

# KENTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P. O. Box 641, Covington, Kentucky 41012 (606) 431-2666

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## KCHS MEETING

DATE Tuesday February 8  
TIME 7 - 9 PM  
PLACE Trinity Church  
4th & Madison  
Covington

## PROGRAM Bill Schwarberg

Bill Schwarberg, 1st quarterback of the original Bengals and former coach of Homes and Dixie High Schools, will talk about the Northern Kentucky Hall of Fame, the Bengals Football team of the 30s, and other items of sports history.

## Bulletin

## February 2000

### From the President.....

The 7th Annual History Day will occur on Saturday March 11 on the NKU campus in the Student Center. (History Day Signs will be posted to direct you.) This event is virtually unique in the state. In addition, it has developed into a productive device in encouraging interaction within the regional historical societies.

KCHS is committed to staff the registration desk this year. The desk needs a minimum of 2 persons at the beginning of the opening sessions, approximately 8:30 through 10:00 a.m. This commitment is in addition to staffing our own tables for KCHS and *Northern Kentucky Heritage Magazine*. KCHS tables will require a staff until the end of the conference at 3:15 p.m.

As you can see, KCHS needs an unusually high number of staff people for this conference. Please come forth to serve the Society for at least 1 hour that day. You will also be able to hear 1 or 2 interesting talks and participate in workshops. Basic written instructions for each job will be provided.

Please fill out the form below and mail it in. Or call the Society ((606)431-2666, and leave your name and phone number. We will call you promptly to discuss positions and scheduling.

### From the Program Coordinator.....

The job of Program Coordinator is not an easy one. I had scheduled February's program at the Old Cabin By The Creek Restaurant with dinner. It is an original old cabin moved here from Harlan, Kentucky in 1910. But, alas, the restaurant closed.

Therefore, we are very fortunate indeed to have Bill Schwarberg available to do our program. He will be assisted by Bill Hoebbler, president of the NK Hall of Fame and Bill Cappel, revered umpire of baseball. Please join us!

### History Day Volunteers Needed!

Saturday March 11, 2000

8:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

I will be able to staff the

\_\_\_\_\_ Registration Desk at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ The display tables at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. \_\_\_\_\_ p.m.

Kenton County Historical Society

Post Office Box 641

Covington, Kentucky 41014

(606)431-2666

WEB SITE <http://www.kenton.lib.ky.us/~histsoc/>

## Black History Month ---

Reprinted with permission from Northern Kentucky African American Heritage Taskforce Newsletter

### About the Founder

Carter Godwin Woodson (1875-1950), the son of former slaves James and Eliza (Riddle) Woodson, was born on a small farm in New Canton, Virginia. From an early age he possessed an unquenchable thirst for learning. When he could, he attended the local school, and eventually went to Berea College in Kentucky. Ultimately, he obtained a B. A. from the University of Chicago in 1907. In 1908 he attended Sorbonne University in Paris, France where he became fluent in French. He received a Ph.D. in History from Harvard University in 1912, becoming only the second African-American to earn such a degree. Woodson taught briefly and held educational administrative posts in the Philippines, at Howard University (where he was Dean of the School of Liberal Arts), and West Virginia State College.

Dr. Woodson was a member of the Niagara Movement and a regular columnist for Marcus Garvey's weekly publication, *The Negro World*.

Carter Godwin Woodson was the founder of Associated Publishers, founder and editor of the *Negro History Bulletin*, and the author of more than thirty books. Probably Woodson's best known book is *The Mis-Education of the Negro*, originally published in 1933 and still relevant today.

In 1926 Woodson initiated the annual February observance of Negro History Week. He chose February for the observance because February twelfth was Abraham Lincoln's birthday and February Fourteenth was the accepted birthday of Frederick Douglass. By 1976, Negro History Week officially became Black History Month.

### About Latonia and African Americans

Charlie Bumam was born in Richmond, Kentucky in January 1870. He moved to Latonia in 1927 where he made his home on the banks of the Licking River. Rosedale Manor now stands near the spot where he lived.

His granddaughter, Berdella Crutcher of Cincinnati, recalls her visits to the country for family reunions. The family helped Bumam move his belongings to higher ground due to seasonal floods. Berdella especially remembers the shed out back where her grandfather spent a lot of time.

Charlie Bumam was a gifted man. He built a miniature train large enough to carry children. It rode around the Old Rosedale Amusement Park which was so popular during the late thirties and forties. Burman left Latonia in 1948.

In 1882, Latonia, then known as Milvale, ran an ad in the local paper wanting to hire a Black school teacher for its elementary school.

Most African American families, like the Wares, Johnsons, Wells, and Malones lived on Daniel or 34th streets in Latonia.

