



# The Historian

Website:  
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oakwoodhistory.org

Preserving the past, present, and future of the Oakwood Community • December 2022



## Greetings Members,

It's been a busy year for the Society!

Our second in the series of Historical Marker Program was installed in September, just outside of 45 Park Avenue. This marker honors the first free-standing public library in Oakwood with the donation of the building by John R. Fletcher in 1923.

The Society also received a generous grant from the Rotary Club of Oakwood, and we are in the planning stages of installing additional markers in 2023 with these funds. We thank the City of Oakwood and community residents for their continued support and if you haven't already— we hope you'll visit Park Avenue soon to view both markers.

We also just completed this year's very popular Far Hills Speaker Series in the beautifully renovated Wright Public Library Community Room. We have some very interesting speakers and topics already lined up for next year. Stay tuned.

Our very popular Holiday Home Tour returned, this year featuring the historical homes that grace our charming and unique Harman Terrace. It takes more than 60 volunteers to organize this event and we're extremely appreciative of the homeowners who willingly and warmly open their doors each year to the community. This is our largest fundraiser of the year, and it takes a village to make it the success it has become. Thank you!

We're also excited to announce our newest program— the Century Home marker. The goal of this program is to highlight and bring awareness to Oakwood's many century-old homes that lend our community its unique and lovely ambience. Read on to learn more about this exciting project.

Thank you again to all our members, sponsors, donors and many, many volunteers for your continued support of the Society— you help make history happen!

Wishing you all the best in the year to come,

*Debra Edwards*

President

## Do You Own an Oakwood Century Home?

The Oakwood Historical Society has launched its new Century Home Marker Program, celebrating Oakwood's treasured, older homes that make our community so unique.

The Century Home markers will be awarded to homes 100 years of age or older, and that contribute to the architectural and historical ambience of the Oakwood community. The Society will research date of home and original owners prior to awarding the plaque. The goal of this program is to instill a sense of pride and preservation of Oakwood's beautiful century homes.

Each marker is made of cast solid bronze and measures six inches in diameter. The cost is \$210 for Society members, and \$225 for non-members. A great gift idea for your family to enjoy for many years.

For more information on the Century Home marker and to apply, please visit the Society's website at oakwoodhistory.org



## Special Insert

### The Dayton Golf Club and Its "Oakwood Links"

We are pleased to include a very special long-form article as an insert within this edition of our newsletter. Please enjoy reading about The Dayton Golf Club and its "Oakwood Links" by our historian, David Schmidt.

## *Oakwood Historical Society 2022 Officers & Board of Trustees*

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Far Hills Speaker Series  
Melissa Schlorman,  
Publicity & Social Media

### Historical Research/Archives

Tom Morrow  
David Schmidt  
Karen Bartley  
Debra Edwards

### Board Meetings

Fourth Monday of each  
month at 7:00 p.m.  
1947 Far Hills Avenue  
(The Homestead)

## Notes

### From The Archives

Our archival collection includes much more than just printed documents, letters, photos, books, and oral histories. We also boast a rare and wide-ranging collection of memorabilia, chronicling the storied past of Oakwood and a few of our illustrious residents.

Some of our most treasured items include original portraits of our early settlers, personal items from John H. Patterson, H. E. Talbott's humidior and Christmas cards sent from Orville Wright. The collection varies widely in scope— from an original Olmsted blueprint, early Schantz Park maps, film reels, Oakwood Pottery, school ephemera— and even a doorknob from the Runnymede Playhouse!

And our collection just keeps growing. This year, through a generous donation, we added a single-owner collection of 20-plus vintage dresses, dating from the late 1880s to the Roaring Twenties. These dresses belonged to an Oakwood resident and were donated by her niece.

We recently had on display at Wright Memorial Public Library a trophy from a Runnymede Playhouse tennis tournament. This was received from longtime Oakwood resident Delores Klaber. Mrs. Klaber was instrumental in the founding of The Oakwood Historical Society in 1974.

Ms. Klaber also recently donated a trophy that was awarded at the Dayton Golf Club tennis tournament in 1906. It is most fitting to feature this trophy in this newsletter to accompany historian David Schmidt's in-depth history of the Dayton Golf Club, included in this edition.

This trophy is even more special as the winner was Daisy Talbott.

Our goal in the coming year is to share more of our engaging collection of Oakwood history with the community.



