

Mt. Healthy Historical Society



June 2024

President

Joan Knox

Vice-President

Mara Harperink

Treasurer

Dottie Betsch

Secretary

Julie Turner

Corresponding Secretary

Laurel Hinkle

Board of Trustees

Jay Klenk

John Knox

Bob Curley

Newsletter & website

Julie Turner

Around the Society...

Penny Huber is stepping down as our president, though she will of course remain an active member, just as she has been since the society's founding in 1967.

Even Penny doesn't know how long she has served as our president, but it's been a long time. She has led our meetings, been our contact with local businesses, and much more over the years. We will miss her leadership.

Joan Knox will be taking over as president and Mara Harperink will be our new vice-president. Welcome to your new roles, ladies.

Meanwhile, things have been relatively quiet so far this year. Our sales of **Mt. Healthy-opoly games** were good over the holidays. We'll also be selling them during the **World's longest Yard Sale, August 3 and 4 from 9 to 2**. We'll set up in front of the old Covered Bridge Antique Mall location.

We'll be selling **cookies, ice cream, and root beer floats** again this year, plus the Mt. Healthy-opoly games, at the city's **July 3rd festivities**, from 6 to 9:30. Find us at the entrance to the community room in the park. The museum will be open that evening from 7 to 9:30. Please stop by both places and say hi, enjoy some ice cream, and see our latest museum displays.



Some reminders:

There will be no meeting in July.

Our meeting time is now 6:30, still on the first Wednesday of the month in the basement of the Mt. Healthy United Methodist Church.

1546 McMakin
Ave.,
Cincinnati, OH
45231

Phone:
513-522-3939

Email:
mt.healthyhistor
y@yahoo.com

Website:
www.mthealthy
history.org

We are open Saturday mornings from 10 to 12, as well as by appointment.

American Mourning Traditions

We will be installing a new exhibit at the end of July on mourning traditions, so this seems like a good time to talk about death.

Most cultures have a variety of traditions related to how people grieve and commemorate death. In the US, many practices that would have been perfectly normal a century or two ago have vanished and seem quite strange to us today.

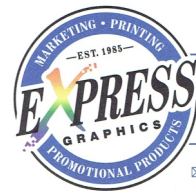
In the past, death was much more present in everyday life. One startling example: in the 1700s, in the southern colonies, one in four babies died in infancy. The average woman could expect to be pregnant about every two years, so if she married at twenty-five and lived to the ripe old age of forty-five (not at all guaranteed), she would have ten pregnancies, but only seven or eight of those would survive to their second birthday. Less than five were likely to make it to the age of twenty. Those living in other parts of colonial America had somewhat better odds, but everyone was far more acquainted with death than we are today.

And death was close by. Most people died at home. When a family member died, the women of the family, possibly assisted by their neighbors, cleaned and dressed the body for burial. The men made the casket. Death was not kept at arm's length; it was an intimate occurrence.



It was only after the introduction of sewer and water systems – the early 1800s for Cincinnatians – that death rates dropped substantially, and even then they were quite high by modern standards. Epidemics could tear through a population without warning. Germ theory and the understanding of how diseases spread in the 19th century followed by the introduction of antibiotics in the mid-20th century finally made life without ever-present death possible. By then, too, funeral directors had taken over the tasks of body preparation and casket-building.

(Continued on next page.)



Craig Keller
Owner

9695 Hamilton Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45231

phone (513) 728-3344
direct (513) 673-5607

Craig@ThinkofPrinting.com
www.ThinkofPrinting.com

RE/MAX
Victory + Affiliates
Mara Harperink
REALTOR®/Property Manager

8240 Clara Ave
Cincinnati, OH 45239
Office: (513) 921-9560
redheaded_realtor@incinehome.com
www.InclineHome.com

Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated

Hilltop Glass & Mirror

Cindy Jurcenko
513.931.3688
sales@hilltopglass.co
HilltopGlass.co
7612 Hamilton Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45231

Residential & Commercial Insulated & Safety Glass
Showers • Screens • Storm Windows • Furniture Tops
We Cut Glass Any Size

Hilltop Glass Creations

Stained Glass Retail Store & Learning Space
Located in Historic Mount Healthy, Come & Play!

