



ViewPoints



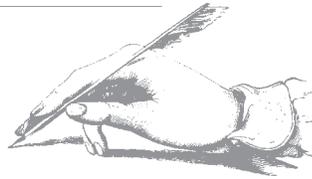
December 2012

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AN OCCASIONAL NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS/MARBLE CLIFF HISTORICAL SOCIETY

RESIDENT'S LETTER



Dear Members,

I hope this letter finds you well and happy. Thanksgiving fever and Black Friday have passed and you are all into the Holiday spirit. Our neighborhood evenings are brightened by a variety of displays as the days grow shorter. I have begun decorating and, of course, brought the family Tom and Jerry bowl and mugs up from storage!

Here's the recipe: Tom and Jerry

12 eggs, separated	1/2 tsp. salt
1 lb. butter, softened	3 lb. powdered sugar
1 tsp. vanilla	1 tsp. cloves
1 tsp. nutmeg	1 tsp allspice
1/2 c. powdered milk	1 T. rum or brandy
brandy	nutmeg for garnish

Beat egg whites until stiff. Set aside. Cream butter, powdered sugar, powdered milk until crumbly. It will look somewhat like pie dough. Add egg yolks and vanilla. Stir in the spices and rum or brandy. Fold in the egg whites and make sure all is incorporated. Refrigerate up to two weeks.

To serve: Add 1/3 batter to mug, add one jigger of brandy, top with boiling water to fill. Sprinkle generously with nutmeg.

History

Tom and Jerry's first appeared in 1821 as a version of Egg Nog. Its roots can be found in The Day and Night Scenes of Jerry Hawthorne and His Elegant Friend Corinthian Tom (1821) and the subsequent stage play, Tom and Jerry, or Life in London (also 1821). It was not to be served until the first snow. It is unknown why it became a Christmas tradition, but I can verify there were places in Columbus that served it when I was young: The Broad-Nel, The Columbus Club, The Jai Lai. It is always to be served in a Tom & Jerry set, a large batter bowl with a set of mugs bearing the same name.

The board has been working on our usual projects, and have begun preparations for the Home Tour, which will be held on Mothers' Day, 2013. Please contact me or any board member if you can help in any way. This is a triennial event, is our biggest fundraiser, and we can always use help!

The Society will be a presence in Grandview Heights Public Library this month, selling our publications and, of course, our playing cards. These are Holiday wrapped, a perfect stocking-stuffer, and carry 52 Grandview & Marble Cliff historic photos. Please stop by and support your Society!

Welcome to our newest Life Members Teri and Brad Williams and Dan and Mary Ludlum. Lifetime memberships are so very appreciated. Gifts such as these allow us to continue to fund such projects as the Archives Committee, who are continuing the digitizing of our holdings. This will eventually become available online to the public.

Be well, be happy, and enjoy the Holiday season with your family and friends.

As always, we welcome any suggestions or comments!

Best Wishes,

Terry Liberatore, President

Family Ties: The Ricketts Family Part Two; Attorney Ricketts and the Snook Trial

by Terry Smith

The most sensational trial ever to take place in Columbus, that of Dr. Howard Snook, OSU Veterinary professor, convicted of murdering his mistress in June, 1929, involved a prominent member of the Ricketts family.

E. O. Ricketts, Columbus attorney, son and business partner of James S. Ricketts (*ViewPoints*, September 2012), was a member of the defense team for Dr. Snook.

Dr. James Howard Snook (1889-1930) was a respected member of the Faculty of The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine.



Dr. Snook and his defense team. Left to right: E. O. Ricketts, Dr. Snook, John Seidel, Max Seyfert. Courtesy of the Columbus Dispatch.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Family Ties: *The Ricketts Family* Part Two; *Attorney Ricketts and the Snook Trial*

He was the inventor of the "Snook Hook" — a device used in spaying animals, and a gold medalist on the U. S. Olympic pistol team in the 1920 Olympics. He and his wife and daughter lived on West 10th Avenue.

Ernest Osmon Ricketts (1870-1941) was born in Hocking County, and moved to Columbus with his family in 1888. Admitted to the bar in 1891, he was in a partnership for a few years and then engaged in general practice of the law alone, and was a member of Ricketts & Son, a real estate firm founded by his father.

