



# ViewPoints



September 2016

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



Dear Members:

Fall greetings to everyone and I hope you all had a wonderful summer. Now begins the time for switching out petunias for mums and the "Go Bucks" flags on Grandview and Marble Cliff homes! The Society has been very busy with many projects this summer. We hosted a table at the Lazy Daze festival, and had quite a few visitors and sales. We hope all of you in attendance were able to stop by and say hello. We are currently preparing for our triennial Historical Home Tour.

Please take a moment to visit our ever-changing display in the breezeway of the Bank Block on Grandview Avenue (near Stauf's). For example, wood panels from the old Stew Harrison's restaurant, which had been located on the corner of Grandview and Fifth Avenues (current site of Winking Lizard) are on display. That restaurant closed in 1984; graffiti on the paneling depicts initials, names, messages, and other notations from long-ago patrons. Speaking of displays, we thank Tom DeMaria for his constant attention to our display case at Grandview Heights High School and for his time updating our Facebook page.

Another project we have been working on for presentation to the City is our mission statement. This will hopefully help when difficult development decisions come into play. Progress is always a good thing, when done correctly.

We're glad to announce the addition of two new lifetime members - Charles and Joan Seiple of Dublin, OH. The Seiples have been long-time annual Society members who recently changed their membership to lifetime status. That's an easy switch to make at membership renewal time and we encourage other annual members to consider.

Finally, I would like to recognize the passing of long-time member Lowell Williams. Lowell was a great friend to the Society. She attended every annual meeting, donated special items to the Society and was a huge supporter of our efforts. She will be sorely missed by all of us.

As always, please forward any concerns or special interests my way via the email address that is available on our website. If you would like to participate more with the Society, we would love to hear that too.

Be well,  
Tracy Liberatore, President

## TOUR OF HOMES

Grandview Heights/  
Marble Cliff Historical  
Society's 2016 Tour of  
**Sunday October 9, 2016**  
1 - 4 p.m.

Homes is scheduled for Sunday, October 9 from 1 to 4 pm. With the gracious cooperation of the owners, this year's tour will feature four homes and one chapel. The homes range in age from the early 20th century to a home built in 2014 on historic land. Architectural styles of Craftsman, Dutch Colonial and Romanesque can be seen. Former residents and visitors to the homes include a colonel, a judge and a movie star. All the homes retain many original features.



Ticket sales at the Society's 2013 Tour of Homes.

### HOME TOUR SITES ARE:

- 1122 FAIRVIEW AVENUE – Cabot/Konieczko Residence**  
House Captain - Jill Kuyper (614-486-3396)
- 1150 FAIRVIEW AVENUE – Cabot Residence**  
House Captain - Karen Riggs (614-315-1770)
- 1291 LINCOLN ROAD – Lincoln Road Chapel**  
House Co-Captains: Jackie Cherry (614-795-1344) and Tracy Liberatore (614-937-6023)
- 1144 GRANDVIEW AVENUE – Alexander Residence**  
House Captain - Kent Studebaker (614-488-1492)
- 955 URLIN AVENUE – Kramer/Celeste Residence**  
House Captain - Brian Kuyper (614-486-3396)

Our research goal is to provide as full a history of each site as can be had. If any reader happens to be a former resident of any of the tour sites, or knows anything of the history of the homes or families who occupied them, the house captains listed above are eager to hear from you.

Look for more complete information about Home Tour 2016 and stories of the homes themselves in This Week publications (Grandview and Upper Arlington), our Society's website, and Facebook.

**This issue funded by a grant from: Grandview Heights - Community Partners Program**





## No Place Like Home

by Ruthanne James

Seventy seven years ago, a movie premiered with a very famous line spoken by a young girl named Dorothy. To return to Kansas from the unusual world of Oz, she was instructed to repeat the refrain “there’s no place like home”. We share the same sentiment and proclaim “there’s no place like our homes in Grandview and Marble Cliff”. While preparing for our Tour of Homes on October 9, we wanted to share a few interesting stories about residents and their homes in the GH/MC area. Our homes have housed the grandfather of a U.S. President, a U.S. Senator, along with artists, farmers, athletes, prominent business owners, and other unique individuals

A “rustic cottage” at 1600 Roxbury Road built in 1895 is the only home in the GH/MC area on the National Register of Historic Places. There was no indoor plumbing, heat was supplied by fireplaces, and a set of stuffed gnomes resided at the home through a succession of owners. One of the previous owners was the Myers family that founded the popular children’s educational magazine, “Highlights for Children” that is still in existence.



Roxbury Road historic home.

