



Bulletin of the Kenton County Historical Society

Website: www.kentonlibrary.org

Email: nkyhist@zoomtown.com

July/August

2010



Johann Koehnken

Other Stories Inside:

Paul Nunnelley

Piner High School

The Withers Family of Covington

Johann Koehnken

The Midwest's Master Organ Builder

Karl Lietzenmayer



*Above: Johann Heinrich Koehnken
On the cover: Isaac Wise Temple organ
Both photos courtesy Cincinnati Museum Center*

One by one, the last vestiges of the really great pipe organs of the Greater Cincinnati area are disappearing. Against the combined force and fury of urban renewal, expressways and land-gobbling service stations, landmarks like St. Paul Methodist and Immaculate Conception Churches in Newport, and St. Patrick Church, Covington – all with fine Koehnken instruments – didn't have a ghost of a chance to survive.¹ Happily, most of the pipes from Immaculate Conception and St. Patrick have been saved due to the effort of Robert Schaffer, Covington Cathedral organist. Many are stored in the Cathedral basement and some have been re-used in other instruments.

When the older churches go down under the wrecking hammers, the fine organs they contain go with them – except in rare cases when lovers of the fine instruments and German-Americana somehow manage to save them. Almost all of the organs in the area over 100 years old are the seal and signature of a Master Organ builder Johann Heinrich Koehnken.

Johann Heinrich Koehnken was born September 14, 1819 in Altenbuehlstedt, a village in Lower Saxony, near Bremen, so small it is not even noted on most German maps.² He was early apprenticed to a master cabinetmaker and revealed unusual skill as a young lad.

When 18, he decided to try his luck in America. The small sailing vessel *Neptune* after a storm-buffed voyage, landed Koehnken in Baltimore. He earned \$1 a week as a worker in furniture factories in Baltimore and later Wheeling, West Virginia.

Arriving in Cincinnati in July 1839, Koehnken was glad to get a job as apprentice console and pipe finisher in Mathias Schwab's organ factory.³ The earliest significant organ builder in Cincinnati was Mathias Schwab (died 1864). However, Schwab was not the first organ builder in Cincinnati; that distinction belongs to the Rev. Adam Hurdus, coming to Cincinnati in 1806.⁴ Schwab had opened his factory about 1831.

Much of Mathias Schwab's personal life remains a mystery. By 1860 he had relinquished ownership of his factory at Sycamore and Schiller Streets to Koehnken. The firm was renamed Koehnken and Company. Gallus Grimm (1827-1897) partnered with Koehnken in 1876 when the firm became known as Koehnken and Grimm.⁵ Grimm began working at the shop in 1853, having apprenticed to a German organ builder, Martin Braun, for four years.⁶ The mere listing of the organs these craftsmen in-

stalled between 1860 and 1885 is impressive. Less than half of them still exist but not one of them was ever replaced because of defects.⁷

One of the first tragic destructions of Koehnken organs came in 1954 when Holy Trinity Church (*Heilige Dreifaltigkeit*) in Cincinnati's West End was slated for demolition. When he first heard of the impending demolition, Henry Humphries, *Enquirer* music critic, hurried over to the century-old edifice on Fifth Street and made his way up to the choir loft. "The organ was in poor shape – but how beautiful the sound!" he said. The last pastor tried giving away the organ but there were no takers and even the Frank Duveneck murals couldn't save this magnificent church. The organ was broken up and carted to the junkyard.

Churches were springing up all over after the Civil War and they all needed pipe organs. According to J. H. Koehnken's grand-daughter, her grandfather built organs for seventy-seven years of his life.⁸

Koehnken and Grimm had a virtual monopoly on organs locally for many years. Beginning about 1865, for 27 years the organ in every Catholic church in the Covington Diocese was built and installed by Koehnken and Grimm (Koehnken, by the way, was Protestant).

