

Delhi History

Volume 45, Issue 4

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DELHI



HISTORY

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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DELHI HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Coming this Fall: Westside Wine and Cincinnati Chili

We all need a good vacation. And, after taking the summer off from our monthly history programs, we are back in full force with some very exciting programs to round out the year.

September's program is titled "Winemaking on the West Side During Cincinnati's Catawba Craze". This exciting lecture will be held Monday, Sept. 12, at the Delhi Lodge. It will be led by Dann Woellert, author of *Cincinnati Wine: An Effervescent History*. The program will take you through the history of wine-making when Cincinnati was the nation's epicenter for the widely popular sparkling red Catawba wine. Learn the background of our industry, starting with Nicholas Longworth and why he chose what is now Embschoff Woods as the setting for his wine-making empire.

You'll hear the stories of West Side wine barons whose names are now streets like Rentz Place, Wocher Street, Reemlin, Werk Road and many others.

Dann will share the story of his own Barmann and Gerteisen families who were part of the wave of southwest Rhine valley winemaking immigrants from Germany to the West

Side. He'll share his own experience of visiting this past June the original 1817 family winery in the town of Merdingen, Germany, that they left for a better life in America. They brought their winemaking skills to Western Hills in their vineyards on what is now along Rapid Run and also in the area of Palisades. Dann presents a case for why Our Lady of Victory Catholic parish should have been renamed Our Lady of Catawba Winemakers.

Continued on back page



Catherine Oehler Barmann (center) with her daughter and granddaughters. She is wearing a traditional Baden black crocheted hood which Dann will bring to the Sept. 12 program.

Icons of Cincinnati Chili Making Come Together Onstage for the First Time in History

Continued from page 1

We're excited about our October program, which is a celebration of the 100th anniversary of the founding of the first Cincinnati-Style Chili parlor.

When three Macedonian immigrant brothers - Argiro, Ivan and Athanas Kiradjieff - joined together in October of 1922 to found the small Empress Chili Parlor in the Empress Burlesque theatre, they had no idea it would take off to become an over \$250 million dollar industry. Cincinnati's chili industry has given hundreds of recent

immigrants a way to build a better life and given countless Cincinnatians their first or primary jobs.

Cincinnati Chili has become a beloved symbol of our Queen City culture. The program is titled *A Night with Cincinnati Chili Royalty*, and it will feature a speaking panel with members of three founding families. We will start with Johnny Kiradjieff, the youngest son of the founder John (Ivan) Kiradjieff of Empress. We'll then meet Joseph Lambrinides, a great grandson of Skyline founder Nicholas Lambrinides. And finally, we'll talk to current Gold Star CEO and son of a founding brother, Roger Daoud. You'll see historic photos as our panelists



The Lambrinides of Skyline break bread with the Kiradjieffs of Empress at the Kiradjieff's home in Clifton in the 1950s. Nicholas Lambrinides is at the head of the table. Mala Kiradjieff is at left.

share some personal stories which have never before been shared outside their families as they produced the food all Cincinnatians love.

We are expecting a large crowd so this program will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 11, at a larger venue - Mount St. Joseph University Theatre, 5701 Delhi Rd. Tell your family, bring some friends and celebrate 100 years of Cincinnati Chili!

Stay tuned for ticketing details.

Thank you! For 2 generous donations and grants:

- John and Marianne Grove
- Frankie Sahn
- Ohio History Connection for an "Open Doors Ohio" grant to encourage people to go to history events Sept. 9-18. The funds will be used to promote and pay for the Sept. 12 program on Westside Wine.

Programs & Events

- Sept. 12, 7 p.m., at the Delhi Park Lodge: *Winemaking on the Westside During the Catawba Craze with Dann Woellert.*
- Tuesday, Oct. 11, 7 p.m. at Mount St. Joseph University: *A Night With Cincinnati Chili Royalty* featuring Johnny Kiradjieff of Empress Chili, Roger Daoud of Gold Star Chili, and Joe Lambrinides of Skyline Chili.

The Delhi Historical Society Farmhouse Museum and Research Center is open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays from 12:30 to 3 p.m.

Raffle! **The Drawing for The Best of Delhi Raffle will take place at the Monday, Sept. 12, program. Return your tickets for a chance to win some great prizes from Delhi businesses!**

The Mission of the Delhi Historical Society is to discover, preserve and share the history of Delhi Township and the surrounding areas.

From the President Anita Klawitter

Spotlight on Our Board Members

Each issue we've been spotlighting our board. Here are the final two of our 2022 members: **Frankie Sahnd, Delhi Historical Society Treasurer**, a lifetime westsider, has returned to the role of treasurer after a two year hiatus. She recently retired from HG CPAs, LLC (formerly the Hengehold Group). Frankie is a graduate of Mount St. Joseph University where she served on the Alumni Board. She also was a board member and president of the Catholic Women of Cincinnati, and chaired several golf outings benefiting Our Daily Bread. She also organized several of her class's reunions at Seton.

Mary Finn, Past President, has been an active member and volunteer with the DHS for more than 25 years, and in 2019 completed her second term as president of the Society. Mary was an elementary school teacher for several years. In her years as a stay-at-home mom, she was a Girl Scout leader, a volunteer gym teacher, served as president of the "Mom and Dad's Club," and volunteered at church. Mary is a long-time member of the Western Hills Garden Club, and is a past president of that organization. She continues to help maintain the gardens on the grounds of the Delhi Historical Society's historic farmhouse and is a regular Sunday volunteer docent.