During the 1940s, a young man came to the big city of Columbus in pursuit of a singing career. While performing at the Gloria Night Club on Trabue and River Roads, he looked for a chance to join in on local card games. Dino Crocetti (aka Dean Martin) frequented many games in the basement of the home of Bob and Hazel Hexter at 1177 Grandview Avenue, owners of the original Grandview Cycle bicycle repair shop.

Harriet Kirkpatrick, a well-known painter, who had her first exhibit in Chicago in 1910 and her first New York Art

League Show in 1913, would teach art classes at her home at 1153 Westwood Avenue. After retiring from teaching at the Columbus School for Girls, she continued to teach at her home to a group of local women who became known as the “Westwood Painters”.

Numerous artists and craftspeople were also invited to a home on Glenn Avenue in 1938 to share and sell their creations. The owner of this home called these gatherings the “The Afternoon Shop”. The business expanded over the years and is now located in German Village, named after its founder, Helen Winnemore.

Speaking of German Village, a family who ran a meat packing company built an English Tudor home at 1104 Westwood Avenue in 1921. To this day the living room in this home features a terra cotta fireplace crafted in Chicago with the family crest of a lion and a unicorn. The original owner’s descendants still own Schmidt’s Sausage Haus in German Village.

Clarence Salzgeber who lived in Grandview with his family in the early 1900s was one of 126 “truck farmers” in Franklin County. These farmers cultivated over 2,000 acres producing fresh vegetables for the Columbus area. The Salzgeber farm home still stands on the corner of Grandview and First Avenues.



Salzgeber farmhouse circa 1910.

Well-known architect Frank Packard built many homes and mansions in Grandview Heights and Marble Cliff. One of the most remarkable is an English Tudor home at 2015 West Fifth Avenue. At one time that home was owned by Edgar W. Ingram, who founded the White Castle Company and brought the company

headquarters to Columbus in 1934. Quarry owner, Sylvio Casparis, also commissioned Mr. Packard to build a three-story Scottish-style castle in 1904. It is said that Mr. Casparis climbed the five-story tower which still stands at 1427 Arlington Avenue to see if his quarry men were working. Those Italian quarry workers used boxcars as their “homes” until they moved or built permanent homes in GH/MC.



Casparis castle.

One of Grandview’s oldest inhabitants calls Wyman Woods its home. The boulder, a glacial erratic, was deposited around 20,000 years ago. On the rock is a plaque honoring Mrs. Harrison, wife of Stew Harrison, who owned the former Stew Harrison Restaurant on the corner of Grandview and Fifth Avenue.

The original structure at 1550 Roxbury Road (now part of Prescott Place in Marble Cliff) was the home of Samuel



Bush mansion.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Prescott Bush, paternal grandfather of former U. S. President, George Herbert Walker Bush. That home was later sold to the Carmelite nuns who taught at Our Lady of Victory and St. Christopher Catholic schools. School children would walk home with the nuns after school and enjoy running up the large staircase and eating baked goods in the massive kitchen.

Up in the clouds on Urlin Avenue is a 23-story “high rise” with approximately 175 condo homes built on the land of George Urlin’s original home. His daughter, Claudine Urlin France, maintained a home at the Summit Chase high rise for many years, living precisely 100 feet above where she was born years before. Summit Chase also has the distinction of being a former home of John H. Glenn, Jr., a U. S. Senator from Ohio and a member of the Astronaut Hall of Fame.

Ralph Guglielmi, who grew up on Thomas Road used to throw footballs through a tire attached to a tree in his front yard, and eventually rose to football stardom with his spectacular passing. He excelled on the gridiron at Notre Dame in the early 1950s, was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame, and played professionally for the Washington Redskins, St. Louis Cardinals, New York Giants, and Philadelphia Eagles.



Ralph Guglielmi improving his passing technique at the Grandview Heights football field.

Another young man who became very famous was Frank “Dude” Higgs who was a pilot from 1937 until his death in a plane crash over Shanghai in 1945. His adventures were well documented in Columbus newspapers in the 1940s and

especially in the “funny papers”. He attended Ohio State University and was a fraternity brother and best friend of cartoonist, Milton Caniff. Dude became a model for one of the main characters in Caniff’s comic strip entitled “Terry and the Pirates”.

And as far as we know, there was no yellow brick road ever built in Grandview or Marble Cliff however a Prairie Style mansion at 1087 Broadview Avenue made of molded yellow brick, might remind us that “there’s no place like our homes in Grandview and Marble Cliff”!

