



ViewPoints



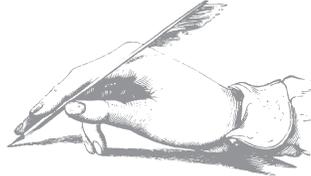
March 2005

Visit Our Web Site!

www.ghmchs.org

A N OCCASIONAL NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS/MARBLE CLIFF HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Dear Society Members,

As winter's end is nearing, I so look forward to new spring growth and seeing people out and about. Grandview Avenue is usually very busy with diners and shoppers once the weather breaks and it is so nice to see everyone enjoying our town and all it has to offer!

Another new Board member has been appointed since I last wrote, bringing the Board back to its full complement according to the bylaws. We welcome Jeri Diehl Cusack, Grandview native and longtime Grandview Library staff member, who brings her considerable expertise to the work of the Society.

We continue to catalogue and digitize items we receive. We recently received an enormous collection of memorabilia, the catalogue of which is nearly 30 pages long. (See accompanying article) As you may know, it is an ongoing goal of the Society to protect the integrity of original materials, but to make public access available through electronic means.

The Board recently voted to produce another publication. I would rather keep its contents a surprise, but I assure you it will be one of our finest publications to date, and should be very well received. I will keep you advised as to a release date.

If you have not checked our website recently, please do so. Dr. Carlson has been diligently adding updates and new features. Note the new "user friendly" bar on the home page, which makes locating information easier!

On a somber note, we will surely miss our dear friend and former Board Member, Bill Koch of Marble Cliff, who passed away in February. After Bill's resignation from the Board for health reasons, we stayed in touch with him, and I will truly miss his "golf cart" visits every week! We also note the recent passing of Ron Curry, husband of former Board Member Joann Curry. Our sincere sympathy to the Koch and Curry families.

As always, please contact me with suggestions, comments, or better yet...history!

Sincerely,

Tracy Liberatore
President

Jones-Higgs Memorabilia: A Major Acquisition by Terry Smith

The Grandview Heights/Marble Cliff Historical Society is the recent grateful recipient of a collection of memorabilia donated by Life Members, Joyce Jones Alibrando, Jeanne Jones Holder, and Stanton Jones. Their mother, Alleyne Higgs Jones, was raised in Grandview from the time her family moved to their new home at 1219 Lincoln Road in 1906. Alleyne Higgs graduated from Grandview High School in 1922 and her younger brother Frank Higgs Jr. (Junior in his earlier years, "Dude" in his later years) graduated in 1926.

Like many girls of the time, Alleyne Higgs gathered personal material in scrapbooks, which she continued from about 1918 until her death in the 1980s. The family has generously donated some of these for our archives. The material received to date includes scrapbooks from 1918-1920 and 1940-1948, plus an amazing "Memories" book, gold-



Christmas Card - Junior Higgs, surrounded by four unidentified Lindenberg young adults (early 1920s)



This issue sponsored by

GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2





CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Jones-Higgs Memorabilia: A Major Acquisition

embossed with 'Alleynes Higgs' and '1922' on the cover. The total collection consists of over 1000 separate items, including 200 obituaries of early Grandview residents, 500 news clippings about Grandview residents, and more than 200 original photos, many of Grandview students from 1918 to 1928. The entire collection has been catalogued and indexed by the Society archivist.

Memorabilia in the Jones-Higgs collection includes original copies of the first ten Grandview Commencement programs, starting with 1916. There also are programs from school plays and sporting events, plus scripts for some of the early plays. Many pictures are graduation photos, plus a number of sports pictures, particularly football players from the early 1920s.

Ira Stanton Jones joined the Grandview faculty in 1919. In addition to teaching, he organized the first football team for the school. In the mid 1920s Mr. Jones also served as high school principal. After Alleynes graduated from The Ohio State University in 1926 (with her close friend and Grandview graduate Dot Williams, now Dot Pfeifer) Alleynes and Stanton Jones were married.

In addition to his regular job after leaving teaching, Jonsie (as he was known to all, including his family) was considered one of the leading sports officials in Central Ohio.



"Jonsie's new Maxwell" - on Oakland, north of Edison School, looking east (1922)

The collection includes a number of Field Day pictures and news articles detailing the thousands of participants and onlookers in these early Tri-Village annual summer events. Alleynes' mother, Pleasant Barton Higgs, was also the leader of the local Camp Fire Girls. Mrs. Higgs was the clerk of the Village of Grandview Heights in the early 1910s, and read the Grandview water meters and collected payments at her home twice a year.

This collection will be a valuable reference tool and will keep us supplied with interesting material for

future columns and other publications.

We encourage Society members, and friends of Grandview and Marble Cliff to consider placing their memorabilia with the Society. If you do not want to give up valued photos, we will be happy to scan them for our records and return the originals. We also continue to seek the loan of Abstracts of Title for copying.

If you have material for the Society, please contact mrtsmith@msn.com or contact the editor or any board member.