Employment was within walking distance. William George started working for Liberty Cherry when it was located in Covington and retired after 50 years. Harrison Adams was the top exercise boy at Latonia Race Track for many years. He was known as "Deepsetter" because he sat so deep in the saddle that it looked like he was holding the bridle in the air.

#### Note

The NK African American Heritage Taskforce is dedicated to preserving and integrating the history and heritage of African Americans in 13 counties of NKy.

### Notice of Renewals

This is a reminder to all of you that KCHS membership renewals and NKH subscription renewals are due now. If you have not sent in your check, please do so now.

NKH subscription only	\$15
KCHS membership (Regular)	10
Student or Senior (60 or older)	5
NKH plus KCHS members	22
NKH plus KCHS Senior or Student members	17

If you do not receive your March Bulletin, possibly you have not sent in your renewal check. Please check your checkbook, and give us a call. Send all renewals to:

Kenton County Historical Society  
P. O. Box 641  
Covington, Kentucky 41012

### Upcoming Events and Exhibits

Historical Confederation of Kentucky Awards Banquet will be held on March 4 at the Kentucky History Center, Frankfort. Awards are given to the best nominees in the following categories: educational program, exhibit, audio/visual project, oral history project, volunteer group, newsletter or journal, brochure or pamphlet, family history, local or state history, poster or exhibit catalog. In addition, the president's award of excellence is awarded to the two outstanding HCK organizations nominated and the award of distinction for outstanding individual service to local history. For more information on awards nominations or the awards banquet, contact Karla Nicholson or Kathy Jones at (502) 564-1792 or email [Karla.Nicholson@mail.state.ky.us](mailto:Karla.Nicholson@mail.state.ky.us) or [Kathy.Jones@mail.state.ky.us](mailto:Kathy.Jones@mail.state.ky.us).

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## Join us as we go down Memory Lane 2000

by Jean Fricke

[For this article.] "Memory Lane " in the year 2000 is the Dixie Highway which runs through the heart of the readership of *Fort Mitchell Living Magazine*.

As we cruise back along this "Memory Lane" and look at our area and the changes over the past 100 years, a number of people volunteered their memories.

Our tour area runs from Indigo's Restaurant on the North border of Fort Mitchell to Barleycorn's on the South, now Lakeside Park. The area at the intersection of Turkeyfoot and Dixie was once considered part of South Fort Mitchell.

Indgo's Restaurant is owned by a father and son team, Robert and Shawn Bleh. This beautiful old house on the Dixie is an authentic Shaker house built prior to the Civil War. It had two front entrances originally, one for men and one for women. It housed the Eaton family from Virginia. Present owners purchased this historic property at 2053 Dixie Highway six years ago.

Back around 1900, it would have been located on the Covington-Lexington Turnpike; its name being shortened to Lexington Pike and now called the Dixie Highway.

John Kruetzkamp, now 90 years old, remembers people saying to his dad, "How can you possibly take your family out to Fort Mitchell?"

Family legend says the grandfather came from Germany and set up businesses on Scott and Garrard Streets in Covington. When grandfather passed on, other relatives took the garden spots along Scott and Garrard Streets. Fred Kruetzkamp, [Sr.] John and Anne's dad, took what was left over: two acres on what is now Virginia Avenue. There was no indoor plumbing when the family moved to the rural area known as Fort Mitchell.

Fred Kruetzkamp, Sr. worked in the daytime as a bank teller for a savings and loan and then for a bank. At night, he milked the cows at home. There were seven children. All the boys milked cows.

Kruetzkamp remembers the Lexington Pike in the early 1900s as being a two-lane highway, mostly traveled by horses and wagons. He thinks it was mostly a rock road with a whole lot of dust. His most prominent memory of our "Memory Lane" is dust and more dust.

Lang remembers going to Walton on a Sunday to visit family friends. It took an hour and a half each way. Going to Walton was a whole day affair because of the long travel time for a family with seven children. Lang remembers a dress shop where Korzenborn's [Service Station, 2475 Dixie Hwy.] is now. Her childhood memories include a 5 and 10 cent store close to where the Saddle Club [Bar, 2487 Dixie Hwy.] is. She remembers the Kentucky Tavern where people rented rooms for showers and other parties. The Kentucky Tavern was located where Remke's Grocery is today.....

The original end of the trolley line was St. Mary's Cemetery. It was moved on down to Stevie's Road House at a later time. Stevie's Road House was one of the predecessors of the spot, which now houses Remke's Grocery.

Lang remembers [that] Dr. Toll had a pharmacy across from where Remke's is now located. There is a [Huntington] bank on the location now. "Doc" Toll wasn't really a doctor. People just called him that.

[Kruetzkamp] played [baseball] for Toll's Pharmacy. One of his favorite memories is the open fields where he and his friends played baseball. He said, "I played baseball as soon as I could run."