The firm's fame spread and one year Koehnken loaded a large flatboat with pipes and chests to St. Louis, where he spent seven months installing four instruments. Additional orders came from Memphis and New Orleans and each time the pipes were sent by flatboat.⁹

The Koehnkens had seven children – six daughters (all very musical) and one son, Herman, who became a druggist. Herman's store, for many years was located at Third and Mill, close to old St. Anthony Catholic Church, Budd Street. The story of how the Koehnken organ in St. Anthony's was saved is poignant.

The St. Anthony instrument, with its life-sized wooden statue of St. Cecilia atop its ornate console, was in continuous use for 101 years. The last time

the organ "spoke" was Sunday November 25, 1962. Rev. Richard McPartlin, SJ, James Ritter Werner, and Henry Humphries were the last organ-lovers to sit at the console.

Part of the church had already been razed when they gave their final "recital". For \$150, a group formed by the three, purchased the organ from the wreckers and husky XU football players helped cart out the pipes to a rental truck. One of the old parishioners pointed out the wooden pipes had been shipped from Germany since the Civil War made seasoned wood impossible to obtain.

The firm became G. Grimm and Son after Koehnken retired in 1896. Grimm's son Edward was in charge when both Johann Heinrich Koehnken and Gallus Grimm died in 1897.¹⁰

There were several changes in leadership after 1900, and the business was finally acquired in 1908 by Alfred Mathers.¹¹ Later generations impetuously replaced Koehnken instruments with flashy, strident organs marred by poor workmanship. Koehnken organs exclusively used tracker action to connect the keys to the pipes.

Tracker action was the only way organs were constructed before electricity. This system is a fully mechanical connection consisting of levers, wires and pulleys from the keyboard to the pipe chests which are under air pressure. When a key is played, this mechanism opens the port to the appropriate pipe; air rushes in and the pipe speaks. Tracker action, constructed properly, is considered the preferred action by most organists.

After a period of experimenting with electro-pneumatic actions, which make the keyboard a series of electric switches, sending direct current to an electro-magnet under each pipe, admitting air within the chests, it was discovered that a completely mechanical tracker action is actually more responsive, if installed correctly.

The following (on the next page) is a concise list of most of the Koehnken instruments in Greater Cincinnati and a brief description of their eventual fate:

Holy Trinity (Fifth St., Cincinnati):

Church razed, organ sold for junk.

Mound Street Temple (West End, Cincinnati):

Synagogue razed, fate of organ unknown.

St. Paul Episcopal (Downtown Cincinnati):

Church razed, fate of organ unknown.

St. Anthony (Budd St., West End, Cincinnati):

Church razed, pipes and chests rescued by XU.

St. Aloysius (Bridgetown, Ohio):

Church razed, entire organ shipped to an Edmonton, Canada seminary and re-assembled.

St. Patrick (Covington):

Church razed, pipes and chests saved by Robert Schaffer.

Immaculate Conception (Newport):

Church razed, organ saved by Robert Schaffer.

St. Joseph of Nazareth (12th St. Covington):

Church razed, Schwab organ re-installed in Covington Cathedral [2 blocks west] – probably oldest instrument in the city. Koehnken thought to have been an apprentice when this was installed in St. Joseph.

St. Henry (Flint St. West End Cincinnati):

Church razed, fate of organ unknown.

Isaac Wise Temple (Plum Street, Cincinnati):

Organ still used for special holiday services. Considered the largest untouched Koehnken organ in existence. After remaining unplayed for over 10 years, it was restored to original condition in 2005 by Thomas Miles. The original tracker action is still in place.

St. Francis de Sales (Walnut Hills, Cincinnati):

Organ renovated, still in use.

St. Xavier (Downtown Cincinnati):

Organ allowed to deteriorate, electronic organ used at services.

Holy Cross Passionist Monastery (Mt. Adams Cincinnati):

Monastery renovated into apartments, fate of organ unknown.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help (Sedamsville, Ohio):

Organ still in use.

Nast Memorial Methodist (Race Street, Cincinnati):

Renovated – in use.