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Collections Corner

Cooperation is Key to Local Historical Groups

By Alan March

The mission of the Delhi Historical Society is to discover, preserve, and share the history of Delhi Township and its neighboring communities. Delhi was once the southern part of Green Township, becoming its own township in 1816. There is some natural overlap in the histories of these places. Several Cincinnati neighborhoods were once part of Delhi Township. In 1912, Delhi's Village of Home City, Village of Industry, and the Delhi subdivision were annexed by the City of Cincinnati, and combined with Fernbank (of Miami Township) to form Sayler Park. West Price Hill was once part of Delhi Township too, including the neighborhood once known as Warsaw.

There are historical organizations for Green Township Sayler Park, Westwood, Cheviot, and Price Hill. Beyond those geographical connections, other "communities of interest" have historical societies, such as the Delhi Historical Fire Museum Society and the Delhi Township Police Historical Association. It would seem that all these different organizations would be in competition with each other, vying to obtain and display items that help them with their missions. However, the truth is that these groups cooperate and share their findings with each other.

Recently, the Delhi Historical Society assisted the Delhi Fire Museum by digitizing some of its old photographs and slides. In exchange, DHS gets to keep copies of those digital images. The Delhi Historical Society recently discovered it owned two copies of the book, "Stories That Must Be Told," produced by the Sayler Park Historical Society years ago. The DHS contacted SPHS and asked if they would like to have that copy. They said yes, and picked it up. Paul Ruffing, president of the Green Township aided us in research on



Peg Schmidt of the Delhi Historical Society shares information with visitors at a previous "Hometown History Sampler" at the Cincinnati Observatory.

the Wynneburne Park area for a program we were presenting. Regular communications between each group helps all of us to learn and grow as we seek, save, and share our mutual histories.

Beyond these West Side groups, there is the Museums & Historic Sites of Greater Cincinnati, an association of organizations dedicated to preserving the great history of our region. This diverse group includes dozens of historic sites and museums such as the Cincinnati Museum Center, the American Sign Museum, the Cincinnati Type & Print Museum, as well as your Delhi Historical Society. On Sept. 25, 2022, you can sample some of what all these museums have in one place: the "Hometown History Sampler." Held at the Cincinnati Observatory from 1 to 4 p.m., this free event introduces to all the wonderful organizations dedicated to preserving the history of our hometown.

Unveiling Our History in the 1950 Census

Federal law stipulates that the US Census can't be released for 72 years, which was average life expectancy when the law was passed. So this spring, we were finally able to view the 1950 census. For many of our members this is the first time we got a glimpse of what our community and families were like when they were children.

In 1950, Delhi Township contained 6,347 people (compared to more than 29,000 now) in 1,200 households (11,600 now). There were 85 farms and 169 rental households in Delhi in 1950.

You can view your own personal record, learn about your family and your neighbors, go to www.1950census.archives.gov. It's free!

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|-----|-----|------------------------|----------|---|---|----|-----|------|----|----|----|----|----|-----------|
| 3278 | 900 | yes | Virginia | daughter | W | F | 21 | mar | Ohio | wt | no | no | no | | |
| 3278 | 900 | yes | Kramer, Lewis | head | W | M | 67 | mar | Ohio | wt | no | no | no | 55 | Farmer |
| | | | Maria | wife | W | F | 52 | mar | Ohio | wt | no | no | no | | |
| 3282 | 201 | no | Witterstaetter, Minnie | mother | W | F | 50 | wid | Ohio | wt | no | no | no | | |
| | | | Kramer, Howard | head | W | M | 38 | mar | Ohio | wt | no | no | no | 55 | Farmer |
| | | | Evelyn | wife | W | F | 38 | mar | Ohio | wt | no | no | no | | |
| | | | Richard | son | W | M | 7 | mar | Ohio | wt | no | no | no | | |
| | | | George | son | W | M | 4 | mar | Ohio | wt | no | no | no | | |
| 348 | 202 | no | Witterstaetter, Joseph | head | W | M | 58 | mar | Ohio | wt | no | no | no | 55 | Farmer |
| 348 | 203 | yes | Witterstaetter, Abbie | head | W | F | 65 | wid | Ohio | wt | no | no | no | 55 | Farmer |
| | | | Maddux, Abbie | son's | W | M | 34 | mar | Ohio | wt | no | no | no | 40 | Inspector |
| | | | Ethel | daughter | W | F | 36 | mar | Ohio | wt | no | no | no | | |
| | | | Robert | grandson | W | M | 10 | mar | Ohio | wt | no | no | no | | |
| | | | Harmon | grandson | W | M | 8 | mar | Ohio | wt | no | no | no | | |
| | | | Margaret | daughter | W | F | 35 | mar | Ohio | wt | no | no | no | | |
| 348 | 204 | yes | Krausger, Harry | head | W | M | 67 | mar | Ohio | wt | no | no | no | 40 | Farmer |
| | | | 4... | ... | W | M | 58 | mar | Ohio | wt | no | no | no | 48 | Farmer |

The 1950 census containing the area where our Farmhouse Museum sits, containing the names of the Witterstaetter, Maddux, Krueger, and Kramer families.