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44 Village Square
Historic Glendale, OH 45246
GHP@fuse.net
www.glendaleheritage.org

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Volume 6 Number 3 September 2015

Glendale Heritage Preservation Newsletter

"Preserving the Past for the Future"

From the President's Desk

By Nancy Macenko

Somebody once said summer is a time when it's respectable to be lazy. Well Glendale Heritage Preservation had a pretty respectable summer, and we were anything but lazy.

No sooner had our popular Christ Church Sesquicentennial exhibit closed, than we welcomed a beautiful new exhibit: "Growing the Knowledge and Love of Gardening: 100 Years of Glendale's Civic Garden Clubs."

The exhibit marks 100th anniversary of the Glendale Garden Club, as well as the history of the other village garden groups -- The Glendale Centennial Gardeners, Glendale Garden Crafters, The Village Gardeners of Glendale and The Glendale Garden Club. Through photographs, artifacts, documents, anecdotes and memorabilia, the four clubs tell their stories of community service, passion for gardening and love of the Village of Glendale.

It's a stunning exhibit. If you haven't seen it, please stop by during the final weeks. The museum is open every Thursday and Saturday from 11 to 3. The Garden Club exhibit runs through Saturday, September 26, 2015.

Then, while our museum was lively with visitors coming to see our exhibits, some trustees were busy tweaking our new website. We are now ready to roll out the first stage of what will be a steadily evolving site, and the core of our social media strategy. We're excited about how far we've come, and enthusiastic about the next steps that will let visitors access more documents and files. Take a look! Go to www.glendaleheritage.org and let us know what you think.

Meanwhile, another group was studying how Glendale Heritage Preservation is structured. They've come up with some great ideas on how we ought to go forward in the near future. We want to make sure our organization is set up in a way to accommodate as many volunteers as possible and help them do the important work of Glendale Heritage Preservation. But more on that later.

And then there's our new relationship with the document management company Access that takes us to a whole new level of responsible stewardship of GHP's collections. For the first time we are able to safely store documents and artifacts off-site, which helps us all sleep a little better at night.

All in all, that's a pretty respectable summer around the depot.

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Newsletter

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GHP Museum Hours
Thursday & Saturday
11am - 3pm
www.glendaleheritage.org

New merchandise available in our Black Squirrel Gift Shop:



Clickety Clack Toddler T-Shirts (Sz 2-4T)



"Handmade Wool Felted
Black Squirrel w/Acorn"



"Soft" Train Locomotive Toy for Toddler



GHP Goes Pro

Glendale Heritage Preservation recently stepped into the big league in the way we manage important collections in our archives.

With space becoming more and more a premium in the depot, and our concerns growing over our ability to safeguard our collection in an emergency, we approached Access for advice. Formerly Cintas Document Management, Access is the largest privately held records and information services provider in the country. Locally, the company serves as the central off-site records and information management firm for a number of large international corporations.

"This appealed to us," GHP's Archivist Joanne Goode said. "It was important that local corporate archivists trusted their materials to Access. We also liked the company's climate-controlled spaces and use of the latest fire suppression technology. The only question was, would Access consider working with an organization our size."

The answer came from Access Regional General Manager Brad Powers who visited the depot, looked at our needs and immediately saw a perfect fit. He arranged for GHP to receive the services of Access as a community partner, and we were on our way.



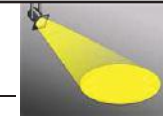
GHP Archivist Joanne Goode stands by as Access Transportation Lead Dustin Gunter loads the first shipment of materials into his van for storage.

Over the summer we placed the first 30 boxes of documents and artifacts in the secure Access facility on East Crescentville Road in West Chester. Each box is bar-coded and inventoried for easy overnight retrieval.

Brad explained, "Glendale Heritage Preservation is a remarkable organization. It is well run by passionate volunteers who care deeply about properly preserving the history of the village. We share that level of commitment at Access and we are honored to be a corporate partner in caring for some of Glendale's most important historic records and artifacts."

GHP Donor Spotlight

By Joanne Goode



In this issue of our newsletter we would like to shine our Donor Spotlight on Frank Schuster, the stepson of James Kloth. Mr. Kloth, who passed away in 2014, was a third generation Glendale fireman and served as Fire Chief for many years retiring in 1981. He also served on Village Council. Upon his retirement, he became the fire and safety inspector at the Fernald plant of National Lead Company.

