



*Collinwood Nottingham
Historical Society*



ReCollections



Volume 1 / Issue 1

Fall 2009



Happy Holidays from the Collinwood and Nottingham Villages

ReCollections is the Official Publication of the Collinwood Nottingham Historical Society
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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

By: Mary Louise Jesek Daley

Dear Friends:

Happy Holidays!! I would like to welcome you to the first issue of **ReCollections**, the newsletter of the Collinwood Nottingham Historical Society. I hope you enjoy it as much as we have putting it together.

I am proud of what we have accomplished in such a short period of time. After our work as the Collinwood School Fire Centennial Commemoration Committee had ended, we realized that we wanted to continue to preserve and share the unique history of Collinwood amongst ourselves and with others. Quite frankly, we enjoyed just sitting down and talking history amongst friends and enthusiasts. Thus, the historical society was created. Our first meeting was held on February 19, 2009 and we have been off and running ever since. It is hard to believe that we are already getting ready to plan our 1st Annual meeting, which, by the way, will be held on Friday, February 19th, 2010. Look for further details.

At first we had to get bylaws and other mundane chores out of the way in order to proceed. We set our goals and now it is working to fulfill those goals. We have many ideas about what a historical society should be and what activities we would like to see happen. We are continuing to find new opportunities for our officers and members. We encourage all history enthusiasts to come and have fun with us, too. The Historical Society is a recognized entity and will soon be recognized by the State as well. More importantly we will be joining other large and small Ohio historical societies as a member of the Ohio Historical Society's sponsored organization geared for local history called the Ohio Association of Historical Societies and Museums (OASHM). This will give us a boost when going after funding, which we hope to do in the near future.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will read what we have been up to and what some of the special plans we have for the future. Feel free to get in touch with us either via email at CollNottHistory@aol.com or via the phone at (216) 486-1298 (it is my answering machine).

**Introducing
RIBIT!! and SPIKE.**



*COLLINWOOD NOTTINGHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Established February 19, 2009
BE A PART OF YOUR HISTORY*

CollNottHistory@aol.com

In the early days of the Collinwood Village settlement - the area was known as Frogsville.

Later the village areas became known as Collinwood and Nottingham named after the Chief Engineer and Superintendent, respectively, of the Lakeshore and Michigan Southern Railroad. Thus RIBIT will be our mascot.

Because of that railroad and the fact that the railroad has played such an important role in the history of these communities, the railroad spike is a symbol for the Historical Society. The gavel for meetings is actually a railroad spike found locally. Spike will be seen taking on a number of different roles. In fact, this spike, seen in our newsletter, can be cut out and used as a bookmark.

LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY

By: Elva Brodnick

Plans are to have this *ReCollections* of ours come out 4 times a year. We do need your help, of course, to build it. Do feel free to send in any photos articles etc about anything Collinwood and Nottingham Villages!

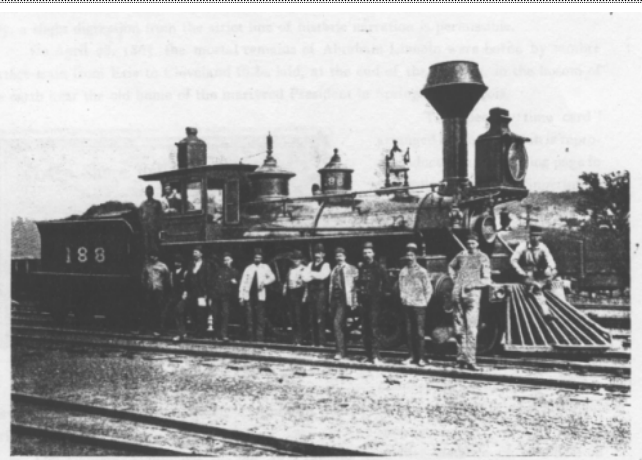
So please do some "ReCollecting" for us, and send us those stories – only you can tell them! And they're ALL worth remembering.

