

THE HISTORICAL RECORD

March 2024

A Publication of the Wyoming Historical Society and the Wyoming History Museum

ARTISTS OF THE QUEEN CITY....Dr. Julie Aronson

Take a trip to the Cincinnati Art Museum and you will quickly discover why Cincinnati was America's foremost art centers of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Dr. Julie Aronson, Curator of American Paintings, Sculpture and Drawings at the Cincinnati Art Museum since 1999, will take us on a tour of the artists of the Queen City.

Dr. Aronson has published and lectured on topics ranging from New England folk portraiture to painters and sculptors of the Cincinnati region. Her research on the Cincinnati Impressionist Edward Henry Potthast culminated with the exhibition and publication of *Eternal Summer: The Art of Edward Henry Potthast* (2013). Dr. Aronson was on the curatorial team that produced the permanent collection display The Cincinnati Wing: The Story of Art in the Queen City, and edited and co-authored the companion publication. Dr. Aronson's professional experience includes positions at the National Gallery of Art and the Smithsonian Museum of American Art.



**April 11, Thursday, 7 PM
Wyoming Civic Center**

FREE - OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - REFRESHMENTS

WYOMING, OHIO CELEBRATING 150 YEARS IN 2024

Wyoming Historical Society
800 Oak Avenue
Wyoming OH 45215
513.842.1383

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Open Tuesday 10:30-3:00
or by appointment.



Wyoming History Museum

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WYOMING AND THE SUMMER OLYMPICS OF 120 YEARS AGO....Amy Pursley

The 1904 Olympics, held in St. Louis, were very under attended by athletes due to Franco-Prussian War problems in Europe. About 650 athletes took part but only about 60 of them were from the USA. However, four of those were from Wyoming!! So to honor the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris in July we introduce you to the four Wyoming participants, William Allen Clark, Lida "Eliza" Pollock, Charles Sherman Woodruff, Emily Woodruff, all archers.

Mr. Clark participated in the 1904 summer Olympics in St. Louis. However, these 'Olympics' were not what we know them as today. The 1904 affair was officially dubbed "26th Grand Annual Target Meeting of the National Archery Association". This event was open to international participants, however, no one outside of the United States entered. In fact, 11 of the 29 archers who participated were from the greater Cincinnati area. Interestingly, archery was the only event at this 'olympics' where women were permitted to participate, and five of the six female participants were from the Cincinnati area.



Eliza Pollock



The Cincinnatians, including four Wyomingites, were extremely successful. They earned a silver medal in the men's team round. William A. Clark and Charles S. Woodruff, both of Wyoming, were on this team.

Eliza Pollock won two individual bronze medals. She was also on the gold-winning women's team. Even though the women's team was not contested, the ladies on this team were extremely talented. Matilda "Lida" Howell (Norwood, Ohio) was considered to be the world's best female archer for most of her adult life. She was posthumously inducted into the National Archery Hall of Fame in 1975. Eliza Pollock and Laura Woodruff (wife of Charles Woodruff), consistently placed among the top in their fields, but almost always behind Lida. Lenora "Leonie" Taylor, of Cincinnati, garnered the last spot on the team, edging out her sister, Mabel, who participated in the individual events at this competition.

NEW ADDITIONS - WYOMING AUTHORS COLLECTION

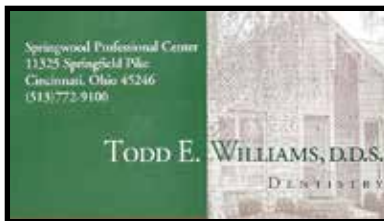
Did you know that the Wyoming Historical Society has a library full of books by Wyoming authors? Here are our most recent additions to the library. We're always looking for donations, so check your shelves at home for books, music, or movies featuring Wyomingites (past or present). We'd love to add them to our collection!

William Shoecraft: *Did You Know Presenting...Rosa Parks* and *Did You Know Presenting...Dr. Charles Drew*.

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: Individual \$25, Family \$50, Business \$75, Lifetime \$500. High school and college students are free. 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.

BUSINESS MEMBERS



WYOMING FAMILY DENTISTRY

Their mission: To provide you with the highest quality Dental care in a friendly, comfortable environment. We are committed to excellence in our field, and will utilize the latest technological advances to ensure you receive the absolute finest care possible.

WYOMING - CELEBRATING 150 YEARS

2024 Wyoming Historical Society

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NEW MEMBER WELCOME...

John Gannon
Ellen Michael
Tim & Julia Taylor
Kandy Wainer

-- MARK YOUR CALENDAR -- REMAINING PROGRAM FOR THE 2023-2024 YEAR

June 13
Cincinnati Curiosities - Greg Hand

BUSINESS MEMBERS



NEWS FROM THE REILY HOUSE...Cathy Ramstetter

The canteen pictured below is a reproduction of one manufactured by Winchell Marsh & Co. The Winchell family lived in Twin Oaks (the Reily Home) after the Reily Family moved to Colorado. The Winchell canteens, with the patented cork cap as well as the canvas carrying bags, were manufactured in downtown Cincinnati—you can see the approximate location when entering northbound I-75 at Ezzard Charles, as you travel on Winchell Avenue! During the Civil War the Marsh & Winchell families sold the canteens to the Union Army.



Thanks to the Ramstetters, this canteen now resides in the Wyoming History Museum.



APRIL 4TH 1861.....

With April fast approaching, Wyoming will soon be celebrating 163 years with a name. It is hard to imagine that before 1861 we were nothing more than a bunch of farms and part of Springfield Township. Giving the area a name created a unity that some 13 years later resulted in Wyoming

becoming an official entity, a village. Thank you to Robert Reily for starting us on the road to where we are today, the best city anywhere!

