

TRACKER

Tracking Our Past and Present for the Future



LOCATION:
St. Thomas Church
100 Miami Avenue
Terrace Park, Ohio 45174
Lower level from the Terrace Place
entrance

VISITING HOURS:
Thursdays from 1-4pm

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Betsy Holloway

LEGAL ADVISOR:
Steve Holmes

TRACKER EDITOR:
Susan Rodgers

ROBINSON ELEPHANT PROGRAM



On Monday, June 19, we were proud to present our guest speaker, Dr. Jack Kirkley, Emeritus Professor of Biology from the University of Montana Western. Dr. Kirkley has been researching the Robinson Circus elephants for 30 years, ever since he discovered that the last one, 'Pit' was buried in his hometown of Dillon, Montana after being killed by a lightning strike.

He planned to further his investigations at the archives of the Cincinnati Natural History Museum to learn more, and when he offered to present his research for our community, we knew that this would be a memorable occasion.

The audience included two people with connections to the Robinson Circus. Vic Luneborg is the grandson of John Robinson IV, and along with his wife, Paulette, has donated a substantial collection of circus memorabilia to our Society which can be seen in our museum.

Another attendee, George Weis, stated that he was 98 years old and that he remembered when elephants roamed in Terrace Park and gave rides to children.

If you missed the presentation, you can view the images on our website <https://tphistoricalsociety.org>.



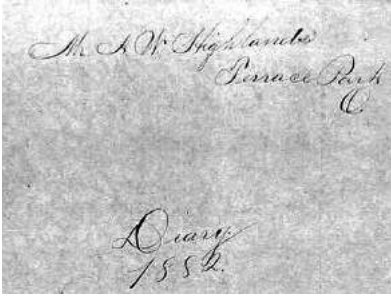
Jack Kirkley and Vic Luneborg

AFTERNOON AT STUMPS BOAT CLUB



We would like to express our thanks to Steve Holmes and Dave Bowen for their presentations at our members-only event at the Stumps Boat Club on Sunday, April 30. Steve spoke about the history and activities of the Club and Dave shared stories from his long friendship with painter, John Ruthven. We were also able to view some of the paintings that Dave owns or has available for sale at his art studio in Terrace Park.

1882 DIARY



One of the more remarkable items in our archives is a personal diary, written between November 1882 and January 1893 by a young man of the Highlands family, Albert Wilmer

Highlands. At the time of writing the author would have been about 19 years old. The diary was donated to the Terrace Park Historical Society by Albert's granddaughter, Marcia Oetting, who is also our most recent Lifetime Member.

Although the time period covered by the diary is just a few months, the entries allow us a fascinating peek into Terrace Park 140 years ago. There are many mentions of farm life including husking corn, cutting wood, keeping hogs and hunting. The winter was very cold and it appears that the Little Miami River froze over to a thickness of 5 inches, prompting residents to cut out blocks of ice, presumably for their ice boxes. Despite many hardships, the author wrote in a surprisingly graceful longhand script and managed to study Latin and algebra at school when he was not attending to the needs of the farm.

Our archives record that Mr. Highlands went on to a successful career as a lawyer and journal editor.

VISIT BY THE MARIELDERS



On April 27, we were pleased to host the members of the Mariemont Marielders Club for a tour of our Museum. President Laurie Baird introduced the members to our museum and our museum curator, Sylvia Stirsman, presented a lively account of the Robinson Circus in Terrace Park.

A LOOK BACK IN TIME



Terrace Park School in 1917

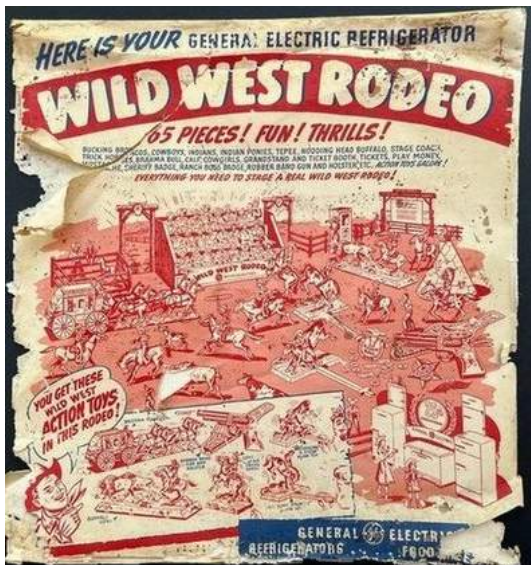


Terrace Park Elementary School 2023

TREASURES FROM THE TERRACE PARK MARKET

Recently, we have received some vintage items from the old Terrace Park Market, donated by Lifetime member Joanne Kennedy. Joanne's husband Paul owns the building that once housed the Market and she found them while cleaning out the basement.

