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THE HISTORICAL RECORD

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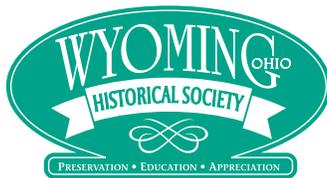
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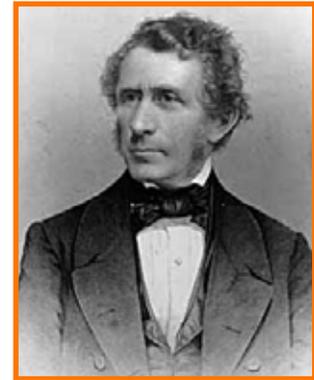


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DANIEL DRAKE AND FRONTIER MEDICINE

Daniel Drake rose from humble beginnings in backwoods Kentucky to become the preeminent physician west of the Appalachian Mountains in the early 19th century. Join us to hear the account of his personal perseverance, intense rivalry among the local physicians, and the founding of institutions which today make Cincinnati one of the finest medical centers in the country.



Join Wyoming's own Cincinnati Heritage Program docent
David Savage for this interesting program.

**Thursday, March 21
7 PM
Great Room
Presbyterian Church of Wyoming**

FREE - OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - REFRESHMENTS

Please join us for this year's final program.

**Thursday, May 16, 2019
"History of Cincinnati Broadcasting - Radio Now, Radio Then"**

MEMBERSHIP

Our membership year is January-December with our membership drive happening late each fall. However, we gladly welcome new members at anytime of the year. For a year dues are: Family \$20, Contributing \$50, Business \$25. New members joining after August will be credited through December of the following year. New members please send your check, name, address, phone and email to us and we will handle the rest. 800 Oak Avenue, Wyoming, OH 45215. Thank you.

PROUD BUSINESS MEMBERS

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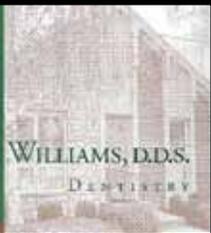

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HISTORIC WYOMING

(Written by John Diehl in 1973 - Edited by Glenn Lewis)

Section Four – Transportation, The Star Spangled Banner and much more

Let's see what has been coming down Springfield Pike. The bicycle age arrived in the 1880's. Each Decoration (Memorial) Day a fiercely contested bicycle race was held that started at Hamilton, OH and ended at Chester Park in Winton Place, passing through Wyoming on its way. People lined the Pike to watch the cyclists as they pass along. Boys had halved lemons that they sucked to quench their thirst. Cyclists weren't all professional racers by any means.

Trolley cars came to Wyoming about the turn of the century. The Millcreek Valley Line started in 1899 and operated little, bouncy four-wheeled cars. On July 1, 1901, the Cincinnati and Hamilton Electric Railway ran its first car through Wyoming going as far as Springdale. At the request of 34 valley girls, the traction company instituted a special late run called the "Sweetheart's Owl Car" which went into service in August 1903. The trolley car era ended in Wyoming on October 16, 1932 with the abandonment of the Hartwell car barn and the repaving of Springfield Pike.



Mr. C. L. Warriner had one of the very first automobiles in town – a 1900 white steamer. There was an automobile parade on April 4, 1908 and all fourteen cars in town participated. The procession wound through town to the corner stone laying ceremonies for the Wyoming Club (Civic center II). The affair was well attended. Officiating dignitaries wore shiny top hats and music was provided by the Reading band and the children of Wyoming school.



The "new" fire house.

Public and civic matters were managed well. We had an old city jail that was hardly maximum security but we really didn't have much need for a jail. From the beginning, the police department had an enviable reputation for efficiency, honesty and devotion to duty. Mayor Kirby's campaign promise was a new police station. Instead, Wyoming got a new fire house at 400 Wyoming.

George Distler on duty in 1912 at Spreen's Corner, Wyoming Avenue and Springfield Pike.



(Continued from previous page)

Marshal George Kloster was the first mounted policeman in Wyoming. He rode a horse in 1908 and then a one-cylinder belt-driven motorcycle in 1910.

The first brick school building was erected on Wyoming Avenue in 1880. About 1892 Miss Kitty Gould's first grade class had a bright youngster – by the name of Charles Sawyer. He became Secretary of Commerce in Truman's cabinet in 1948 and one of the truly great men of this community. Wyoming also produced school text books. Dubbs Arithmetic Problems by Eugene L. Dubbs, who lived at 311 Worthington Avenue, was almost as much the standard equipment of the school child of the 1890's as McGuffey's Reader. A. J. Gantvoort taught music here for 2 years and published a School Music Reader. He was among the five men who 'standardized' the Star Spangled Banner in 1917. He was director of the College of Music of Cincinnati which joined with the Conservatory of Music to form the College-Conservatory of Music that in 1962 became part of the University of Cincinnati.

