishment in 1899. John Martini and his sister's husband John Reimerink got into an argument which resulted in Martini hitting Reimerink with a bowling pin. A week later Reimerink died and Martini was arrested for his murder. Nothing came of the arrest as Martini



*Darby Inn and Tavern*



*Klawitter's General Store, Party Barn and Tavern across from Our Lady of Victory*

never served time.

Not far from Klawitters was the Five Points Inn, operated by Joe Imholte. A typical Saturday in 1900, Five Points was bustling with activity as farmers stopped in for nickel beer and to catch up on gossip. The place also sold shoes made by a Valentine Bestil, who was listed as a "manufacturer of wooden shoes" on the 1900 census. He lived in a storage barn on the Philip Martini property.

Eddie's Tavern and the Monterey Tavern were gathering spots for central part of the township. Originally called Allen's corner, Monterey was named for the little subdivision that was planned for the area in the late 1800s. The subdivision never materialized but the tavern's name stuck. Before the tavern, the Allen family - one of the original families in Delhi, had operated a general store and saloon there from around 1800. They sold the property around 1915.

The corner of Greenwell and Delhi has always been a hub of activity for socializing. Eddie's Tavern was located across Greenwell from Lauterbach Grove, a picnic and party grove. Later, Eddie's was sold and is now the popular Maloney's Pub.



*Monterey Tavern at Anderson Ferry and Rapid Run*

## Farmhouse News

### Our Bright and Beautiful House

Perhaps you have noticed the Farmhouse is getting all "prettified." If you recently visited you would have seen a lot of bubbling paint. Water getting into the wood from the leaky windows and the broken gutters greatly exacerbated this condition. The gutters were repaired and, thanks to the donations to the fund, new windows were installed last year.

Repainting the house would first require removing the old paint and replacing rotted wood. Our choice, siding is less costly, longer lasting and every bit as attractive.

Murphy Construction is doing the job at cost. The generous gift from the Skylar foundation and the use of Endowment interest money is covering the expense.

We are very grateful to Tom Murphy, the Skylar foundation and our members for support. The Board of the Delhi Historical Society makes these decisions carefully and intelligently. We owe a big and special thank you to Matt Maley (maintenance committee) for his thorough and painstaking investigations of the innermost workings and failures in the old house.

One final note... yellow, being the traditional color of our Farmhouse, was our unanimous choice.

Sincerely,  
Mary Finn, president

#### Closed for Easter

The Delhi Historical Society Farmhouse Museum will be closed so that our volunteers can enjoy Easter with their families.

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