



Grandview Heights/ Marble Cliff Historical Society

Spring 2022
Issue Number 5

Become a Member

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Discovering, Collecting, and Preserving Our Communities' Heritage

Dear Members,

Spring will soon be transitioning into summer and all the family and community activities that come with that. It's a time to enjoy the out-of-doors in our beautiful communities. Whether at the ball field, the pool or just enjoying your own backyard, it's these warm weather **traditions that contribute to enjoying our neighborly environment**. So much of our local history can be traced to spring/summer activities and events.

In this edition, you can:

- learn about the local Blue Star Mothers organization and their important and patriotic role.
- volunteer for the Society's October 2022 Tour of Homes.
- discover how to preserve your family's historical photos and documents.
- check out the latest [History Walks](#) which offers a narrated *Kid's History Hike*.
- investigate Grandview Heights High School's (GHHS) past and present through the digital yearbook archive.
- read a [Moment in Time](#) reprinted from the Society's archives (*Moment In Time Revisited*).

Keep in mind that many of the Society's **resources can be accessed** through both the **Society's website** at www.ghmchs.org and the **Society's digital collection** online [here](#). Also, follow the Society on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).

The Society relies on member support through dues and volunteerism to maintain its role as the preeminent conservator of our local history. Thank you to all our members.

Kent Studebaker
President

Blue Star Mothers Honor Our Local Heroes

The Grandview Heights and Marble Cliff communities have a **longstanding tradition of honoring local residents who serve(d) in the nation's armed forces**. Every year on the Thursday before Memorial Day, a salute to our fallen heroes is held at Memorial Park in Grandview Heights. **This year, the Memorial Service begins at 7:30 pm on Thursday, May 26.**

The tradition of recognizing and helping military personnel and their families began nationally in 1943 by a group of mothers who had family in the military -- **Blue Star Mothers**. Historically, Blue Star Mothers volunteered in hospitals, train stations, made care packages for soldiers, and were a working part of homeland security during times of war.



The **Tri-Village Unit of the Blue Star Mothers** was **organized on October 6, 1943**. The group had more than 80 members. Their purpose was to aid servicemen and women in any way they could. They sent Christmas cards, had dinners for them, provided and served coffee and donuts at the United Service Organizations (USO), and helped needy families of servicemen at Christmas.

The Tri-Village Unit held their **first Memorial Day service** at the Honor Roll Board then located at the east end of the Grandview Heights Public Library (GHPL) **on March 26, 1944**. The Honor Roll listed over 150 names that were secured by the Grandview Air Raid Wardens during the Third War Loan Drive. Additional names of individuals entering service were added to the Honor Roll.

After the war, the Blue Star Mothers were the driving force behind plans for a **permanent Memorial Park in Grandview Heights**. **On May 23, 1948, the Memorial Plaque** for those who died in World War II **was dedicated** in what was then called the Memorial Park located east of the library. In the ceremony, the old Honor Roll was symbolically covered by World War II veterans and the Memorial Plaque was unveiled.

As the library expanded, the **Memorial Park was moved to a permanent location** – where it is now – at the corner of Northwest Boulevard and Oxley Road. The new park was **dedicated on May 27, 1970**, and another plaque was added with the names of World War I, Korea, and Vietnam casualties.

By the time the permanent Memorial Park was dedicated, only 5 members remained in the Tri-Village Unit of the Blue Star Mothers: Mrs. A.W. Short, Mrs. Paul Duffee, Mrs. C.R. Braun, Sr., Mrs. Charles Koehl, and Mrs. L.D. Long. Mrs. Koehl and Mrs. Long were the only members who did not lose a son in the war. They were joined by Mrs. Elroy Titus (Laura), whose son served in the Navy and died in Vietnam, and Mrs. William Dietz, whose husband died while serving in the Air Force.

Laura Titus, pictured here at the 1970 dedication with then Marble Cliff Mayor Frank Monaco, **was the last of the Tri-Village Unit of the Blue Star Mothers**. She passed

away in 2010 at the age of 91. While a Blue Star Mother, Mrs. Titus helped organize the annual Grandview Heights Memorial Day Service.