Concordia Lutheran (Race Street, Cincinnati):

Still in use.

Asbury Methodist (Highland Heights, Ft. Thomas, KY):

Still in use.

Mother of God (Covington):

Originally built as a sister instrument to the great Wise Temple organ. Beginning in the late 1950s, this instrument has been renovated several times. No longer a tracker, some Koehnken pipes replaced or stolen by unscrupulous organ “builders”. Ironically, it was organist Paul Nunnelley [see story this issue] about 1956 who arranged for the first of several modifications of this fine Koehnken. Originally, the keyboard was placed to allow the organist to face the same direction as the choir – toward the altar & a music director. Nunnelley was directing groups from the keyboard and it was difficult for the singers to see him and face the altar. In order to change the keyboard position, the tracker action had to be torn out and replaced by an electro-pneumatic system. While only remnants of Koehnken’s pipe work remains, the instrument is still in use.

1. Henry Humphries, “Few Koehnken Organs Still Exist,” *Cincinnati Enquirer*, 21 Sept 1969, p.16H.
2. *Wort und Bild*, German Language Who’s Who (1891).
3. One of the few Schwab instruments still in existence was re-installed in the rear loft of Covington’s Basilica, originally built for St. Joseph Catholic Church, 12th & Greenup [razed c. 1985].
4. Orpha Ochse, “The History of the Organ in the United States,” Indiana University Press, Bloomington (1975) page 184.
5. Wikipedia
6. *Ibid*.
7. Humphries, *op. cit*.
8. Mrs. Carl Board, as told to author (1954).
9. Humphries, *op. cit*.
10. Wikipedia.
11. Ochse, *op. cit.*, page 296.
12. Tracker action is the only way organs were constructed before electricity. This system is a fully mechanical connection consisting of levers, wires and pulleys from the keyboard to the pipes & considered the preferred action by most organists. After a period of experimenting with electro-pneumatic actions, which make the keyboard a series of electric switches, sending direct current to an electro-magnet under each pipe, admitting air within the chests, it was discovered that a completely mechanical tracker action is actually more responsive, if installed correctly.

PLEASE NOTE:

We have a new email address! Please use the following for all correspondence for the Society and Northern Kentucky Heritage Magazine.

nkyhist@zoomtown.com

Paul Nunnelley

Karl Lietzenmayer

Paul Nunnelley (1920-1997)¹ was the son of Oscar and Helen Rosing Nunnelley. Oscar was a railroad man, working as a switchman for the old L&N now part of CSX. Paul was born April 4, 1920 in Covington and attended St Augustine Catholic Elementary School in the Peaselsburg section of the city. After graduating from Holy Cross High School, Latonia, in 1937, John Fehring, the parish organist, encouraged Paul to study at the Athenaeum of Ohio graduating in 1941. That same year, he married Margaret Averbeck and their union produced four children – Peggy, Tony, Robert and Rose Ann. Paul and his family lived in Latonia, only three doors from Holy Cross Church.

Fehring was prominent among Roman Catholic musicians, becoming the Archdiocese of Cincinnati's Music Director. Fehring was often busily engaged with his position as music director in Cincinnati and frequently asked Paul to substitute for him at the Holy Cross organ. Paul established himself as a substitute organist and served in several churches on both sides of the Ohio River.

Leo Grote, director of the Catholic Theatre Guild and the founder of the Mother of God Choral Club knew all this about Paul because he sang with Paul in John Fehring's choir at Holy Cross while Paul was still in high school.² After the first Choral Club accompanist, Catherine Crumley, left the group after two years, Leo Grote contacted Paul to offer him the position. Paul was tiring of being a substitute organist and wanted to play at a church of his own. Paul accepted Leo's invitation and successfully accompanied the Choral Club until the mid-1950s. The parish was celebrating over 50 years of musical service of Edward Strubel, who began at *Mutter Gottes Kirche* as organist September 1, 1895, when the parish served German-speaking Catholics.³ Professor Strubel was reducing his duties and Sister Mary St. Clair, SND had been accompanying the children's daily liturgies.⁴ Sister St. Clair was on the faculty at Notre Dame Academy and was somewhat relieved to have the daily



Paul Nunnelley
Photo courtesy Tony Nunnelley

liturgy music taken over by Paul. Paul also played for the early Sunday morning mass as well as accompany the 11 a.m. Sunday mass musically served by the Choral Club.