So send along your history to the email above or the address on the back of this issue.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Thanks!

Elva Brodnick



The "William Case" afterward rebuilt and numbered "188" as shown in the engraving.

**Our Logo
"The 'William Case' afterward rebuilt and
numbered "188" as shown in the engraving."**



Collinwood Nottingham Historical Society



The Collinwood Nottingham Historical Society held its first meeting on Thursday, February 19, 2009 and embarked on a new venture for the community. By forming a

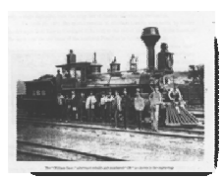
historical society we hope not only to preserve our history but also to share that history with all those who call or ever called this area home. We want to get excited about our history and make it come alive.

We call upon all historical enthusiasts to become a part of this new venture and literally help make history. Join us and share your story and your talents on behalf of your community.

**The next meeting of the Society is planned for
Thursday, December 17, 2009
beginning at 6:30PM
Lithuanian Village Hall, 877 East 185th Street
CHRISTMAS DINNER
WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR \$10.00.**



Charter Membership in the CNHS is only \$5.00. If you are interested in joining just email us at CollNottHistory@aol.com or call and leave a message at (216) 486-1298 and we will get back with you. We look forward to seeing you at future meetings. Remember, however, that even though you may not be able to make a meeting you can still get involved with the CNHS with many activities and research opportunities planned for the future. Just contact us with your interest.



Collinwood Nottingham Historical Society

Dear Students:

We invite you, our art students of the present, to help the CNHS to get our brand of history out to the community. We are looking for a **logo** for the Historical Society that encompasses the history of the community but maybe not only its past but also present and future. Since we live in a world of logos, branding and marketing we know that this should be one of our first projects; that is, getting a good logo so that we may begin to use this immediately in order to get recognition of our organization. We thought of the artists and the art students of the community to help us by designing a logo for this fledgling organization. What better way to get interested in history than to become involved with the organization by helping us create the organization?

A logo tells people who we are while not needing any further explanation. It should be reflective of the Society and the community. But it could be detailed, colorful, and /or encompass the name of the Society, but at the same time it must be able to be reproduced.

We are still gathering **original artwork** for this logo project. The Board and Officers of CNHS will review the artwork and work with the artist afterwards.

If you are interested in helping the Society pursue this goal of a logo please contact the Society via MARY LOUISE DALEY. Any questions may be directed via email to her at CollNottHistory@aol.com. We will arrange for pick-up of the artwork. All artwork becomes the property of the Society. Rights to the artwork, in part or in whole, are under the discretion of the Society. Any further questions, please ask. All artwork must have the following attached to it:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

School / Grade _____

Business _____

Off to Lakeview and East Cleveland Cemeteries

By: Elva Brodnick



Our first history chasing field trip as the Collinwood Nottingham Historical Society was held on Saturday October 24 and focused on the Collinwood School Fire children. We were joined by most of the Board first at Lakeview Cemetery, Euclid Ave entrance, near the Memorial for the Collinwood School Fire. The day was cool and misty, but we were ready to go with raingear if we needed it. As it was, the weather held, damp as it was, we were able to walk the cemeteries fairly well.

Lakeview Cemetery is possibly one of Cleveland's most historic cemeteries. Lakeview is the final resting place of many of Cleveland's most famous residents, including President James A Garfield to John Davison Rockefeller, but our primary interest this day was our own Collinwood School Fire children. Our goal was to show the Board members unfamiliar with the school fire the Memorial and the other gravesites and to try to understand the burial of the unidentified.