Columbus prosecuting attorney in 1929 was 31 year-old John J. Chester, Jr., son of John J. Chester who in 1892 purchased 300 lots south of First Avenue, east of Lincoln Rd. to Elmwood and south to Goodale Boulevard, and named the development Chester Heights. The elder Chester was a prominent Columbus attorney and an 1892 charter member of what became the Arlington Country Club, the first country club in central Ohio. An original gateway to the club grounds is the stone pillars where Bluff dead ends just past Lincoln.

On Thursday evening, June 13, 1929 Snook killed his mistress, Theora Hix, a 25-year-old medical student, during a tryst at the New York Central shooting range at Fisher Road and McKinley Avenue, just outside the city limits. The body was found the next day by two teenagers.

Prosecuting Attorney Chester pursued the case aggressively. A confession was quickly obtained and Snook went to trial. Jury selection began on July 24 and took until August 1. The final jury consisted of 11 men and one woman, all local residents.

In addition to Ricketts, the defense team included John Seidel of Columbus and Max Seyfert of Circleville.

Once details of Snook's story became public, national attention focused on Columbus and news syndicates around the country sent their leading reporters to cover the trial. Anticipation of lurid details swelled the crowds that gathered outside the Franklin County Courthouse, often as early as 3 a.m. On August 14, 1929 the jury, after 29 minutes, convicted Dr. Snook of murder in the first degree. At that time there was only one sentence for first-degree murder: death in the electric chair. An appeal failed and Dr. Snook was executed in the Ohio Penitentiary on February 28, 1930.

Ricketts and the defense team made a valiant effort to save Snook, but aggressive prosecution, Snook's own reenactment of the killing, and extreme national publicity, (including the



E. O. Ricketts and daughter Helen, on steps of Franklin County Courthouse August 1929

pirated publication of detailed testimony in a booklet sold on Columbus streets for 25 cents) hampered their efforts.

During the trial Ricketts wife received phone calls at their home on Oakland Avenue, threatening to kidnap their 18-year-old daughter, Helen, if Ricketts did not leave the Snook case immediately. The attorney sought police protection for the family. Ricketts and his wife later moved to 1429 North Star Road

Two sources for the detailed story of the Snook trial are:

- Mark Gribben. *The Professor and the Coed: Scandal & Murder at The Ohio State University* (2010)
- *The Short North Gazette*, September and October 1999, online at www.shortnorth.com/DrSnook.html

Gribben does justice to attorney Ricketts' role in the defense.

Decades ago, Ed. was acquainted with Dr. Snook's wife and daughter. He also owns a copy of the 25-cent booklet.

A New and Different Pumpkin Pie (1938)

Here's a refrigerator pumpkin pie which will keep the family happy and give you added minutes of freedom, on a busy holiday morning, for the cooking jobs which demand your undivided attention.



PUMPKIN CHIFFON PIE (Makes one 10-inch pie)

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 tablespoons gelatin | 1/2 teaspoon salt |
| 1/4 cup cold water | 1/2 teaspoon ginger |
| 3 eggs | 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon |
| 1 cup sugar | 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg |
| 1 1/2 cups strained pumpkin | 1/4 teaspoon clove |
| 1/2 cup milk | |

Soak gelatin in cold water for 5 minutes. Separate yolk and whites of eggs. Beat yolks until light and combine with half of the sugar, the strained pumpkin, milk, salt, and spices. Cook over hot water until the mixture thickens, stirring constantly. Remove from fire, add gelatin, and stir until dissolved. Cool. When the mixture thickens, beat the egg whites until stiff but not dry and gradually beat in the remaining sugar. Fold into the pumpkin. Pour into baked pie shell and chill thoroughly before serving.

This pumpkin pie is made, quite sensibly, the day before it's to be served and stored in a modern, air-conditioned ice refrigerator; where properly moist, clean-washed, circulating air keeps food from rapidly drying out and guards against absorption of other food flavors.

TRI-VILLAGE NEWS, Dec. 9, 1938



MARY PRICE GRISWOLD

Daughter of T.J. Price. Mary J. Price married Charles C. Griswold and resided at "Dolgradog," her home that existed at the site of the present French Quarter. In 1926, she gave \$400,000 in memory of her husband to build the YWCA Griswold Memorial Building. The "Patron Saint" of Marble Cliff, her bequest of land for a park and subsequent negotiated sale of the land to commercial interest by Mayor Falco in the late 1950s provided for a sound financial future for Marble Cliff.

