

IMAGES

...THEN AND NOW

From the Indian Hill Historical Society



Buckingham Lodge-1861

The Historical Society's 40th Anniversary

The Indian Hill Historical Society has flourished for forty years. Village residents recently received the Annual Mailer, highlighting the upcoming programs for the 40th Anniversary Season.



Initially called the Indian Hill Historical Museum Association, the group was organized in 1973 by a group of 15 Village residents who wished to preserve the Little Red Schoolhouse. Funds for restoration were procured from a group of over 100 families, each contributing \$100. Known as the IHHMA/IHHS founders, their names are prominently displayed at the Schoolhouse. After saving the building, the nonprofit organization was incorporated in Ohio in 1974.

In its early years, the group focused on being a museum dedicated to preserving the “heritage of the community... through objects, collections, and exhibits.” One of its most successful efforts was the Henry F. Farney Show of 1975 – more than 80 paintings (most on loan from private collectors) were displayed from July 4th -27th at the Little Red Schoolhouse. It

was a world-class event!

By the mid 1980s, the Board had moved away from the concept of creating a museum. *From Camargo to Indian Hill*, the first publication of the IHHS, chronicled the history of the Village and featured research and photographs relevant to its evolution. Other volumes followed, including *Treasured Recipes of Indian Hill*, *Treasured Landmarks of Indian Hill*, and *Indian Hill: A Point of View*, all of which documented the mosaic of this extraordinary locale. The Historical Society also publishes information and articles in local newspapers and on its website: www.indianhill.org.

Recognition and preservation of historic buildings has been an ongoing practice. Besides saving the Washington School, the IHHS raised funds to restore Buckingham Lodge/Bonnell House and was instrumental in ensuring that Jefferson School and Elliott House not be demolished. The ongoing Historic Landmark Plaque Program recognizes local historical structures of merit.

The Society continues to work to locate research and collect memorabilia pertaining to the community and surrounding area. The Hauck Library and Resource Center contains relevant books, archives, genealogies, house and family files, and oral histories. This has been the culmination of 40 years of endeavor by Trustees, members, and staff. An active working cooperative group, the IHHS proposed and assisted with the Village Bicentennial Celebration (1995). It has been the recipient of the Griffin Yeatman Award twice, the Ohio Historical Society's History Outreach Award, and the Cincinnati Preservation Association Award. The organization is active in the Ohio Local History Association and the Country School of America Association.

About 25% of Indian Hill residents are members of the Historical Society. As supporters of the organization, they are invited to attend monthly activities - including art shows, antique exhibits, speakers on a variety of informative topics, the House Tour, and the Christmas party. Most activities take place at the Little Red Schoolhouse, which serves as a social and cultural center for the Village. Members also have the privilege of renting the historic building for their own gatherings.

The mission of the Indian Hill Historical Society is “Keeping Indian Hill's Past and Present Alive for Tomorrow”. As it commences its 40th year, be sure to attend the festive events and celebrate this unique community's history.