Professor Strubel still led a men's choir, who sang a third Sunday liturgy at Mother of God Church. Upon Strubel's full retirement in 1955, Paul began playing for and directing the men's choir and left as accompanist of the Choral Club. Paul was conducting the Glee Club at Covington Catholic High School, which was using the parish school building for classes.

Decline in membership in the men's choir prompted Paul to form a Young Ladies' Choir made of mostly young women of high school and college age. This choir was still viable until liturgical changes brought by the general church council of the Vatican in 1963-1964 de-emphasized choir singing at masses, and music based on the folk style began to result in the dissolution of choirs in many of the Catholic parishes.

Over the years, Paul supplemented his church salary by tuning pianos. At one time in his career, he was choral director at Covington Catholic High School and St. Elizabeth Nursing School.

Paul's older son Tony (b. 1944) seems to have followed in his father's footsteps. After studying piano in grade school, by his sixth grade (c. 1956) he was substitute organist for James McKeever at St. Benedict Church in the Austinburg Neighborhood of Covington. By the time he was attending Holy Cross High School, Latonia, Kentucky, he was substituting for his own father at Mother of God Church.⁵ When Tony entered college, Jim McKeever considered taking a new organist position and approached Tony that he was leaving St. Benedict, offering Tony the position as organist. By college age, Tony had moved from substitute organist status, happily a lot sooner in life than his father.

In 1966, Paul received the Diocesan Medal of Honor for 25 years as organist at Mother of God. Paul continued to play for liturgies at Mother of God – except for the Choral Club – for over 50 years.

1. Research for this biography was part of the 1991 "Sesquicentennial Project" at Mother of God Church to celebrate the prominent musicians who served the parish since 1841.

2. See *The Bulletin* January/February 2010 for the story of Leo Grote & the Choral Club.

3. See *Northern Kentucky Heritage* Vol. I, #1, page 27.

4. See *The Bulletin* January/February 2008 for the story of Sister St. Clair, SND.

5. Personal interview with Tony Nunnelley, 10 March 2010.

Would You Like To Be Published?

The Kenton County Historical Society is always looking for stories for its award-winning *Bulletin* and *Northern Kentucky Heritage Magazine*.

To submit an article, send a paper copy by mail, or email it as a Word document attachment. Articles for the *Bulletin* should be no longer than 500 words and must have at least two references. Stories for the magazine should be at least 5,000 words and have endnotes. Related photos would help greatly.

nkyhist@zoomtown.com.

P.O. Box 641, Covington, KY 41012

(859) 431-2666

Feel free to contact us with any questions you may have about submitting an article.

Piner High School

Greg Perkins

Piner High School was the second of four Sullivan Law-inspired public high schools that opened in Kentucky within the Kenton County school district. Passed by the Kentucky Legislature in 1908, the Sullivan Law overhauled public high school funding in the state and required that each county in Kentucky have at least one public high school.

In 1912, the Kenton County School Board authorized construction of a high school in Piner to serve students in the southern portion of the county. Completed in October 1914, at a cost of \$6,983, the two story brick Piner High School eventually housed both primary and secondary students. Later campus additions included a gymnasium, a cafeteria, and an auditorium. The school's first graduating class was in 1917.

The small town of Piner, first known as Piner Crossroads, originated around 1845 and was named for Brack Piner, who owned and operated the first grocery store in the area. The market still exists at the original crossroads, that of Madison Pike (the 3L Highway or Rt. 17) and Bracht-Piner Road (Rt. 14).