Mr. Kloth's grandfather, Charles Kloth, was Glendale's first appointed Fire Chief. Jim's father served as Assistant Chief while also serving as Deputy State Fire Marshall for the Cincinnati District. A metal plaque from the state, which was included in the donation, most likely hung in his office. Four of Jim's brothers were also Glendale firemen. The Kloth family lived at 315 East Sharon Avenue. The house was built in 1881 by Jim's grandfather. The Rear Carriage House was built in 1917, moved by the Kloth family and installed over the existing Carriage/Garage in 1935. Mr. Kloth once said, "When the alarm went off, it was hectic at home for a minute or two". That was probably quite an understatement!

The Kloth Family also owned 309 E Sharon (a Land/Bank building which has been moved), 315 E. Sharon (Main and Rear), the Anna Kloth House (325 E. Sharon), and 950 S. Troy (Dog Depot/Barber Shop). At one time the family also owned the home at 304 Cleveland Avenue.

In addition to items related to the Kloth properties, the donation also includes a collection of newspaper clippings and photographs of Glendale firefighters and equipment c. 1950s - 1960s, photographs of Jim and his wife, Esther, and materials connected with the recognition and honoring of Mr. Kloth on his 90th birthday including letters from the White House and Ohio House of Representa-



Page 6-R THE CINCINNATI ENQUIRER Sunday, April 26, 1964

Volunteers Take Pride

It's Equipment That Counts When Fighting Those Fires

BY DAN FINGER
Of The Enquirer Staff
Talk to any volunteer fireman and you soon will be conversing about equipment.

If the apparatus is old, he will be saying something like: "O! Bessie really showed them at the Jones Grocery fire six months ago. She revved up and left all those shiny new pieces in her dust."

OR, IF THE fire-fighting machine is new: "Look at

her. We got her last year. Cost \$34,000. You press this button and . . ."

"The fun of being able to care for, work with and have pride in these instruments is one of the reasons why most suburban departments have long waiting lists for volunteers."

"The equipment helps to keep the men interested in the job," said youthful-looking James Kloth, who should know what he is talking about. Operating a

volunteer department is his "first love." At 41, he has been chief of the Glendale unit for 16 years, and a member for 22 years.

"Most men join a department because they sincerely want to do something for the community," said the third-generation volunteer as he showed off the engine in the village's new pumper. "After you get them, you have to have something to hold them."

BUT IT IS more than the equipment that holds Chief Kloth to the service.

The tall blond, broad-shouldered man is so dedicated to his work that he recently resigned from his spot on village council. He had to make a choice after the courts ruled in another case that both jobs result in a conflict of interest.

The chief talked about his family as he opened each compartment in the truck and explained its value.

His grandfather was chief of the Glendale department until his father later was assistant chief while he held down a regular job as deputy state fire marshal for the Cincinnati district.

Chief Kloth also makes his living at fire fighting. He is fire and safety inspector at the Fernald plant of National Lead Co. "I have



Third Generation Fireman

James Kloth, chief of Glendale department

converted my hobby into a full-time paying job."

AMONG his biggest thrills in life are after fires "when I know I've done the best I know how. I feel like a man coming out of battle after the battle is over. It is a good feeling."

Chief Kloth pulled out a unique salvage sweeper and detailed its operation. As he continued explaining the physics, electronics and chemistry of the department, he revealed a philosophy of life:

"If I do a good job in my capacity as fire chief, I feel

that I will have fulfilled my life ambition."

The chief picked up a piece of fire-fighting apparatus and said, "This is the best you can get. Council always asks, 'Why do you want to buy this brand when we can buy a similar one cheaper?'"

"I always say, 'If we can't afford it, let's wait until we can,'" said the chief.

"Because if you give a firefighter the equipment he wants, you are sure he is going to do the job for you."



tives. Included also is a letter from Rob Portman in recognition of Mr. Kloth receiving the "Hometown Hero Award" from the Cincinnati Enquirer.

In addition to thanking Mr. Schuester, we would also like to thank Beverly Rieckhoff for organizing and getting the materials to us and for providing additional information about the Kloth family. Donations like these allow GHP to grow the Glendale archive collections. If you have materials relating to Glendale consider donating them to us. We can scan documents and photographs if you prefer not to donate the originals.

Thank you also to the following recent donors: Stewart Halbauer and Ken and Ellen Bockenstette.