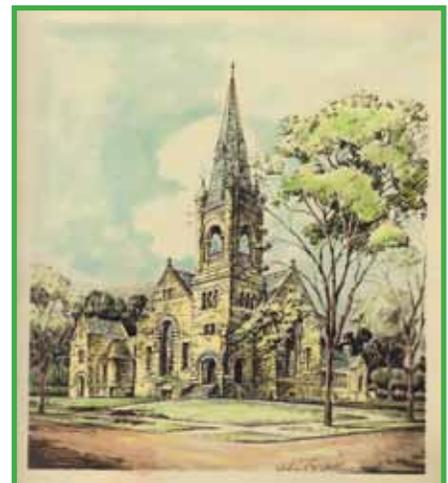


George Kloster on his motor cycle.

Of the early churches in town, the Presbyterian was first beginning in 1870. Later a handsome stone gothic building was dedicated May 18, 1890. The Baptist church, an attractive building on Burns avenue, was dedicated in September 1883. The original St. James of the Valley Catholic Church was erected on Crescent Avenue in 1887, and moved to the Pike in 1940. The Episcopal Church of the Ascension started in Wyoming in 1892. The building at Worthington and Burns Avenue was dedicated on the Feast of the Ascension in 1896. Christian Scientists built their church on the Pike in 1956. The Methodist Church, once located in Lockland on Anthony Wayne Avenue, moved to the Pike in 1960. The Valley Temple was built on the Pike in 1974.

Now in the briefest of epilogues, let's pull the story together. Geological good fortune has given Wyoming exceptional natural beauty and a good water supply. The short cut of the Great Road in 1806 determined our location and established the agricultural phase of our history. By happy circumstances, four locks of the canal happened to be built right at our door step, providing water power for a number of mills. The mill owners, attracted by our natural beauty, built fine homes in town. The atmosphere gradually shifted from self-sufficient agricultural to suburban. It must be remembered though that even the early settlers in Wyoming were not ordinary farmers. Pendery, Burns and Riddle looked beyond the corn field and cattle barn and in addition to farming, were incorporators in the Springfield Turnpike. The railroad and subsequent transportation developments broadened the scope of Wyoming and completed the shift to a suburban aspect. Wyoming has seemed to attract people with a wide range of interests and a deep sense of civic responsibility and, yes, people who have always insisted on a superior public school system.

That is why Wyoming has maintained an outstanding character, identity, and charm.

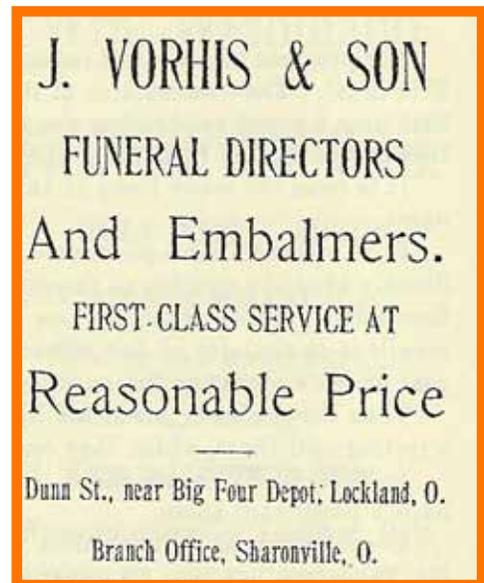
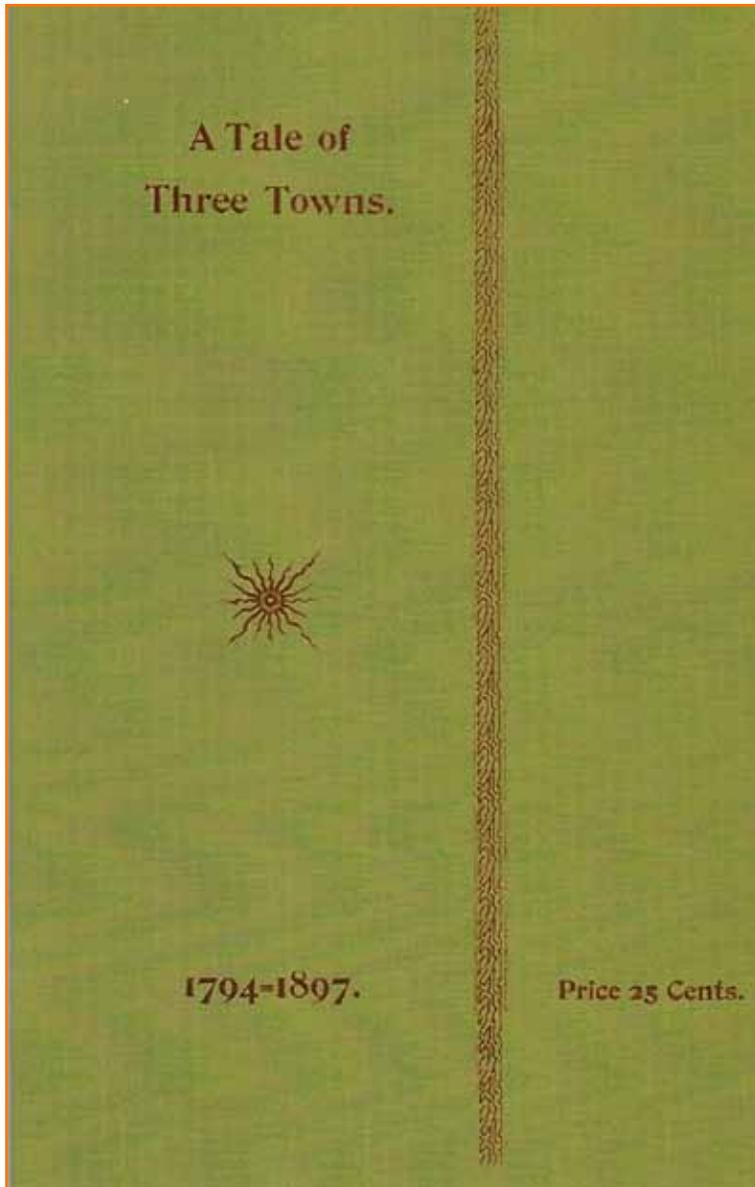