Set of paper models, titled '1952 General Electric Refrigerator Wild West Rodeo Paper Punch Out Playset'



An original grocery bag and two pieces of equipment were also found - a bottle capper and a knife sharpener.



And finally, a collection of bottles from long ago. Remember 'Wink, the sassy one, from Canada Dry!'



TERRACE PARK SCHOOL MEMORIES - LATIN PAGEANT

The students were busy in 1930 - this pictures shows the cast of 'Dido and Aeneas' performed for the Terrace Park High School Latin Pageant. There are lots of togas, swords, shields and even what appears to be a lyre.



ELEPHANT SKELETON

Two of our board members recently had the privilege of accompanying Dr. Jack Kirkley on his visit to the Geier Center which houses the library and archives for the Cincinnati Museum Center. The reason for the visit was to view the skeleton of one of the Robinson elephants, 'Chief', who met an unfortunate end after killing his trainer. (Story in Tracker our April 2022 Tracker).

According to UC Magazine, 'His remains were stuffed and displayed at the Cincinnati Zoo for a decade or so until making the trip to UC. The skin and stuffing somehow disappeared but the skeleton stayed on campus until a grant allowed UC to transfer its collection of paleolithic specimens -- including the behemoth's bones -- to the Cincinnati Museum Center.'



RUTHVEN DONATION

Some of you may remember these paintings of birds by Cincinnati artist, John Ruthven. They were created as part of a fund raising event for the Mariemont School Foundation between 1998 - 2001. There were 250 prints made of each painting, each personally signed by the artist. Now, thanks to a gift from two of our founding members, Mike and Kay Pope, we are able to display them in our gallery.



DIORAMA



This detailed diorama is a gift from Lifetime members, Bill and Janet Sarran. The diorama references the novel of Ernest Hemingway - 'Farewell to Arms' and was created by Jeanne and Weller Crandell of 904 Poplar Ave in Terrace Park. The Crandells lived in Terrace Park from September 1987 to January 2016 (Jeanne passed away on April 24, 2015).

The diorama was a gift to their neighbors, Janet and Bill Sarran, in honor of their connection to Ernest Hemingway. Hemingway's childhood home was on Walloon Lake in Michigan, where Bill and Janet had a cottage .

The diorama is currently on display in our Gallery and all are welcome to visit.

48 STAR FLAGS

The 48 star flag flew over our country for from 1912 to 1959, including both World Wars. We are proud to include three of these flags in our archives.

In 1912 President William Howard Taft issued an Executive Order that year that formalized the appearance of the flag for the first time. The Order indicated that the stars were to be arranged in six horizontal rows of eight each.



Terrace Park Historical Society
100 Miami Avenue
Terrace Park, Ohio 45174

MEMBERSHIP

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our members for their support.

To our Lifetime members - Thank you for your very generous contributions - you have already donated substantially to our organization.

To our non-Lifetime members - We hope that you will continue to find our work worthwhile. You can use the following form or renew online at tphistoricalsociety.org/membership.

Membership Renewal Form

Yes! We want to continue to support the Terrace Park Historical Society by extending our membership through 2023. Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation for the following membership:

Corporate/Patron(\$100) Heritage(\$50) Family(\$25) Individual (\$15) Lifetime (\$1000 Payable over 4 years) Donation

Your Name: _____ (As you would like it to appear in our records)

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Email address: _____ (We send very few, and only important email notices)

Thank you - we appreciate your help!

The Terrace Park Historical Society is recognized as a nonprofit organization by the IRS, IRS Code: Section 501(c)(3), Tax Identification Number: 51093908