Stained Glass • Fused Glass • Painting on Glass • Custom Design • Restoration

513.931.3688
HilltopGlassCreations.com

Tuesday - Friday 10 - 6
Saturday 10 - 2

7612 Hamilton Ave.
Cincinnati, OH 45231

State Farm

Dwight L. Moody Ins Agy Inc
Dwight L. Moody, President

7800 Hamilton Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45231-3106
Bus 513-772-6061
Fax 513-772-5690
dwight.moody.ghi4@statefarm.com

Good Neighbor Agent since 1993

"We help others achieve their goals!"
HALL & ASSOCIATES INC.
ACCOUNTING • BOOKKEEPING • TAXES • MANAGEMENT

ROBERT L. HALL, MBA
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

7811 HAMILTON AVENUE (513) 521-4255
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45231-3105 (513) 521-HALL
(Mt. Healthy) Fax (513) 522-3752
E-MAIL rhall@rhallsr.com CELL (513) 659-1517
www.rhallsr.com
Online Store: rhall.acndirect.com

CHUCK COLLINS

JACK HOWELL

MT. HEALTHY AUTO REPAIR

"Complete Foreign and American Repair"

www.mthealthyaautorepair.com

1432 COMPTON ROAD
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45231 PHONE (513) 522-9555

The grieving process in the past was both more intimate and more public, as well as more prolonged. There was absolutely no expectation that anyone would get “closure” anytime soon after a loss.

When only the wealthy could afford to have portraits made, or later when photography was still rare, people needed ways to remember and honor their dead. In the 1800s one way to do this was to use the hair of the departed to make keepsakes. The hair could be braided or woven to make wearable rings or bracelets, for example. A more involved process used the hair to make a decorative wreath to be displayed in the home. It may seem macabre to us, but for a grieving mother such a tribute to a lost daughter, for instance, must have provided some measure of comfort. We have two such wreaths in our collection.



People traditionally signaled that they were in a state of mourning, primarily by wearing black clothing, or gray or purple in later stages of mourning. As the distance increased in time from the death, or the distance in relationship (a second cousin rather than a sibling, for example), the rules became more relaxed; a man might wear just a black armband to symbolize the loss. Everyone knew the rules, or if they were a bit unsure, countless etiquette books laid out the exact expectations for them.

It's a common misconception today that any black antique clothing must have been for mourning, but black has always been a fashionable color, especially in winter and for formal occasions. The lace and ribbons on this late-19th-century dress were likely more decorative than would have been considered appropriate for mourning wear.

The rules were loosening by the start of the 20th century, and World War I ended strict expectations for mourning clothes.

Please come see our exhibit on mourning starting in August.

Until then we still have our “Let's have Lunch” display up, so come see that if you haven't yet.



Tom's Barbershop

7816 Hamilton Avenue - Cincinnati, Ohio 45231
513-238-2596

NEW HOURS EFFECTIVE 1/7/2010

Thurs & Fri. 9:00 - 5:00
Saturday 9:00 - 2:00
Closed Mon, Tues, Wed, & Sunday

HUFF
• REALTY •

HomeServices of America, Inc.
A Berkshire Hathaway Affiliate

Cell: 513-633-3606
Direct: 513-792-3011
Fax: 513-842-8716
DKallmeyer@HUFF.com

Diane Kallmeyer
Realtor

LEADING REAL ESTATE COMPANIES OF THE WORLD

10020 Montgomery Road, Cincinnati, OH 45242

Paul R. Young Funeral Home

www.paulyoungfuneralhome.com
Email: info@poryh.com

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Mt. Healthy 7345 Hamilton Avenue Mt. Healthy, Ohio 45231 Phone: (513) 521-9303 | Hamilton 3950 Pleasant Avenue Hamilton, Ohio 45015 Phone: (513) 863-7077 | Oxford 5086 College Corner Pike Oxford, Ohio 45056 Phone: (513) 523-4411 |
|--|--|--|

THE ARLINGTON MEMORIAL GARDENS FUNERAL HOME

Sara Underhill
Managing Funeral Director, Embalmer, Certified Celebrant
Certified Crematory Operator

2155 Compton Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45231
Phone: (513) 521-7003
Mobile: (513) 706-4772
Fax: (513) 728-3450
sara.u@amfuneralhome.com

NEIDHARD-YOUNG FUNERAL HOME CREMATION AND PRE-NEED SERVICES

PAUL R. YOUNG III
paul@neidhardyoung.com
513.521.7800

7401 Hamilton Avenue • Cincinnati, Ohio 45231
www.neidhardyoungfuneralhome.com

Please join us

To become a member, please remit check or cash :

Mt. Healthy Historical Society

c/o Treasurer

1546 McMakin Avenue

Mt. Healthy, OH 45231

Or pay through our website (MtHealthyHistory.org)

Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Please indicate membership type: Individual (\$10) Business (\$25)

Mount Healthy
Historical Society



1546 McMakin Ave.
Cincinnati, OH 45231

Find us on
Facebook!