These 16 Sciole Branch Camp Fire girls folded 150,000 Christmas seals in three hours at the Higgs home. Photo for newspaper article taken on West Broad Street outside the Ionian Room of the Desbler Hotel. (1918) "Sciole" was coined by combining the first letters of Scioto and Olentangy. (Mrs. Higgs is center rear)



NEW DISCOVERIES

by Tom DeMaria

“The World’s Richest Woman and the Marble Cliff Connection”



*West lawn of 1550 Roxbury Road, circa 1930. L-R - Front: Hugh Dillman, John Love, Blaine McGaughy
Middle: Anna Dodge Dillman, Hannah McGaughy (mother of Hugh, Max, Mary and Louise), Max McGaughy
Standing: Mary McGaughy Love, Rose Marie McGaughy (Max's wife, Blaine's mother), Louise McGaughy*

She's taken a back seat to the Bush family, and has been overshadowed by the noble legacy of the Carmelite sisters, but unbeknownst to most residents in our community, she owned the grand home at 1550 Roxbury Road (St. Raphael's) from 1928 to 1947. Seated (above, left, middle row) in this quaint circa 1930 family photograph she could easily pass for anyone's kindly grandmother. Imagine her making an apple pie for Sunday dinner. The epitome of a 'grande dame' in her own right, at the time this photo was taken she was the wealthiest woman in the United States. She owned an \$850,000 five-strand pearl necklace once the property of Russia's Catherine the Great, a million-dollar 250 foot yacht, and two other 'homes' in addition to the former Bush residence on Roxbury Road.

Her name was Anna Dodge Dillman, with a special emphasis on Dodge. She was the widow of Horace Dodge, co-founder of the Dodge Motor Car Company. After the early deaths of the Dodge brothers, their company was sold in 1926. Anna's bequest from her husband netted her approximately \$50 million, which was shrewdly invested in tax-free municipal bonds. The investment netted \$1.5 million per year for life. Various estates, jewels, and art collections were included in her vast wealth, and she continued to be one of the wealthiest women in the country right up to her death in 1970. Rose Terrace, her monumental estate in Grosse

Pointe, Michigan, was filled with treasures acquired from the palaces of Europe.

It was fate and love that brought Anna to Marble Cliff. Five years after Horace Dodge's death, while on vacation in Italy in 1926, she met and was swept off her feet by a Columbus native, Hugh Dillman McGaughy, a former stock actor. Hugh was perhaps fourteen years Anna's junior. Years later, Anna credited Hugh with teaching her how to enjoy spending her money. Spend she did, including purchasing the Bush mansion in 1928 as a residence for her new mother-in-law, Hannah McGaughy. Anna and Hugh never permanently lived there. Before their marriage Hugh had taken his middle name (his mother's maiden name) as his stage name. At the time of his marriage to Anna, society pages listed his occupation as "former actor, realty dealer, and concert manager." The Dillmans spent much of their time rebuilding Rose Terrace. In one sojourn to Greece in the 1930s they bought and dismantled over 100 barns for their aged cypress wood to be used in the reception room of Rose Terrace.

By 1940 the marriage had soured, and in 1947 Hugh Dillman wanted out, despite an annual allowance of \$100,000, fancy cars, gifts, and a \$6 million trust fund. The home at 1550 Roxbury Road was sold to the Carmelite Sisters. Anna Dodge lived comfortably off her tax-free municipal bonds until her death in 1970 at the age of 103!



BECOME A MEMBER

of the Grandview Heights/Marble Cliff Historical Society!

Please complete the information below and send with your check made out to: **GH/MC Historical Society**
Mail or drop off at the **Grandview Heights Library,**
1685 West First Avenue, Columbus, OH 43212

NAME _____

SPOUSE
(IF COUPLE MEMBERSHIP) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____

Please check the appropriate membership box:

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP	LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP
YEARLY DUES (OCT. 1–SEPT. 30)	ONE-TIME PAYMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> Single \$10.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Single \$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Couple \$15.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Couple \$150.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Organization \$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Organization \$500.00
	<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$1000.00



EDITORS' NOTES:

- “98+ and counting” (a concise history of Grandview Heights), which began in our November 2004 *Viewpoints*, will be concluded in our next newsletter.
- For the romantic story of Junior/Dude Higgs, Alleyne Higgs Jones’ brother, visit our website www.ghmchs.org and enter “Dude Higgs” in the search panel.

BOARD MEMBER PROFILE

Jeri Diehl Cusack may be new to our Board, but she and her family are not new to the community. In fact, her grandparents moved to Holly Avenue in 1927. Her mother Janet Shaw graduated from GHHS in 1941 and Jeri followed in her mom’s footsteps in 1971.

After graduating from OSU in 1974, she moved to Cleveland, Ohio to serve as a VISTA volunteer. There she met her husband, Bill Cusack, and eventually earned her master’s degree at Case Western Reserve University. After working for Cuyahoga County Public Library, Jeri moved back to Columbus to take a job at the Main Library downtown. In 1984 she joined the staff of Grandview Heights Public Library, where she is Community Liaison. Jeri has been an organizer of the Lazy Daze Festival since its inception in 1994.

Jeri and Bill have three daughters: Katherine (GHHS1998), Annie (GHHS 2000), and Rory (GHHS2004). Now empty nesters, they are moving soon into a new home on Elmwood Avenue, where there might just be more time to read, cross stitch, and enjoy Jeri’s Amish quilt collection.

Please Help! Volunteers are needed to assist in filing archival material. To contribute an hour of your time contact Patrick Mooney at 279-6665 or Terry Smith at 486-5198.

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



1685 West First Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43212

EDITOR
Patrick Mooney

DESIGN/PRODUCTION
Melissa Rady

Contact Editor Patrick Mooney (279-6665) for any interesting article ideas or to discuss photo contributions.

Reminder to Annual Members

Grandview Heights/Marble Cliff Historical Society membership year runs from October through the following September. The mailing label on this newsletter shows the expiration date of your membership. Your continued support is solicited and very much appreciated.