Along the road [Dixie Hwy.] was Four Star Dixie Theater. A popular date used to be ice cream from Toll's Pharmacy followed by a movie at Four Star.

Boonie's Candy Store was next to Blessed Sacrament..... "During recess we used to buy candy," said Lang. "Breakopens were a penny. If you broke it open and got a pink center, you got a nickel candy bar as a prize. This was in the 30s and 40s."

Fred worked for the German National Bank, which changed its name to Peoples Liberty Bank when the war started.

He took the trolley to and from school in Covington. It was four cents a ride before 5:00 p.m., and five cents a ride after 5:00 p.m.

Kruetzkamp talked about Blessed Sacrament Parish starting at St. John's Orphanage..... People from the congregation at St. John's Orphanage petitioned the Bishop in 1908 to start their own parish. Father William Blees has been credited with the building of Blessed Sacrament Parish, one of the largest and oldest landmarks along Dixie Highway. While the congregation came from what was actually an orphanage around 1900, Father Blees made the actual land purchase on behalf of the congregation in 1917. Fred Kruetzkamp, Sr. was the treasurer for this group..... The first cornerstone was laid in 1920 for a building to be both school and church. That the style of this church building is Lombardy-Romanesque is largely credited to Father Blees.

Karl Lietzenmayer, president of the Northern Kentucky Historical Society, said Father Blees was active in the beginnings of the Fort Mitchell city government. Father Blees helped with the initial planning of the layout of the streets, and he wanted play areas for the children set aside at the end of each cul de sac.

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Lietzenmayer, like Kruetzkamp, remembers open fields, and reminisced about playing sandlot baseball. He said there were a few formal teams when he was a boy, but back then, anyone who wanted to play could do so.

Today Dr. Pete Rauen and Dr. Michael Cummings have a dental office at 2465 Dixie Highway, but in 1935, it was the new location of Remke's grocery, which started business in Covington in 1897. In 1957, Remke's built the present store at the intersection of Orphanage Road and Dixie.....

There have been several businesses on this site before Remke's. Stevie's Roadhouse was one that people today remember. It opened in 1901 as a restaurant and bar and provided musical entertainment. It was also known as Edelweiss Gardens. Prohibition pretty well knocked Stevie's Roadhouse out of the loop, and in 1948, the building became Kentucky Tavern.....

Lang remembers that The Greyhound Tavern was called Dixie Tea Room. Pretzels and candy were purchased in front. The bar was in the back. Only men could go in there. Women and children were not allowed in there in the 1930s.

Barleycorn's Restaurant is the southernmost landmark on "Memory Lane" AKA Dixie Highway AKA Covington-Lexington Turnpike. Ken Hile owns the Barleycorn's Restaurant. The building itself has been owned by one family for three generations and is sometimes called the Five Mile House. The story of its name is that it was located five miles from the end of the line. At one time this area was part of what was known as South Fort Mitchell before South and North merged to make one whole City of Fort Mitchell. Barleycorn's is now in Lakeside Park, but it is still an important part of the "Memory Lane" of Fort Mitchell.

*Reprinted with permission from Fort Mitchell Living*



This was the original Remke's Grocery, located at Requardt and Dixie. It opened in 1935. Photo was taken in 1939. (PHOTO: COURTESY OF BILL REMKE)

JUNE 1928  
 INTERESTS OF ERLANGER, ELSMERE, CRESCENT SPRINGS AND SOUTH FT. MITCHELL  
 ERLANGER, KENTUCKY  
 VOL. 1, No. 1  
 SEPTEMBER 15, 1928

## Celebration Of Opening Of Dixie Highway

### To Be Held Middle of November If Present Plans Materialize

A celebration of the opening of the Dixie Highway from Cincinnati to Lexington, to be held in Williamstown about the middle of November, is being planned. Williamstown Boosters' Club is behind the move.

The highway will be opened for traffic before that date, it is claimed. The last link in the concrete road will have been completed, making a ribbon of hard surfaced road, 18 feet wide, from the Ohio River to Georgetown, the longest continuous concrete road in the State, will be opened, it is hoped, about the first of November.

Williamstown and Grant County are going to celebrate the event in a manner fitting the occasion. Other towns along the line will also celebrate the opening of the highway.

J. Stacey Hill, chairman of the Federal Highway Commission, of Cincinnati, and Howard M. Wilson, Secretary of the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce of Cincinnati, were here last Saturday and conferred with members of the Boosters Club and others. They gave assurance that Covington and Cincinnati will join hands in making the celebration the biggest thing that ever came down the pike.

**Letters to the Editor**

**KCHS PUBLICATION PRICE LIST**

Enjoyed reading the article [Caring for Glass and Ceramic Artifacts, December 1999].

