

KENTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P. O. Box 641, Covington, Kentucky 41012

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KCHS MEETING

DATE Thursday March 11

TIME 7 PM

PLACE Kenton County
Public Library
5th & Scot Streets
Covington

PROGRAM Netting Your Roots

Mike Sweeney, volunteer genealogist at the Kenton County Library, and Pam Carey Durstock, Internet genealogy specialist, will combine their expertise to demonstrate how to do genealogy research on the Internet.

Parking is available next to library on Scott Street.

Bulletin

March 1999

From the President.....

An outstanding program on streetcars of Northern Kentucky was presented in February at the Baker-Hunt Foundation. About 50 people were in attendance. We thank Clark Nowland, the new director on business affairs at Baker-Hunt, for his generous hospitality. Earl Clark, the presenter, was a plethora of information. Look for the July program when he will present a program on the Stars of Beverly Hills (the Southgate nightclub of the 40s and 50s).

The book, Linden Grove Cemetery Volume II has been completed and will be available at History Day on March 13. Volume I costs \$35 and Volume II is \$20. All of the data from both volumes is available on Excel computer disc. For \$10 you can buy the disc along with the 35 page booklet describing the history of Linden Grove Cemetery.

The printing of Newport Barracks by Joseph Donnelly has also been completed and will be available at History Day for \$12, \$10 for KCHS members. We thank Rita Hudepohl Stevie for her contribution of printing costs.

We are still looking for volunteers for History Day, and volunteers to type papers onto computer disc. Many thanks from our editor to Carol Wenger who has taken over the printing and bulk mailing of the Bulletin. Emily Bailey and Florence Huff have been helping her, and we appreciate the giving of their time.

We have given up waiting for the University of Lexington Press to print a volume on the entire history of Covington up to 1900 written by the late John Burns. It is very readable but it will cost \$10,000 to print. Perhaps there is an angel out there who is interested to contributing to this project.

More good news that makes communicating easier: we now have an e-mail address. It is found at the bottom of this page.

We have not had a program on genealogy research for sometime. As you will notice in the program spot of the Bulletin, the Kenton County Public library is offering to the Campbell County and Kenton County Historical Societies a presentation on researching genealogy on the internet on Thursday, March 11. The presentation will include real-time Internet searching of genealogical sources. Researchers with all levels of expertise from beginning to advanced will learn the latest tips and techniques. Bring your questions and prepare for a fun, entertaining and enlightening search for your roots.

Orie Solomon Ware 1882-1974

by Karl Lietzenmayer

Orie S. Ware, the fourth generation of his family to live in Northern Kentucky, was born May 11, 1882, in a log cabin at Peach Grove, Pendleton County, Kentucky. His father, Solomon Grizzel Ware ran a country store there which, Orie later said, "sold everything from pins to caskets." His mother was Ida Festus Petty Ware. His first American ancestor was a Peter Ware, who emigrated from Ireland in 1646 and settled in Virginia.¹

Life was primitive when I was a youngster," Ware once said, "We kept milk in the well. Police on the beat lit the street lamps and there were no paved roads."² Ware decided on a career in law, and went to Ohio for his training. He graduated from Cincinnati Law School in 1903 and was the last surviving member of his class of 17 graduates.³

Admitted to the bar that same year, he set up practice in Covington and on September 19, 1906 married Louise Culbertson, his wife for 66 years. In 1915, they moved into a home built in 1881 for John P. Ernst at 501 Garrard Street. They lived in this home designed by Hannaford & Son for 23 years. Ware pointed out, "all we ever had to light the house was gas made from coal by the Covington Gas Light Company!"⁴

Orie Ware quickly made a name for himself both politically and personally. One of his first positions was as attorney and minority director for the Latonia First National Bank. When the Federal Bank Examiner temporarily closed the bank for

irregularities in 1914, Orie Ware was one of the few survivors of the scandal.⁵

A life long Democrat, he was named Covington Postmaster by President Wilson also in 1914. He held that post until 1921. He was Commonwealth Attorney for the 16th Judicial Circuit Court (1922-1927). While in that office, he enjoined dog racing in Kentucky, successfully arguing the appeal before the Supreme Court of the United States. He was elected to Congress in 1927 for one term, became U. S. Commissioner in Covington (1942-1947), and was elected Kenton Circuit Judge (1957-1958). Ware was known for impartiality and fairness.

He maintained a law office in Covington until the close of his life. His sons, James C. and William O., joined the law firm. Ware was very active in the Masonic Order, holding the 33rd degree. He became a Shriner and Knight Templar, and was grand master of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky in 1913-1914.

Orie Ware was one of the most active members of Covington's First Baptist Church on Fourth Street. He worshipped there for over a half century and was a member of the trustees and board of deacons for nearly 45 years. He was buried from that church on December 19, 1974, and was interred in Highland Cemetery, Fort Mitchell, Kentucky.⁶



Endnotes

1. The National Cyclopedia of American Biography.
2. "Orie S. Ware Dies at 92," by Jim Blair, *Kentucky Post*, 17 Dec 1974, page 1.
3. Among his classmates were: Henry T. Hunt, who became Cincinnati's mayor; Dennis Ryan, Cincinnati Common Pleas Judge for 25 years; Hart Stanbery, grandson of Henry Stanbery, President Andrew Johnson's Attorney-general and defense attorney in his impeachment trial.
4. Kenton County Public Library, Vertical File "Ware, Orie" #5. John P. Ernst was president of the Covington Savings Bank & Trust [now Huntington Bank]/ One of Ernst's brothers, Richard, became Republican U. S. Senator during Coolidge Administration. Richard's home was at 401 Garrard. Both homes still exist & are restored much to their original condition.
5. "James T. Earle, The Last Mayor of Latonia," *Northern Kentucky Heritage*, Vol. II, No. 1, page 51.
6. Blair, *Kentucky Post*, op. cit., page 9.