The second structure to serve the members of the Presbyterian Church of Wyoming.

A TALE OF THREE TOWNS.....reprinted

The Reading Historical Society has reprinted this booklet which was originally written in 1897 by Lockland resident Edward G. Fisbeck and published by The Hussey Publishing and Advertising Co. It contains brief early histories of Lockland, Wyoming, and Reading along with many ads for the area businesses of that day. An insert has been added with updates from the current mayors of the three towns.

Your Historical Society has purchased a number of these booklets and has them available for purchase at headquarters for \$10 each. For \$12, we will put one in the mail to you.



This is a copy, from the booklet, of an advertisement for a business that is still with us today...and in the same place!

In the last edition of this newsletter, there was an article about the House-McIlwain home at 310 Wyoming Avenue winning the Historic Preservation Award. We recently heard from talented artist/illustrator Bob McGinnis (WHS Class of 1943) who upon reading about the award informed us that he used to cut Mr. McIlwain's grass!! This probably falls under "You can take the boy out of Wyoming but you can't take Wyoming out of the boy!"

ADDING TO THE ARCHIVES....

We have added to our archives a 2018 Legends of WWII calendar produced by the Veterans Committee. Alongside Doolittle, Murphy, McArthur and Boyington is Wyoming's only Medal of Honor winner, John Fox. We thank Pete Wiggers for that donation.

John Sears has added a level and a plumbing poster to the Sears Family Collection.

Dave and Judy Savage have given us a 1882 hard-bound copy of "Past and Present of the Mill Creek Valley" by Wyoming's first mayor, H. B. Teetor.

Katie & Libby Wadds donated to our Wyoming School Archives a copy of the 2018 senior class trip to Washington DC.

THE JOHNNY APPLESEED PEW

By Bill J. Cook, Edited by Glenn Lewis

On Congress Avenue in Glendale stands the little white and green Church of New Jerusalem, now called the New Church. Few people viewing the church today in all its serenity realize the story of the Johnny Appleseed Pew and what took place in the shadow of that steeple.

Long before there was a Glendale, the Mill Creek Valley was settled by the Cook family. They followed the road north covering present day Elmwood Place and part of Carthage, Wyoming and Woodlawn.

These settlers carved farms out of the wilderness when it was still filled with the fear of hostile Indian attacks. Large families were in order and a common necessity. They were hard workers, yet people of wealth and a fine cultural background. One of their chief complaints being the lack of churches in the wilderness. Family devotions in the home were not enough to feed their hungry souls. Hence came into being what was called - Pentecost in the Back Woods.

Everyone in the family connection would arrange their work and business affairs in such a manner as to have three weeks completely free. Gathering together all the family connections and their servants, they would make a camp in the woods. Then sleeping in tents and covered wagons, cooking their food over open fires provided time to listen to preaching from early in the morning until late in the evening. They stopped only for food and sleep.