Marble Cliff in the 1890s

Columbus society has rarely enjoyed so brilliant and elegant an entertainment as the garden party and entertainment given on Friday evening by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Griswold at their beautiful residence in Arlington Heights. Few suburban homes can claim a more beautiful situation than this one, to which wealth and taste have added everything that could be desired. A large dancing pavilion was erected for the occasion, the beautiful grounds were tastefully decorated, and in the bright glow of the incandescent lamps, with which they were lighted, presented a bewildering appearance. About 300 invitations were issued and the guests were conveyed to Arlington in two special trains, one leaving at 6 o'clock and the other at 8. Miss Price, Miss Hall, Miss Ross of New York, and Miss Williams of Brooklyn were the guests in whose honor the entertainment was given, and received with the hostess...

The elegant refreshments were served, of course, *al fresco*. Many of the costumes worn were unusually handsome. Mrs. Griswold received in a black silk gown, en train, with rich lace garniture and diamond ornaments; Miss Price, pretty costume of white crepe du chine; Miss Hall was becomingly attired in white net, with garniture of pink carnations; Miss Williams was charming in delicate Nile green silk; Miss Ross, dainty gown of blush pink silk veiled in white

net.....(Here follows a list of twenty-three more ladies with descriptions of their gowns.)

Ed: from an undated clipping in the Price-Hall scrapbooks. Today's Marble Cliff was platted in 1889 by the Price-Griswold families as Arlington Place. Local parlance referred to the area as Arlington, Arlington Heights, and Marble Cliff.

GRANDVIEW'S ED SMITH AT HARVARD AND NEW YORK

Edward "Ed" Smith (1929-1998), GHHS '47 — a forward who graduated in 1951—holds the distinction of being the last Harvard player selected in the first round of the NBA draft. The six-foot-six forward was part of an athletic family: His brother Gene played in the White Sox organization, and both Ed and Gene were wonders on the court and diamond for Grandview Heights High School in the late 1940s. By the time he was a high school senior, Ed was all-CBL (Central Buckeye League) and had tied the league hoops record for the most points in a single game. It's unclear how Ed ended up at Cambridge. Floyd Stahl, who was then Ohio State's baseball coach (but had formerly served as Harvard's basketball and baseball coach) may have convinced Ed to make the eastward trek.

Ed had expected a professional career and was not surprised to be chosen by the Knicks with the sixth overall pick in the 1951 draft. His professional career was delayed for two years, as he was drafted into the Army. When he returned for the 1953-54 season,

he fractured his left hand in the first game of the year in November 1953. He returned to the Knicks later in the season and played ten more games. Ed was invited back to the Knicks training camp the following season but was cut, never again donning an NBA uniform.

Ed's younger brother, Terry, is archivist emeritus at GH/MC Historical Society.

(See: Matt Giles' column, New York Magazine, February 10, 2012)

EDWARD BERNARD SMITH "EDDIE"

General scholarship team 1, 2, 4; senior scholarship team; Boosters; Booster representative 1, 2; varsity football 2, 3, 4; varsity basketball 2, 3, 4; varsity baseball 1, 2, 3, 4; Varsity G 2, 3, 4; Hi-Y 3, 4; class treasurer 4; Leaders Club 4; Highlander staff 4; office boy 3, 4; senior play crew; National Honor Society.



Edward Bernard Smith "Eddie"

Grandview Heights High School Yearbook 1947



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ViewPoints is an occasional publication of the Grandview Heights/Marble Cliff Historical Society.



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Columbus, Ohio 43212

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A REQUEST

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HISTORIC PHOTO PLAYING CARDS

Society publications and pre-wrapped Grandview/Marble Cliff historic photo playing cards will be available for purchase at the Grandview Library on the following dates: Sunday, December 16 from 11 am to 5 pm; Friday, December 21 from 11 am to 6 pm; Saturday, December 22 from 11 am to 5 pm; and Sunday, December 23 from 1 to 5 pm. You may also call Ruthanne James at (614) 486-6456.



“Inauguration Trivia”

GH/MCHS Trustee Jeri Diehl Cusack will present a free program on “Inauguration Trivia” Thursday evening, January 10th at 7 pm in the Meeting Room of the Grandview Library. From inauguration firsts, lasts, and only-s, Jeri will discuss interesting facts about the swearing in ceremonies for the Presidents of the United States. We invite you to attend!

Help Wanted!

Win Keller of the Archives Committee is looking for volunteers to help with the ongoing project of organizing the GH/MC Historical Society’s files. Anyone interested in learning more about this opportunity should contact Win at winifredkeller@gmail.com or 614-488-9142

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The Grandview
Heights/Marble Cliff
Historical Society