## Year-End Giving – Support Your Local Historical Society

“Preservation . . . at its best, engages the past in a conversation with the present, over a mutual concern for the future.”

*William Murtagh, first keeper of the National Register of Historic Places*

We share this with you because preservation is as much about the future as it is about the past. As the only organization dedicated to preserving the history of Oakwood, Ohio, we need your support. We depend on the generosity of our members, donors and sponsors to help us fulfill our mission to research, preserve and promote the history of Oakwood for the future. Please consider a year-end donation to the Oakwood Historical Society.

Visit our website ([www.OakwoodHistory.org](http://www.OakwoodHistory.org)) and you can learn, first-hand, about the many events and activities we sponsor as we research, preserve and promote the history of Oakwood: The Far Hills Speaker Series, our Children's Gardening Program, annual 3rd Grade Day-trips to the Homestead, Historic Walking Tours including the ever-popular Holiday Home Tour, our archive of historical pictures,



documents and books, and our most recent Historical Marker Program.

It's easy to donate. Simply go online to our website ([www.OakwoodHistory.org](http://www.OakwoodHistory.org)) and click on the link on our home page titled "Make History with Us". Help us to preserve the history of Oakwood.

The Oakwood Historical Society is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization run entirely by volunteers, consequently your donation dollars are tax deductible, and 100% will go towards our mission of preserving the history of Oakwood.

## Over the Years... Highlights from the City Council Minutes Digitization Project

### 75 Years Ago in Oakwood (1947)

The dispute of the residents of the Oak Knoll Plat continued. Residents submitted a petition to rezone lots 1-8 in the Oak Knoll Plat (the 8 lots on Far Hills Ave just north of Dell Park Ave) to residential. The City's response can be summarized as: *It is a "cardinal principle of good zoning practice" that portions of a street lying directly opposite each other should be zoned alike.*

*Several of the lots have been zoned and used for commercial purposes for many years, and there is a growing need for additional business area.*

*If there are private restrictions in deeds, the city cannot enforce them; they need to be handled in court.*

### 50 years ago (1972)

Mr. Fredrick Davis of 5 Ivanhoe Avenue requested permission to speak to a matter which occurred on July 14th with the Oakwood Police Department, since it was his feeling that Council should be aware of a situation involving a parade on said date. The Roger Krupnic Marching Band of Butte, Montana, was staging a parade, consisting of approximately fifty people, in honor of Mr. Davis' birthday, and although no permit had been obtained by the marchers, it had paraded over three-fourths of a mile within the City before being stopped by the Police Department. Mr. Davis indicated that the Police Department overreacted in this situation in what amounts to harassment to the young people of the community.

As this matter had been the subject of a court hearing, and a trial was scheduled, Council indicated that it would be inappropriate to comment with a trial pending, with any testimony being presented to a Judge. Subsequently, one of the three defendants was found guilty of holding a parade without a permit.

## Get Involved with The Historical Society

The Oakwood Historical Society is seeking a volunteer Grant Writer to research, draft and submit proposals to win grant funding for the Society. This individual will work with the Board to find and pursue appropriate grant funding opportunities.

If you have experience and a professional background in grant writing and are willing to share your time and talent with us, we'd love to hear from you! Please email us at [info@oakwoodhistory.org](mailto:info@oakwoodhistory.org).



**CAROL J. HOLM**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
Dayton, Ohio



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**THE OAKWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

1947 Far Hills Avenue  
Dayton, OH 45419



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED  
DATED MATERIAL

**The Oakwood Historical Society Membership Form**

**Membership Categories** *(Please check one)*

- Individual ..... \$25.00
- Family ..... \$35.00
- Business ..... \$50.00
- Bronze ..... \$75.00
- Silver ..... \$100.00
- Gold ..... \$200.00

**Receive a \$5 Discount** *(Check if applicable)*

- Student       Senior       Active Military

***Please make Checks Payable to:***

*The Oakwood Historical Society*

***Mail Checks to:*** 1947 Far Hills Ave., Dayton, OH 45419

***To Pay via Credit Card:*** Visit [www.OakwoodHistory.org](http://www.OakwoodHistory.org) and click "Get Involved", and then "Join"

Date \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Partner \_\_\_\_\_

Business/Organization (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

*The information that you submit will be used only by the Oakwood Historical Society and will not be given or sold to outside parties.*