Elma Taylor served as Piner High School's principal for much of its existence. In 1937, the Kenton County School Board closed Piner High School and merged it into the new Simon Kenton High School in Independence. The Piner High School building continued as an elementary school until its replacement with a new facility during the early 1960s.

Perhaps the most famous graduate of Piner High School was Brig. General Jesse Auton, a World War II Army Air Force pilot who died in an aviation accident at Omaha, Nebraska in the early 1950s. Jesse was on the debate team and played basketball for Piner High School before graduating in 1923 as class valedictorian.

Withers Family

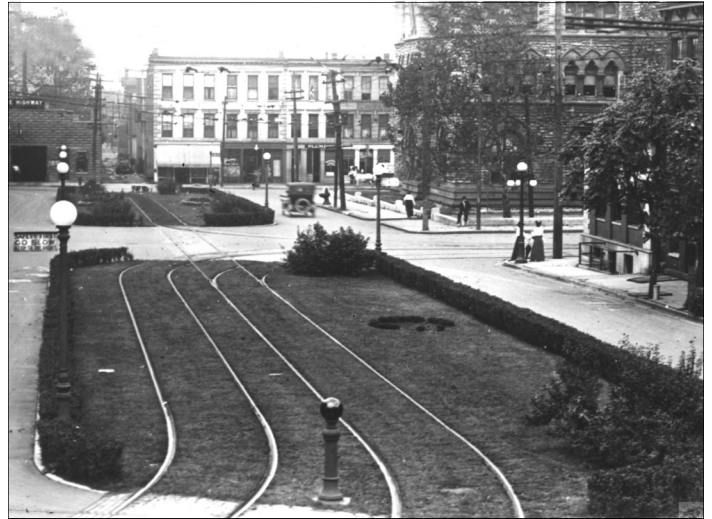
An excerpt from the
Encyclopedia of Northern Kentucky

The Withers family, merchants residing in Covington in 1861, found themselves “caught in the middle” when hostilities broke out in the Civil War. Descended from a long line of colonial Virginians, the pro-South Withers family were tobacco merchants. Their company’s suppliers certainly had Southern sympathies, and to a lesser extent the same was true of customers in the markets they served; but the Withers family operated their tobacco business in a region that was predominantly pro-Union.

The patriarch of the family was Charles A. Withers, who was born in Stafford Co., Virginia, on June 10, 1800. His wife, Matilda Lynch, was born in Lynchburg, Virginia, on September 6, 1811. They arrived in Northern Kentucky about 1836, and Charles became a partner in the Withers & Carpenter Company, tobacco manufacturers. The business was located in Cincinnati, but the family lived in Covington, at Greenup and Market Streets.

Charles was a founder of Trinity Episcopal Church, a member of the Covington City Council during the 1840s, the first superintendant of the Kentucky Central Railroad, and president of the local branch of Frankfort’s Farmers Bank. As superintendant of the railroad, he built the first 18 miles of track south of Covington with his own money.

His daughter, Elizabeth Sally Withers, married Eli Metcalf Bruce, who shared the Withers family’s Southern sympathies and who was involved in helping to finance the Confederate Army. It was said that the Withers’ family’s home might as well have been a hospital, because the family often took in people of need. Charles Withers died while visiting relatives in Waynesville, Ohio, on August 10, 1863, at the height of the war, and was buried at Linden Grove Cemetery in Covington. Charles and Matilda had several children, the most celebrated being Charles A. Withers, Jr., who chose to be known as C. A. Withers. Born in 1843 at Covington, he joined



*Withers Park, now Court Street and Park Place, Covington.
View is looking west from Greenup. Courtesy KCPL*

the Southern cause during the Civil War and rode with the famed Southern Calvary raider, General John Hunt Morgan. Withers rose to the rank of major and was Morgan’s adjutant. After Morgan’s death, a wake was held for him at the Withers’ home in the 600 block of Sanford Street in Covington.