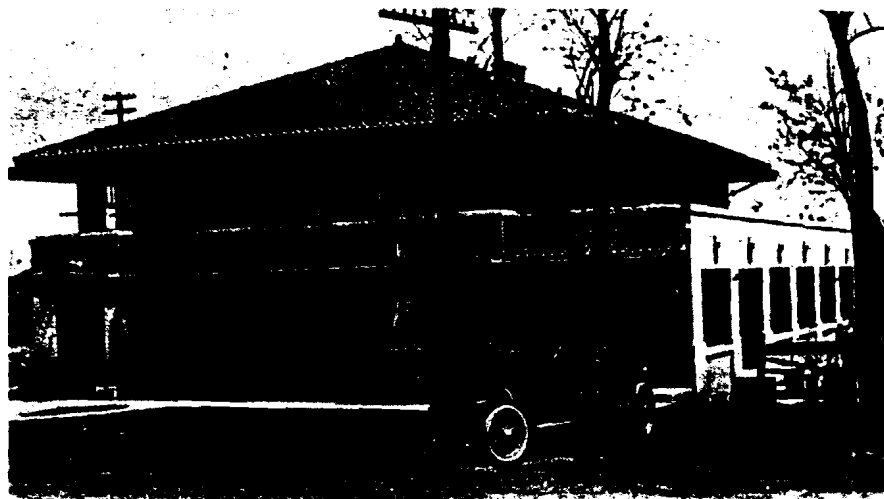
I would find it helpful to know how to keep old newspapers yet be able to access if I wish, care of old dresses, [and] which is the longest lived photo, black & white or color, care of negatives?

I use archival cardboard to hold newspapers, have old clothing in archival tissue paper and hold them in new galvanized cans, have my photos and negatives in archival pages. I am always concerned in spite of my research into preservation methods.

Any article(s) regarding preservation techniques that are up to date in your future Bulletins would be appreciated.

Mary Kaiser  
Brookville, Kentucky

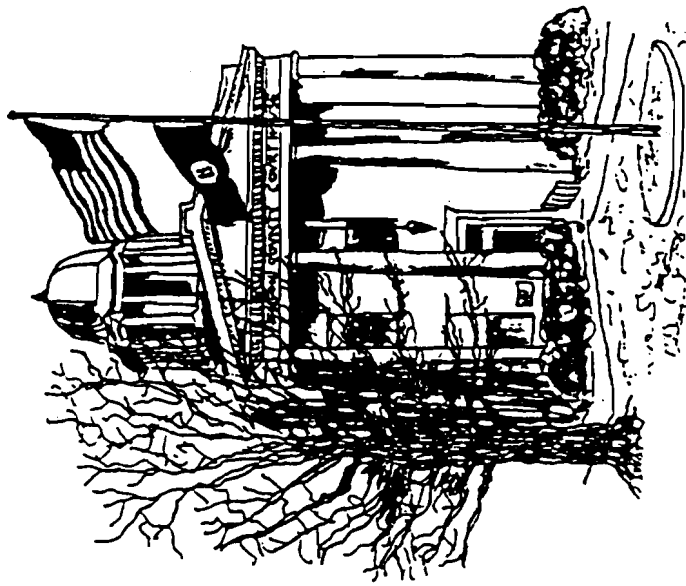
<u>Title</u>	<u>Member Price</u>	<u>Non-member</u>	<u>Mailing Fee</u>
Collected Papers	\$25	\$30	\$6
1860 Census Index	\$10	\$15	\$2
1880 Census Index (vol. I)	\$20	\$25	\$2
1880 Census Index (vol. II)	\$20	\$25	\$2
1990 African American Census for Kenton County (except Covington)	\$ 2	\$ 4	\$1
Wallace Woods	\$ 5	\$ 6	\$1
West Side Walking Tour	\$ 5	\$ 6	\$1
Trinity Church	\$10	\$15	\$2
Wiggins' list biographies (106)	\$ 2	\$ 4	\$1
Linden Grove Cemetery (vol.I)	\$35	\$40	\$4
Linden Grove Cemetery(vol.II)	\$25	\$30	\$3
Northern KY Heritage (subscrip')	\$12	\$15	\$0
Selective Issues of NKH	\$ 6	\$ 7.50	\$1
Newport Barracks	\$ 9 for Kenton & Cambell County Historical Society members	\$10	\$1



*Stevie's Roadhouse, 1914, was a popular restaurant and bar. People rode the trolley out from Cincinnati, Covington, and Newport to enjoy music and socializing. This building was at Orphanage Road and Dixie Highway. (PHOTO: COURTESY OF BILL REMKE)*

# KENTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Bulletin February 2000



**INSIDE:**  
African American History  
Memories of Dixie Highway

Kenton County Historical Society  
P. O. Box 641  
Covington, Kentucky 41012

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Dedicated to preserving our heritage as the "Gateway to the South"