HISTORY DAY

MARCH 13, 1999
at
Northern Kentucky
University

Registration 9 - 9:45AM
Advanced Registration \$5
At the Door \$6

An interesting History Day is planned again this year. The crowds have grown larger with each year.

Many displays and speakers are planned. Our own KCHS members Steve McMurty and Charles King are among the speakers. The opening speaker is Evelyn Welch, Curator of Butler-Turpin House, *Where Two Rivers Meet - Port William (Carrollton) A Settlement*.

Closing speakers, planned for 2:30 pm, will be Jackie Mylor and Sue Bagardus speaking on *Historic Architecture in Warsaw-Gallatin County*.

We need several volunteers for one hour stints to help at the Registration Table at 9 am and the KCHS table the rest of the day. Please sign up on the form below and send it in to:

KCHS
P. O. Box 641
Covington, Kentucky 41012
or leave a message on the new
KCHS phone (606)431-2666
or e-mail us at
nkheritage.kchs@juno.com

Corrections

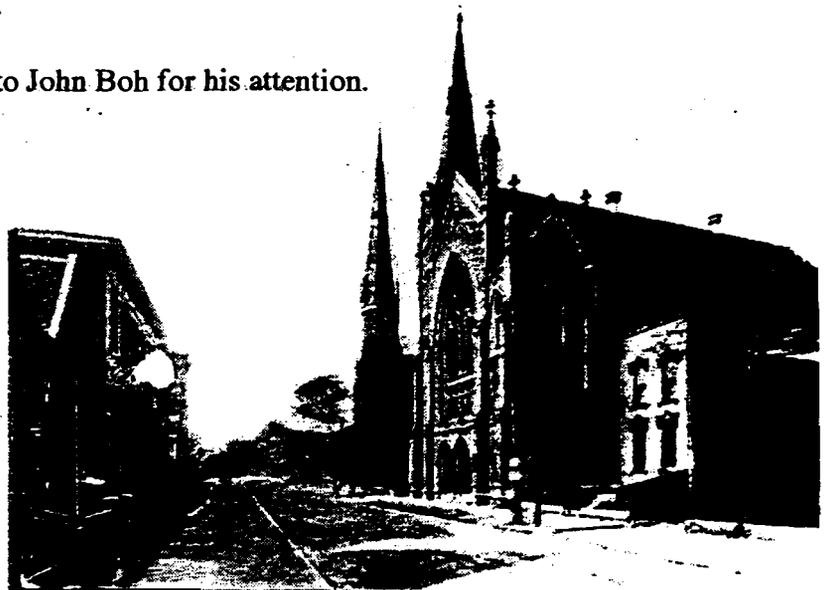
The January 1999 issue of the Bulletin needs several corrections in the lead article ("Kenton County: Some Well Known Facts and Some You May Have Missed"). Most of the material was taken from *Yesterday in Kentucky: Fantastic Tales from all 20 Counties of Kentucky*, edited by Jack Oldham.

Kenton County started in 1840, not 1804. The latest county courthouse in Independence was dedicated in 1912. Since the county population was concentrated toward Covington, convenience always dictated that some county business be conducted there. A second full system of county record keeping in Covington commenced in the 1850s. Deed Book I in the Covington system dates to 1860.

On the "Carlisle house," a Covington architectural historian once found the belief "tenuous" that John G. Carlisle ever resided in the "Carlisle House" on Garrard Street.

On the Roebling Suspension Bridge, the statement that it was opened at the end of 1866 is correct, but it was started in the 1850s, delayed during the Civil War.

Many thanks to John Boh for his attention.



First Bapbtist Church, Fourth Street. First Presbyterian in background

Yes, I would like to volunteer to help at the Registration Table or KCHS table on History Day, Saturday, March 13.

NAME _____

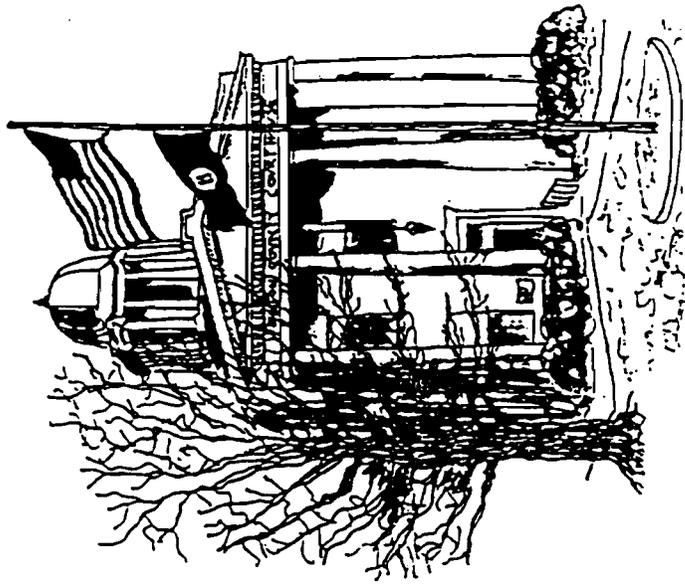
ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ **work** _____

I can volunteer at this time _____

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INSIDE:
The Life of Orie Solomon Ware

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

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