C. A. Withers moved to Augusta, Georgia, after the war. He married the well-connected Clara De Antignac, a French Huguenot Belle, and soon became one of the largest cotton brokers in the South. Later, he returned to Northern Kentucky and became the associate editor and drama critic for the *Cincinnati Commercial* newspaper. After his wife Clara died in 1913, C. A. resided either at the Kentucky Confederate Home at Pewee Valley outside of Louisville, or at the Hotel Emery in Cincinnati. He died from Bright’s disease at age 82 on March 23, 1923, at Covington’s Booth Hospital and was buried at the family plot at Linden Grove Cemetery, Covington. In 1915, the City of Covington named a park for the elder Withers in recognition of his services on the park’s board. Today, this park, located between Greenup and Scott Streets, is a concrete street named Park Place.

Colonel Buckner, His Family and the Beechwood Home

Karl Lietzenmayer

When Colonel Thomas Catlett Buckner built his *Beechwood House* in 1839, the plantation encompassed 1,554 acres. The house sits today on an ordinary suburban lot at 3049 Heritage Lane, Edgewood, Kenton County. His plantation was thought to be the highest point in Kenton [then Campbell County].

Family Forbearers

Thomas moved to Kentucky from Caroline County, Virginia, where he was born 20 February 1793. The family had been in Caroline County for at least three generations – his grandfather Thomas was born there 13 May 1728. This branch of the Buckners was wealthy – owners of several estates. Grandfather Thomas had married twice – his second wife was Elizabeth Taliaferro of Spotsylvania County, Virginia.¹ Of their seven children, our interest centers on Henry who married Elizabeth Catlett in November 1789.² Thomas was one of their eight children.

Thomas

Thomas had moved to Northern Kentucky before his first marriage – briefly to Caroline Perry (29 June 1820) who died soon afterward. Buckner soon remarried, this time to Mildred Washington Berry of Campbell County (22 Apr 1823).³ Thomas and Mildred had five children:

Henry Washington Buckner
(4 Sep 1824 – 2 Jan 1827)

Hubbard Taylor Buckner
(18 Feb 1827 – 1 Jan 1903)

Alice Elizabeth Buckner
(6 Sep 1829 – 2 Sep 1892)

Sophia Buckner
(24 Oct 1832 – 10 May 1893)

Thomas Berry Buckner
(10 Apr 1835 – 25 Jan 1868)

Colonel Thomas Catlett Buckner and his younger brother Henry were landowners of great importance in Campbell & Kenton (formed from Campbell 1840). Together, the brothers owned thousands of acres which were largely devoted to agriculture and, prior to the Civil War, used slave labor to work their land.

One of the first parcels of the Buckner Plantation to be sold was a 68.5 acre portion purchased by Caleb Manley in 1851.⁴ While the Thomas Buckner home *Beechwood* was built on the east side of his tract, Manley erected his home (still standing as *Forest Lawn Cemetery*) on the west side, fronting on the Lexington and Covington Turnpike [Dixie Highway, US 25/42]. The Manley home was built of bricks made on site by slave labor. Other buildings were added to the property as needed for operation of a small plantation.

Plantation owners of the area, such as the Manley, Buckner, Graves and Timberlake families, were increasingly plagued by the loss of runaway slaves, who escaped across the nearby Ohio River. Buckner and William Thornton Timberlake formed an organization to help prevent the escape of slaves, and Timberlake even led an expedition to Michigan attempting to recover his slaves.⁵ Since most of the plantation owners were operating farms with slave labor and the families originated in the South, there was much Confederate sympathy during the Civil War in the area of Buckner's and Timberlake's Plantations.

Colonel Thomas was involved in several philanthropic activities in Campbell County, including the establishment of a home for the indigent in Newport and served as a Campbell County deputy sheriff. Thomas died of "black tongue" at age 51 in 1844 but



Thomas Buckner's "Beechwood" circa 1885

Henry lived until age 80, dying in 1876. Henry returned to his country estate *Edgewood House* after retirement from the produce business in Cincinnati. *Edgewood House* sat on the present site of Summit Hills Country Club.