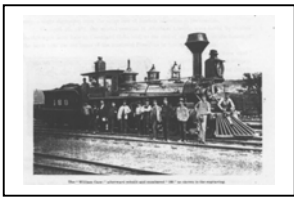
The area around the Memorial itself proved to be a puzzle in itself. Having maps of where the unknown or unclaimed children were laid to rest, gave us a general direction, now a row of shrubs grows over that area. Going on to other sections of the cemetery lead us to several great finds, including our angel. Our children are scattered all through Lakeview, so we did alot of walking. Your reporter found it interesting that the atmosphere at Lakeview is not at all depressing or really sad; possibly because Lakeview does welcome the living to visit and enjoy the grounds, as they were designed to be. All in all we were able to find quite a number of the children in the time we had – definitely need a return trip!

Our next stop was East Cleveland Township Cemetery, near the CWRU campus. Here again we were tracking down Collinwood School Fire children. East Cleveland is also a historic site, having been founded in 1859, and has its share of historic "residents". We were able to find quite a few children buried here, including one whose gravestone was written in German, which took us all through the cemetery. There are quite a few soldiers from the Civil War and early settlers of the Western Reserve, many of whom hailed from Collinwood and Nottingham. Again we definitely need a return trip!



There will be future visits to both these and other cemeteries in search of Collinwood and Nottingham history. Join us for a glimpse of life in the past; we promise the residents are friendly and eager to share their stories!





**Collinwood Nottingham
Historical Society**

The Collinwood Nottingham Historical Society has taken on the monumental task of the preservation of the history of our communities. Historical societies in general perform a significant and valuable service to the local community and it is our hope that we too can grow to become such an organization. In short, we want to help people appreciate their heritage by creating an understanding of the past and a positive attitude towards history and its potential; in this way we contribute to the community's quality of life.

Our primary purpose is to discover, record and collect whenever and wherever possible that material which may help to establish or illustrate the history of the area. We also hope to provide for the preservation of this material as is feasible. Most importantly though we want to be the venue through which this historical material is disseminated back to the community and awaken a sense and purpose of history hopefully sparking a historical dialogue.

We are conducting a survey. Share with us so that we can help the community share with itself.

Name
Address
Phone
Email

Would you be willing to be contacted to share with us the story of your family in the Collinwood community? _____

Return to:
The Collinwood Nottingham Historical Society
c/o1141 East 167th St - Cleveland, Ohio 44110

This survey may also be sent via email to:
CollNottHistorical@aol.com

President: Mary Louise Jesek Daley
Vice Pres.: Dennis Crislip
Secretary: Elva Brodnick
Treasurer: George Neff
Board of Directors

Please check any of the following for which you might feel comfortable sharing with the CNHS or which you would be interested in finding out more about. If willing to share information, please provide a brief description. Thank you.

- _____ Family Correspondence
- _____ Diaries or family narratives
- _____ Photographs (people, events, places)
- _____ Union or business cards
- _____ Organization or fraternal society cards or information
- _____ Family history or genealogical records
- _____ Copies of vital records (immigration papers, naturalization papers, a will, etc.)
- _____ Significant objects of historical interest
- _____ Willing to be interviewed
- _____ Collinwood School Fire (1908) information (photographs, people, stories, etc.)
We are still working on documenting this period and this event
- _____ Old Newspapers, old ads, fashions etc

I would like to know about the following in the Collinwood and/or Nottingham Community:

Do not hesitate to email the CNHS at CollNottHistorical@aol.com or call Mary Louise at (216) 486-1298.

Members “ReCollect”:

Member Eric Deutsch shares this wonderful photo of his mother Jennie & brother George in front of Frank Champa’s Glen Park Cafe, a well-known polka spot.

The Glen Park Cafe, owned and operated by Frank Champa and his wife Olga, was a polka hot spot. It was located at 1049 E.185th St. It opened in 1943 and was torn down in 1961 for freeway construction. The current site of where the Glen Park stood is the southeast corner of E. 185th St. and Villaview Rd, near the entrance loop to the freeway. Besides hosting a weekend stage for polka music, it was well known for its Friday fish fries.

