

TRACKER



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SAVE THE DATE

Sunday April 29th
 Spring Program
 "Treasures of Terrace Park"
 A reoccurring favorite!!
 3:30-4:00 refreshments
 4:00-5:00 program

Memorial Day
 Monday May 28
 TP Creatives Gallery and Museum
 OPEN 11 to 1

TPHS House Tour this Fall
 Date to be announced soon!

ALL programs are FREE and open to the public!

TREASURES SHOWCASE RETURNS TO TPHS PROGRAM SCHEDULE

If you haven't already marked your calendar for the Terrace Park Historical Society's next community program, do it now! You won't want to miss the next installment of Terrace Park Treasures, our annual showcase of local sites and institutions that's a real crowd-pleaser.



Is it a gazebo or a pavilion? Should it be placed in the center of the Village Green or elsewhere? Bill Graf will recall the discussions and multi-faceted efforts that led to the memorial for Dick Ward.

The date: Sunday, April 29.
 The time: 3:30 p.m., refreshments followed by the program at 4 p.m.

The place: Terrace Park Community Building, 428 Elm Avenue

This year's program features the Gazebo on the Village Green, Drackett Field

and the original Terrace Park Country Club.

Bill Graf, 722 Park Avenue, will share the history of the gazebo named for his friend Richard Elliott Ward, an architect who died in 1988 at age 39. The memorial in Dick's honor was built in 1989 for \$25,000 with donations from family, friends and business associates. It has become a centerpiece for community events and a village icon.

Mike Getz, who lived in Terrace Park 23 years before moving to Milford nine years ago, will recall the communitywide effort that raised \$100,000 to purchase the farmland known today as Drackett Field, and the many individuals who worked to turn it into a recreational destination.

For the past 25 years, Jeanette Pruiss has made her home at 1 Oxford Avenue in the original Terrace Park Country Club, circa 1915. She'll share the story of its evolution and photos of her home when it was a clubhouse



Mike Getz at the far end of Drackett Field, where the equipment building and a monument to those who made Drackett Field possible are located.

with one large ballroom, the tennis courts that were constructed after the country club moved to the other side of the Little Miami River, and the baseball diamond that was once on the property.



Jeanette Pruiss and the historical plaque at the entrance to her home.

PRESIDENTS' LETTER

Dear Members,
Well Spring has certainly sprung! It gets you thinking about all the things to look forward to. Please try to attend our "Treasures of Terrace Park" program on April 29th. It will be something you will not want to miss. We had standing room only at our last meeting on March 4th for the presentation by Lew Washburn on his Alaskan adventure with Scout Troop 286 in 1964. Many of his troop members also attended, so not only did we get to hear about their interesting and fun adventures but the troop members had a reunion as well! Thank you all who attended and thank you to



Lew and the troop members who were able to come and be part of remembering such a momentous occasion.

Remember to renew your membership for the Terrace Park Historical Society. We value all the support our members give us and which help us to continue to share the rich history of Terrace Park that we all love so much.

The House Tour power team of Sandy Koehler and Sue Porter are busy getting the details in order for the tour this fall. Be sure to keep your eye on the calendar for date and details.

We would like to give a big warm welcome to our new office manager and some new board members. Suzie Ricketts will be in charge of programs, Maryanne Berger, our new financial officer and Tina Hesser is our new office manager. They are all great new additions to our team and we look forward to having them all aboard.

We hope to see you all at some of our events this year and wish you all a have a happy Spring!!!

Mary

THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES

HIGHEST HONOR - Leslie Jones, who has been instrumental in the growth and development of the Terrace Park Historical Society since its founding in 2001, has received the organization's highest honor. She was recognized during the March TPBS community program with a presentation by Susan

Abernethy Frank. A TPBS Lifetime Member, Leslie served on the board from 2003 to 2006, and has been a regular volunteer in the TPBS office and archives. It has been said that Leslie "not only knows where everything can be found but she also knows most everything about the village."



SPOTLIGHT ON TP BOY SCOUTS



TWO GENERATIONS of Boy Scouts were among those who attended the Terrace Park Historical Society's March 4 public program, "Alaskan Adventure with Explorer Post 286." Eight members of the local post that made the 8,627-mile trip in 1964 are shown at left in the photo; five current Boy Scout members are at right. At center are Lew Washburn, one of three adults who led the trip, and Dennis Kokoruda, current scoutmaster.



DAN PORTER, foreground, the youngest member of the Explorer Post to make the trip, returned to Terrace Park for the program and to see his traveling companions again, including Mike Renner, who traveled from Columbus for the reunion.

Mother's Day and Graduations and Weddings! Oh, my!

Looking for that perfect gift that would mean the world to a family member or friend? Look no further. TPBS has the perfect gift for every occasion. We have cotton coverlets in five colors. The perfect gift for graduates going off to college, newlyweds starting off, or friends moving away! The original Terrace Park School done by Francesca Padjen is also a great gift for that graduating senior. Stationary by local artists so that your son or daughter can have the thrill of getting "real" mail!

You can also have your own "piece" of a Terrace Park street with a Lynn Carden limited edition "Neighborhood Streets" print offered in three sizes. Visit the TPBS office on Thursday 12 to 3 or call to get more Information. Discounts available to members!



Pat is a former TPBS office manager and Tracker editor. JOHN MacMILLAN, foreground, was credited with suggesting the Alaskan trip. He attended the program with: from left - his wife, Pat; mother, Jeanette Pruis; and brother, Gregg MacMillan.