Beechwood House

Colonel Buckner named the house thusly because there were an abundance of Beechwood trees in the vicinity. The house was constructed in late-federal style, double brick laid in Belgian bond pattern. The bricks were fired on site, like most structures of the time.

The main portion of the house and the hearth room were the initial phase of construction, with the center, two-story connecting section added very early in the history of the house. Two front downstairs

rooms were likely separate men's and ladies' parlors, with the current living room having slightly more ornate woodwork than the dining room. The current family room was originally a banquet room boasting a fireplace, which was described at the time of its construction as the finest mantle west of the Alleghenies.

The first floor bedroom is a 20th century addition and was originally servant's quarters. The hearth room was used for cooking until the current addition was built in the 1950s, where a porch once exited to the well.

Beechwood House appears to have remained relatively unchanged until the 1920s when the small federal-style front porch was removed and replaced with a grand two-story porch. It is thought that heat, electricity, and indoor plumbing

Continued on page 10

A Look Back at The Headlines

*An on-going feature reliving local headlines
This issue features:
The Covington Journal – November 22, 1851.*

“We are indebted to a friend after receipt of several issues of the *Farmer’s Record and Covington Literary Journal* printed in 1831 and 1832. We have gathered from it several items which cannot fail to interest our readers.”

A bridge over the Ohio River at this point was talked about in 1831, and a public meeting was called to further the project, but it met with little favor on the Cincinnati side and nothing was accomplished.

Notice was made of a new steam ferry boat to ply between Covington and Cincinnati. From the notice we infer this was the first steam boat used at this point. The ferry was at the time under the control of E. Colston and J. Phelps.

On the night of December 11, 1831, the Ohio River was frozen over, although the river was free from ice the day previous. By 9 o’clock the next morning, persons commenced crossing on the ice.

In March, 1832, the steamboat *Traveler* ascended the Licking River to Claysville, about 125 miles out of Covington. This is the first time a steamboat has ascended that high, and the event caused great rejoicing at Cynthiana.

Ground fronting on Madison and Fourth Streets was offered for sale by the acre.

To judge from the advertisements, the business of the place was chiefly transacted on Greenup Street between Third and the River.

Great changes have taken place in Covington in twenty years, but none more striking than with the business men. Of those actively engaged in the various departments of business twenty years ago, very few are still with us this day.

Buckner - Continued

were added during this time. The clawfoot tub in one of the upstairs bathrooms seems to have been relocated from another bathroom and is stamped with a 1921 date.

The house was sold at auction in the early 1940s when the immediate surrounding area was still largely agricultural and undeveloped. Many local residents who grew up near *Beechwood House* fondly recall riding horses or playing in the woods near the house in the 1950s and ‘60s. The home has been designated a Kentucky Historic Landmark. The home has recently been put up for sale through Star One Realtors, Donna Rowe, agent.

1. Elizabeth & Thomas, Sr. were married 17 Nov. 1757. She was the daughter of Francis Taliaferro.
2. Henry born 16 Dec. 1766.
3. Mildred was daughter of Washington and Alice Berry who also moved to N. Ky. from Virginia. Washington Berry held many influential positions: County Judge, Newport City Trustee, Campbell County Commissioner, paymaster for Kentucky Militia’s 48th Regiment, Campbell County Treasurer, chairman of Board of Newport Academy. Berry also owned 17 slaves & 1000 acres. In December 1797, Berry began a ferry service between (present) Dayton, Kentucky and Columbia, Ohio.
4. Hubbard T. Buckley to Caleb Stone Manley (1851). Property originally granted as a Revolutionary War Grant to Robert Johnson & Robert D. Watkins, who sold the original grant to Thomas Buckner. *Northern Kentucky Encyclopedia*, page 140, column 3.
5. See *Northern Kentucky Heritage Magazine*, XV, No. 2, “The Kentucky Raid/The Cassopolis Outrage” by Debiann Marty.