## Tombstone Uncovered

by Ruthanne James



Tombstone found at Elmwood Avenue home during renovation.

Angie Tose, a longtime Grandview resident on Elmwood Avenue, was having concrete steps at the back of her house replaced this summer when her contractor found a tombstone buried under the existing steps. The tombstone was inscribed with the name John W. Roberts, birth and death dates (1850 -1869), had an additional unrecognizable inscription, and was edged in jagged concrete. With help from Nick Taggart of the Columbus Metropolitan Library, Genealogy and History Department, the Society found records showing a John Roberts (1850-1869) had been buried in the Methodist Hill cemetery in

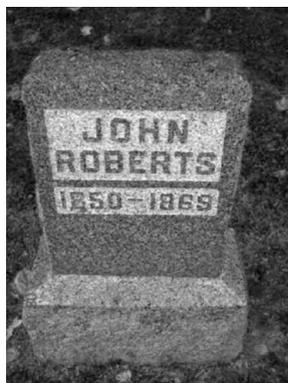
Reynoldsburg, OH. A relationship for John Roberts to the other Roberts in the family plot at this cemetery could not be proven. However the grave for Mahala Roberts (deceased 1897) at the Methodist Hill cemetery includes two stones for her:

- an original which is illegible like John’s tombstone found under the Tose’ steps
- a new one in the same style and design as John’s current tombstone in the cemetery.

The Society deduced that Mahala and John may have both received new tombstones some time after their original internment. John’s original 1869 tombstone was then likely removed from the family plot, sold, and reused as part of the foundation for the original concrete steps installed during building of the Tose home in the 1920s.

The Society is always interested in historical artifacts, such as this tombstone, that might be found by residents in Grandview Heights/Marble Cliff. Such finds enhance our archives and historical records. While the Society can’t research all finds – please do notify us if you find something

interesting in your attics, basements, remodeling projects, etc. that you would be willing to share. We’d love to see what you have!



Current tombstone for John Roberts at the Methodist Hill cemetery looks newer and is not typical style of tombstones from middle 19th century.



Two tombstones in Methodist Hill cemetery for Mahala Roberts.



## 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 Public Library,**  
**1685 West First Avenue, Columbus, OH 43212**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE (IF COUPLE MEMBERSHIP) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the appropriate membership box:

### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

YEARLY DUES (OCT. 1–SEPT. 30)

- Single \$10.00
- Couple \$15.00
- Organization \$25.00

### LIFE TIME MEMBERSHIP

ONE-TIME PAYMENT

- Single \$100.00
- Couple \$150.00
- Organization \$500.00
- Benefactor \$1000.00



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1685 West First Avenue  
Columbus, Ohio 43212

EDITOR  
Karen Riggs

DESIGN/PRODUCTION  
Melissa Rady

Contact Editor Karen Riggs  
(karriggs@sbcglobal.net) for any  
interesting article ideas or to discuss  
photo contributions.

## RENEW YOUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

It's time to renew your annual GH/MCHS annual membership. The upcoming annual membership period is October 1, 2016, through September 30, 2017. Renew in time to get a discount on tickets for the October 9 home tour.

*Questions?* Contact Karen Riggs at karriggs@sbcglobal.net.

## Annual Meeting

### “WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?”

*a presentation by Angela O’Neal*

**Sunday, October 23, 2016 — 2 p.m.**

Grandview Heights Public Library — Meeting Room  
1685 West First Avenue

Angela O’Neal will share interesting genealogical searches, explain how the Columbus Metropolitan Library can help you search your origins, and encourage you to dig into your past and find out who you really are.

Ms. O’Neal, a graduate of Kent State, is manager of the Local History and Genealogy Division at the Columbus Metropolitan Library. She served as Director of Collections for the Ohio Historical Society and established The Ohio Memory Project. Her article “Remembering the Maine: Spanish-American War Veterans in Elyria, Ohio” was published in *Ohio History*.

We welcome everyone to the Annual Meeting. Ms. O’Neal’s presentation will be preceded by a very short business meeting. Refreshments will be provided. You may also renew your annual membership at this time. The meeting will conclude with a walk-through of the Society’s Archives Room.

## Going Green

Future issues of our *Viewpoints* newsletter will be sent electronically to Society members as we continue to work to decrease mailing and production costs. If you have a recent email address change or do not believe the Society has your email address, please send your email address to: ghmchs@gmail.com. Please include “Going Green” in the subject line. We will maintain your email address in confidence. Thank you for helping us go green!

1685 WEST FIRST AVENUE  
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43212

The Grandview  
Heights/Marble Cliff  
Historical Society