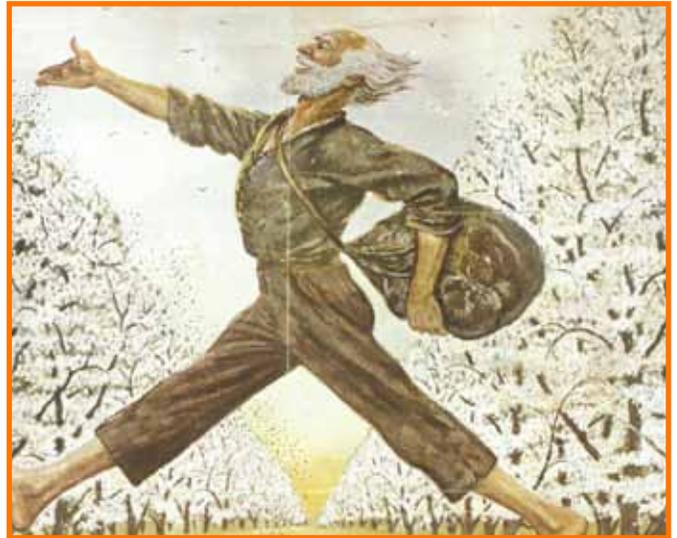
Throughout the years, this Pentecost in the Back Woods drew some of the most outstanding preachers from eastern United States and even far-off England and Scotland.

In choosing a site, they tried to meet within an equal distance for all concerned.

Two of the visitors, in later years to the Pentecost in the Back Woods, were men who traveled a lot on business throughout Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois. One a young man – John Henry Cook, traveled as his father's aide-de-camp in looking after the family business enterprises. The other an old man traveled on his own business and that of the Lord. These two men, as their paths frequently crossed, became great friends. The old man was John Chapman, better known as Appleseed Johnny or Johnny Appleseed. His business was planting and selling apple trees. He described it thus:

(Continued from previous page)

“When I plant on a man’s farm, it’s agreed that half the trees shall be his own orchard. When anyone wants my trees, I set down an order in writing for the landowner to let him have a certain number. He pays me if he’s able. If his pocket be empty, he trades something, or he gets the trees for nothing, and God go with ‘em.”



In the early days, Johnny was safe among the Indians. They considered him crazy and would do him no harm, believing him under the Great Spirit’s care. A vegetarian, Johnny abhorred meat because it meant killing one of God’s creatures. A more humble man never walked the Mill Creek Valley.

Cook believed him to be intelligent and full of pleasant story and good advice. The two men were vastly different, yet in time Cook became very fond of the strange little old man. He found it easy to overlook Johnny’s eccentricity and strange manner of dress.

In 1844, Johnny and Cook traveling north from Cincinnati, visited the last camp meeting (Pentecost in the Back Woods). After that meeting, the old meeting house was abandoned.

In time, Glendale came into being. First as an idea on paper; then as a reality. The land on which the old building stood was purchased by Mr. Allen and became a part of his estate. Later, Mr. Allen donated the woods to be the site of a Church of New Jerusalem.

Later, after the lovely new church had been completed, a group from the church set about to pull down the old house but before the old building could be demolished, Cook ventured to cross the threshold for one last time. He stood and gazed. In Cook’s memory, he recalled the times as a young man that he had attended camp meetings in the old building.

Cook trudged through the debris. He recalled how he and John Chapman had traveled in almost wordless companionship in his carriage from Cincinnati to attend their last camp meeting here. He never felt embarrassed to travel with the strangely dressed old man and treated him as a loyal friend with sympathy and warm affection.

Cook told others how Johnny and he had marched down the aisle and that he sat on one side of the pew and Johnny on the opposite end as if he were quite used to sitting there.

John Henry Cook whistled like a whitethroat as he worked out of the old meeting house. He knew what he would do; he would preserve that pew. The Johnny Appleseed Pew was repaired and placed in the New Jerusalem Church for the Cook children to sit upon.

Editor’s Note: Johnny Appleseed did indeed pass through Wyoming. Thanks to the caring historians living in Glendale, Ohio, for this story.

March 2019

The Wyoming Historical Society
800 Oak Street
Wyoming OH 45215

Look forward to seeing
you on March 21

Dear Members,

PRESIDENT'S LETTER...Mary Killen

Your Board of Trustees has been busy creating opportunities to enhance your experiences as a members and promoting our mission of education, preservation and appreciation.

Thanks to Carol Beeson who has arranged for two exciting upcoming programs one in March and one in May. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Membership Chair Sue Wilson arranged a tour of Music Hall as a follow-up to our program on the history and renovation of the building. She is also planning a member's only event in the spring. More details will be mailed to you as plans are finalized.

The committee which worked on creating the Historic Wyoming-Opoly game continues to find avenues to market the game. Don't forget it makes a perfect present for Wyoming friends and neighbors.

If you have ideas or suggestions for programs or activities, please don't hesitate to share. We want your Historical Society to reflect your interests. Once again, thank you for your support.

Honoring Wyoming's Past,
Mary Killen, President