Volunteers Needed

As you will see in our list of upcoming events,
the Society will be manning a booth
at the Kenton County Fair
for the first time ever!

We could certainly use some help.

If you are interested in helping out — simply
handing out brochures and talking to people
about local history, please give me a call.

Bob Webster (859) 801-4773

Then and Now



Left: From the middle of Madison Avenue looking north-northeast, the photo on the left was taken during the 1937 flood. Photo on right: same view today.

Left photo courtesy the Kenton Co. Library. Right photo courtesy Ron Einhaus

Mystery Photo

Can you identify the mystery photo below? The answer can be found at the bottom of the page.



ANSWER:

Figure outside the Masonic Temple in the 1500 block of Madison Avenue.

Photo courtesy Ron Einhaus

Published bi-monthly by
The Kenton County Historical Society
Membership, which includes the Bulletin,
\$20.00 per year

President.....Ronnie Einhaus
Vice-President.....Donald Fowler
Treasurer.....W. Terry Averbeck
Secretary.....John H. Boh

Board Members:

Dr. Richard Cardosi, George Gressle,
Richard Johannemann,
Mike Holiday, Mary Elise Regan,
Robert Webster (Editor), and
Ex officio - Karl Lietzenmayer

I Bet You Didn't Know

*Tidbits from Kentucky's heritage
for every day of the calendar year*

July 13, 1926: Ale 8-1 soft drink was introduced by G.L. Wainscott of Winchester. The beverage is still a favorite among many Kentuckians.

July 23, 1966: Cumberland National Forest was renamed in honor of the famous trailblazer, Daniel Boone.

July 24, 1954: Six of the 43 U.S. Marines killed in the first major battle of the Korean War were from Kentucky.

August 4, 1984: Elmer Smith died in a nursing home in Columbia, Kentucky. He was the first baseball player in history to hit a grand-slam home run during a World Series game (1920).

August 9, 1882: Ellison Hatfield died and his brother immediately had three McCoys executed.

"On This Day In Kentucky" — Robert Powell

Programs and Notices

2010 Kenton County Fair

The Kenton Co. Fair will be held July 12 – 17 at the fairgrounds, Taylor Mill Road and Harris Pike in Independence. A wide variety of activities are scheduled including rides and exhibits. The Society will be sponsoring a booth, so please stop out and visit. Many of our latest publications will be available for purchase as well as a free gift. Call (859)356-3738 for further information or visit: www.kentoncountyfair.com

2010 Northern Kentucky History, Art & Culture Lecture Series continues

Three lectures remain in this very popular series. Held at Baker Hunt, 620 Greenup Street in Covington, each lecture begins at 2pm. Price: \$7. For more information, phone (859) 431-0020.

July 11th - The Devou Centennial — The Devou Family

Joshua Byers, NKU Student

August 8th — Music and Musicians from the Encyclopedia of NKY

John Schlipp, Assistant Professor at NKU

September 12 — The Fort Mitchell Centennial

Melinda Sartwell, Adam Hartke, Joshua Byers and Laura Jarboe, NKU students,
and Paul Tenkotte, NKU Chair and co-author of the Encyclopedia

James A. Ramage Civil War Museum

The 6th Annual Battery Hooper Days will be held on August 21-22. The site is located along Highland Avenue in Ft. Wright and celebrates one of the few remaining Civil War defensive positions in the region.

For additional information, contact the museum at 513-659-4390.

Music at the Behringer-Crawford Museum

This wonderful museum in Covington's Devou Park hosts a variety of musical groups throughout the summer. Upcoming concerts include:

July 8 — Jake Speed and the Freddie's: traditional folk music with political humor and tongue-in-cheek story telling

July 15 — Pat Kelly and the Groove Organizers: cool jazz sounds

July 22 — Roger Drawdy and the Firestarters: high-energy Irish band

Adults \$5.00, children 3-12 \$3.00.

Doors open at 6:00 pm., concert from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

For more information, contact the museum at (859) 491-4003