Frank Champa (1908-1993) was an area musician and accordionist who is enshrined in the Polka Hall of Fame in Euclid. As a tavern owner, Mr. Champa helped promote Slovenian Hour which has played on various radio stations around Cleveland.

Pictured in the foreground is Jennie Deutsch and her son, George. This picture was taken about 1952 from their front yard at 1044 E. 185th St, which is now the intersection of E. 185th St. and Villaview Rd.

by Eric Deutsch

Thanks Eric for sharing this great photo!
Members! Be sure to send in your “ReCollections”!

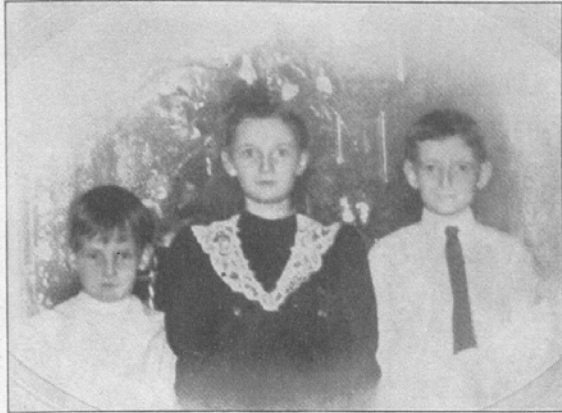




"Christmas in the Villages" –

*How will you be celebrating this year?
What was Christmas like for you in the past?
Share that with us!*

A Christmas Before the Collinwood School Fire



EDWIN, HULDA AND FRED SWANSON.

Children of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Swanson, 597 Adams Street. Fred wanted to go with his mother to the city on the morning of the fire. They were very affectionate children and fond of school. Their ages were 12, 11 and 8 respectively.

Winter at Euclid Beach



**YOUR STORY
AND
PICTURE HERE**



*The Collinwood Nottingham Historical Society was invited to participate in the **2009 Festival of Trees** sponsored by the Women's Committee of the **Cleveland Play House**. There are corporate sponsored trees and trees decorated by community and non-profit organizations. The trees decorated by Community organizations will be displayed in the Promenade Area of the complex from November 23, 2009 to January 3, 2010.*

The Festival of Trees is about the spirit of the Holiday Season. Our tree is decorated to reflect our community in past, present and future. There are train ornaments with our logo as well as our frogs. There are white roses for the Collinwood School Fire children, chalk boards to represent all the schools, poinsettias and holly, mementos of Euclid Beach and tinsel to brighten it all up. Thank you to board members, Sue and George Neff, for decorating the tree in true Collinwood Spirit.

There will be holiday cheer all around to help you get into the Spirit of the Holiday Season. Tell your family and friends to go and see our tree and the other trees sponsored by all the other community organizations.



Collinwood Nottingham Historical Society

1141 East 167th St – Cleveland OH 44110
Phone: 216 – 486-1298 Email: CollNottHistory@aol.com



Officers:

President: Mary Louise Jeseck Daley // Vice President: Dennis Crislip
Secretary: Elva Brodnick // Treasurer: George Neff Sr.

Board of Directors:

Ruta Degutis – Lou Drasler – Bob Gibbons –
Lynette & Paul Trolli - Sonino Scardelletti

Coming Events

Do Join Us!!



Thursday, December 17 2009

Our First Annual

Collinwood Nottingham Historical Society Holiday Dinner
(See details inside!)

Thursday, January 21, 2009

January Regular Meeting

Lithuanian Village Hall – E 185th St Cleveland OH
(Our Regular Monthly Meetings are Every 3rd Thursday)

Friday, February 19, 2010

PARTY LIKE IT WAS 1910

The 100th Anniversary of Collinwood's Becoming Part of Cleveland
ANNUAL MEETING
(Details Next *ReCollections*)

2010 is also the
100th Anniversary of the Euclid Beach Carrousel,
Installed at Euclid Beach Park in 1910