Chapter 9 of the Buckeye Military Moms, chartered on February 15, 2007, is today's extension of the Blue Star Mothers. Blue Star Mothers

continue to serve military families and service personnel. They volunteer in Veteran's hospitals and outreach centers. They help in the physical and emotional rehabilitation of returning veterans. They are as important today for the support they provide as they were in World War II or the Vietnam conflict.

Getting our Dazzle On!

Help the Society Host Our Tour of Homes

Sunday, October 2, 2022



The tour will feature six dazzling historic homes in Grandview Heights and Marble Cliff.

We are **looking for volunteers** to help on our tour planning team or as a docent on tour day. Volunteers receive a **complimentary ticket** to the Tour of Homes.

Please complete the **volunteer form** by [clicking](#)

[here](#) and indicate if you would like to help with tour planning or as a tour-day docent.

To see the homes and information from **past tours**, [click here](#).

Home Archiving – Photos, Documents, and more

Being the **keeper of family documents and photos** is a big responsibility. How do we keep them safe, while also enjoying them?

Approaching your collection like an “archive” will ensure the longest life and the ability to view and share them.

Why archive?

- Physical items won't last forever

- Physical items *will* last *longer* if you handle them less
- Scanned, digital images are easier to browse and to share
- Once scanned at high quality, you can print images in various sizes and share/display them

Grace Freeman, GHPL librarian, offers the following advice on how best to archive your historic items.

"Begin by gathering what you'll be archiving, and evaluate your needs. How big does your scanner need to be? How many boxes will you need? What sizes? Where will you store your digitized images?



Next, set up your workstation: items to be scanned, scanner, computer, and storage for when scanning is complete. Avoid food or drink (spills/crumbs).

- I recommend a flatbed scanner that scans at a minimum of 800 dpi (dots per inch), large enough for your largest photos (if possible). There are many great options (I use an EPSON Perfection V600 and it's great).
- For storing documents after scanning, always choose "archival quality" storage boxes that are acid-free, pH of 7+. There are archival quality folders available to organize within boxes. Only use pencil and wash your hands before handling (gloves aren't necessary!). You can purchase these from [Amazon](#), or an archival retailer like [Gaylord Archival](#).

Scan each item at a minimum of 800 dpi in TIFF or JPEG format. After scanning, place in archival quality storage box. **Organize as you see best** (by date, by family group, etc).

After completing a batch of scans, they will be stored on your computer taking up a lot of space. It is recommended that you **store them in several places**. I use Google Drive to store photos, then back them up to flash drives, and Amazon photos. There are many cloud storage options, including Dropbox, Facebook, and others, with varying cost/convenience for you – choose what you're comfortable with! Just be sure to remember your password(s).

You can now easily share digitized images with friends/family and print copies for display, enjoying images without fear of damage to originals. Limiting your handling/sharing to digitized images where possible extends the life of your originals.

Store items in archival quality boxes and avoid attics/basements (bugs and moisture!); aim for 60°/50% humidity. Monitors are available online for as little as \$10. Avoid UV light, and avoid plastic containers (plasticizers deteriorate, damaging items). Not up for storing after scanning? Your local historical society might be interested in your documents!

This can seem like a daunting task, but **don't be intimidated!** Go slow and reach out with any questions you may have. The library also hosts programs throughout the year demonstrating archiving, and similar programs, keep an eye out for the next one if you'd like to know more!"

Thanks to Grace for providing this advice on how best to preserve important

documents and photos of your family's past.

History Walks

Don't Be Chicken! Take Your Chicks on the
Newest *History Walks* Tour

A new walking tour, *Kid's History Hike*, is designed especially for children and part of the free *History Walks* app that can be downloaded [here](#). The app is also available from the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#).



History Walks is presented by the [Society](#) and the [GHPL](#). The *Kid's History Hike* is also a collaboration with [Grandview Heights Schools](#). This tour

features narration for the first time, with many stops narrated by students.

History Walks offers **9 tours** that explore fascinating local history, inspiring landmarks, and notable people in Grandview Heights and Marble Cliff.

More than 1000 of your friends and neighbors have downloaded the free app. Try it out now!