TP Creatives' Gallery Open On Memorial Day

This very special Gallery and Museum known as the TP Creatives Gallery will be open to the public on Memorial Day Monday May 28, 11a.m.-1p.m.

The Gallery is on the second floor going down from the Terrace Place entrance to St. Thomas Church...right next to the TPHS office and Archive. Visible signing will direct guests.

Over 50 talented current or former TP residents have contributed to this Gallery: artists, authors, photographers, artisans, woodcrafters, illustrators, etc.

The grand opening was Memorial Day 2011 with over 160 visitors.

The Gallery also houses many historic artifacts from Terrace Park history. For example, the tent pole from the Robinson Circus Big Top is displayed as well as many historic photos.

The opening is an opportunity for all to see the Gallery and an opportunity to bring friends from other neighborhoods. Special arrangements can be made for other openings, tours and talks to a few individuals or a large organization.

Call 513-248-177 for more details.

The Gallery continues to receive new donations.

Refreshments will be served.

ROBINSON CIRCUS RECOLLECTION

Marian Corwin Kotte very generously donated original photos from her family album. She lived in the "circus" house and is a wonderful source of information for those years particularly in the 30's when she and her parents lived on the second floor of the home. Marian did an interview in August

of 2011 for the TPHS oral histories. She lives in Florida so the interview was via the telephone. Marian graduated from Terrace Park High School in 1946. From the transcript: I=interviewer MCK = Marian Corwin Kotte

"I: Any remains of the circus there when you lived there? MCK: Oh yes. Out in the field there was the round barn... that's what we called it... it eventually fell down. That is where they practiced with the horses around a ring. It was wonderful. And of course the three elephants were still there when I was there.

I: Do you



1928 or '29, Marian is 6 months old. The trainer is Curly Thompson and the dog is the one they kept with the elephants

HELLO, TINA; THANK YOU, KAY

Tina Hesser, a resident of Terrace Park since 1984, is the Terrace Park Historical Society's new office manager and trustee, succeeding Kay Pope, who held those positions the past five years.



Tina Hesser

Tina and her husband, Bo, live at 801 Miami Ave., and are the parents of Whit, Kristin and Grant. Tina worked as a nurse at Cincinnati Country Day School for 14 years and most recently was a nurse at Stepping Stones for six years.

Kay was among the founders of TPHS in 2001 and served as the organization's original secretary. Kay and her husband Mike, longtime residents of Terrace Park, recently moved to Milford. During her years as office manager, Kay saw a number of office improvements - from the acquisition of

updated office equipment and construction of a gallery to improved storage for the archives. She also saw



Kay Pope

TPHS outreach grow with the addition of a house tour, walking tour and expanded school and community programs. Membership and support for TPHS has continued to grow as well.

The office manager's job, a 4-hour position for Kay, has grown to an 8-hour position for Tina; however, their dedication to the organization far exceeds the terms of their agreement.

Please thank Kay for her service to TPHS and welcome Tina, who brings a wealth of wonderful ideas and organizational skills to the position. We are very fortunate two outstanding community leaders are friends of TPHS.

remember which ones?

MCK: Tony, Pitt and Clara.

I: Tony, Pitt and Clara were still there. So you got to know those elephants.

MCK: Fairly well but you see I wasn't allowed to go out there unless my dad went with me.

I: That's understandable. Was the circus still going then or just the animals were still there?

MCK: No, just the animals. I think the circus gave up in

the early 1900's.

I: Who took care of the animals?

MCK: They had caretakers. One was Curly and he took care of the animals...I don't know what happened to him. Then another one came in and his name was Redcap.... they (caretakers) lived there... out near where the elephants were.

They stayed there all the time.

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TRACKER

P. O. Box 3
Terrace Park, OH 45174
513.248.1777
www.tphistoricalsociety.org
info@tphistoricalsociety.org

TPHS Headquarters
100 Miami Avenue
Open Thursdays 12 to 3 p.m.
Officers

Co-Presidents - Steve Early
& Mary Arkeilpane
Secretary - Sandy Koehler
Treasurer - Maryanne Berger

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ROBINSON CIRCUS RECOLLECTION

(continued from page 3)

I: Okay, so between Curly and Redcap they were able to take care of the horses and the elephants?

MCK: No, just the elephants. The other animals were gone by the time I grew up.

I: Okay, so the only animals that were there when you



Photos donated to TPHS by Marina Corwin Kotte
Marian's dog Prince and in the background is one of the out buildings and a truck with the Robinson name printed on the side.

lived there were the three elephants...is that correct?

MCK: That's right.

I: Do you have any recollections of the elephants going off the property...going any place in the village?

MCK: Yes, they used to take them up to the Milford Bridge where the river went through and let them play in the water.

They used to give rides down in the little valley on the weekends. And another thing...I wish somebody would research it...I tried... but the artist, Mrs. DeForest, she painted a picture of the elephants and I was one of the children standing looking at it. I tried to recover that picture...I would have bought it. It was donated to the art museum. They did not know where it was but they were very well acquainted with her because she was very well known in Cincinnati.

I: Now, when you are talking about the valley where people



Marian is riding Tony with her Shirley Temple doll, which she still has!

could come take rides on the weekend is that the property down by the stone tunnel?

MCK: Yes, there was a little creek down there and I remember I used to go down and walk through the creek. Being an only child and having no other children living around me I had to find things to do."

Her entire transcript is available at the TPHS archive.