Grandview Heights High School Yearbooks Provide a Glimpse Into Our Local History



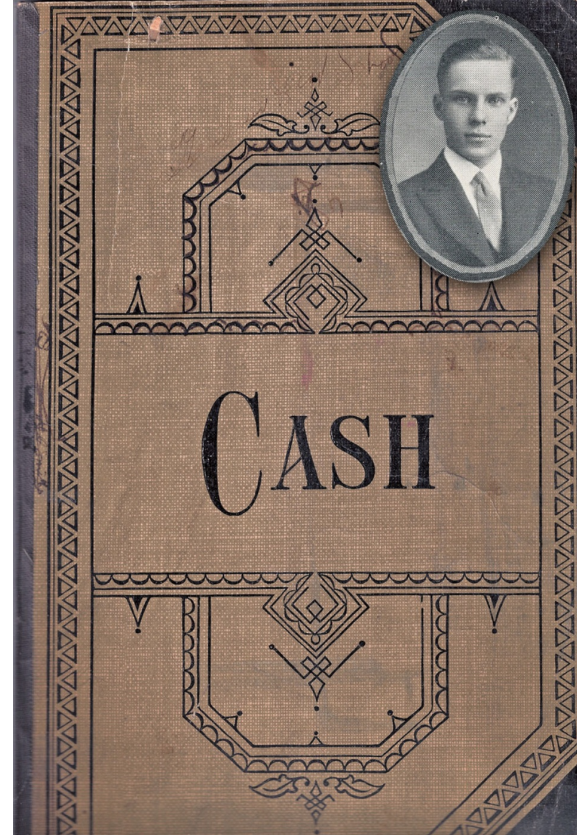
How many students were graduated from GHHS in 1972? What was the final score of the the 1946 Central Buckeye League Championship game between rivals Grandview Heights and Arlington? Find the answers to these questions and discover so much more as you peruse the **digital collection of the GHHS *Highlander* yearbooks** [here](#).

The GHHS Digital Yearbook collection contains nearly 12,000 pages of images from 1915 to 2016. This collection was created by the GHPL and funded by a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant. The Society and GHHS supplied some of the

yearbooks for this collection. The **Society maintains hard copies** of most all GHHS yearbooks in the Founders Room located in the GHPL.

The GHHS *Highlander* was first published as an annual in 1922. Prior to that it was a tri-annual high school news magazine. The business manager was senior Darrell Smith (inset). He was

credited for the managerial and financial success of the inaugural issue. The cashbook pictured here is his ledger and it contains the business records, receipts, bills, and cancelled checks for the Highlander Publishing Company from February to October 1922. The organization started with a cash balance of \$14.25. Income from advertising and subscriptions sales totaled \$581. Their net profit for the year was \$37.51 which is approximately \$490 in 2011 dollars.



A Moment In Time Revisited

R. L. Stevenson Operetta "Peter Rabbit"

From the opening of the school in 1926 until the end of the term in 1938, the **staff of Robert Louis Stevenson Elementary** school dutifully **maintained a scrapbook** of each year's major events. Shown above in this **1927 photograph** are the characters from the school's first operetta, 'Peter Rabbit'. Some of the proceeds from the operetta supplemented



with donations from the Grandview Civic Welfare Club were used to buy a stage curtain, and the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) donated funds to buy the school a piano. Excerpts from the scrapbook indicate that in addition to naming the school the children spent their recess time the first academic year removing stones from the field across Oxley Road to create a playground. The entire scrapbook has been scanned and can be viewed on the Historical Society web site [at https://www.ghmchs.org/rl-stevenson-scrapbook](https://www.ghmchs.org/rl-stevenson-scrapbook).

Moment in Time - reprint from April 4, 2006

A new *Moment In Time* can be found bi-weekly on the Society's [website](#). To see a collection of past *Moment in Time* offerings, [click here](#).

The Society's Mission

The **purpose** of the Grandview Heights/Marble Cliff Historical Society is to **discover, collect, and preserve information, materials, structures,**



and landmarks which may help to establish interest in the historic record of the founding and development of the communities of Grandview Heights and Marble Cliff and thereby educate the citizens of these communities and other interested persons.

It is also to maintain an historical archives to support the research and preservation of the early history of Grandview Heights and Marble Cliff and their environs.

For more information visit ghmchs.org.

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