HILLTOP LANE WHEN IT WAS A FARM AND WHERE DID THE GOLDFISH GO.....Amy Pursley

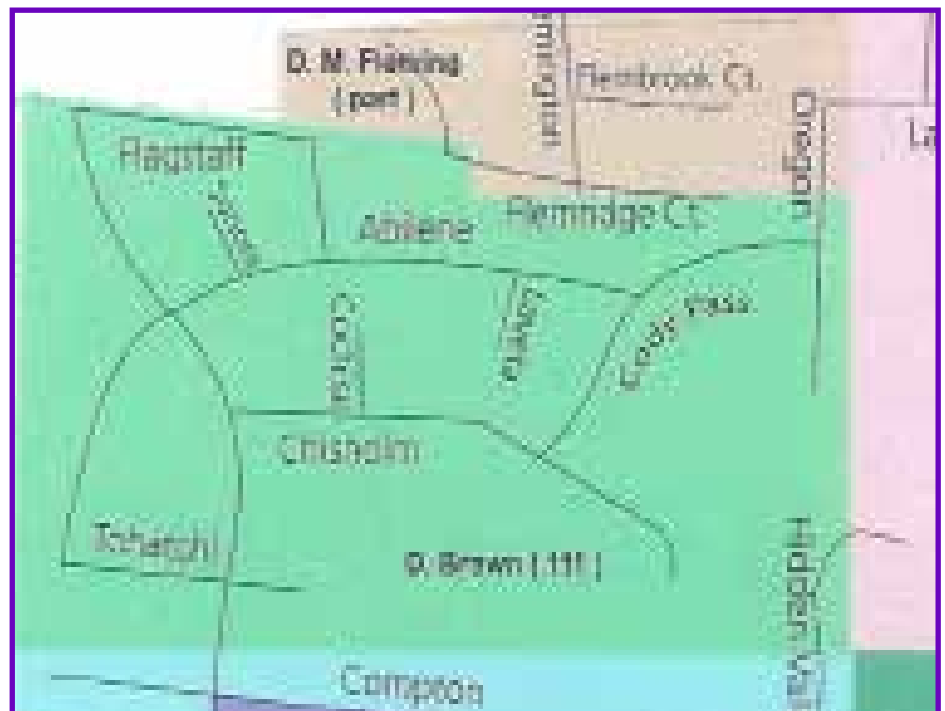
Note: Every year we bring to our Fall Festival booth a very large copy of a farm map. A map with all the farms in Wyoming in 1848. People like to see what farm their house sits on more than 170 years later. One year, We was asked about the D. Brown Farm, about 111 acres, that covers the area around Hilltop Lane west of Compton Road. It is the green rectangle on the left side of the map about half way up. Our Baord Mamber/researcher extraordinaire, Amy Pursley, learned the following. It includes births, deaths, old houses and stolen goldfish!!! (Note: Wyoming was part of Springfield Township in 1848.) Read on....

D. Brown on the 1840 farm map is Daniel Brown. He was born sometime around 1777-9 in Hagerstown, Maryland. He briefly moved to Mercersberg, Pennsylvania to marry his wife, Elizabeth, then moved to Springfield Township, Hamilton County, Ohio. He bought 126 acres of land from Jeremiah French in 1812.

From "History of Hamilton County, Ohio, with Illustrations and Biographical Sketches", 1881, by Henry A. Ford and Mrs. Kate B. Ford, pg. 372-383:

"Daniel Brown settled on section 15 of Springfield township in 1812. He was born in the year 1779, at Hagerstown, Maryland, but emigrated into Ohio from Pennsylvania. While in the latter State he worked as a mechanic, but his life in Ohio was that of a farmer. His wife was Elizabeth Bahn. He died at his home in 1853, and his wife lived but nine years longer. The surviving children are Willian, now living in Illinois; Isaac, in Indiana; Mrs. McGilliard and Mrs. Yerke, both living in Springfield township; and John, who remain on the old Brown homestead. He was born in the year 1812, and came with his parents to Ohio in the same year. He was married in 1839 to Miss Harriet McCoy. They have nine children, six sons and three daughters. Mr. Brown is one of the substantial and enterprising farmers of Hamilton county. By hard labor and wise economy he has acquired a comfortable home. He has occupied various positions of honor and trust that the appreciative people of his neighborhood thought best to confer. He and Mrs. Brown are both earnest members of the Christian church."

According to Spring Grove Cemetery, Daniel Brown was born 24 December 1777 in Hagerstown, Maryland and died at his home in Springfield Township 10 November 1853. The Cemetery records also show Elizabeth Brown was born 15 October 1785 in Mercersburg, Pennsylvania and died in Springfield Township on 1 November 1859. Two of their daughters (Maria and Susan) are buried with them. Another daughter, named after her mother, married Joshua Yerkes, who owned an abutting farm in Springfield Township. According to the 1830 Census, Daniel and Elizabeth had 10 children, 6 boys and 4 girls. John Brown appears to be the oldest son.



(Hilltop....Continued from page 5)

Upon Daniel's death, the farm presumably passed to John and another son, named Daniel. The younger Daniel was married to a woman named Mary (nee) Ireland. In 1867, Daniel and Mary sold their share of the farm to John. John died in 1893, Harriet died in 1895. Both are buried at New Burlington Cemetery at the intersection of Springdale Road and West Mill Road. In 1894, J.C. Sparks (administrator of the John Brown estate) sold the Brown farm to Joshua Yerkes, husband of Elizabeth Brown Yerkes. Joshua died four years later in 1898. In 1901, the heirs of Joshua Yerkes sold the farm to John Theodore Woesten. Woesten's heirs sold the farm to Charles and Iva Goosmann in 1923. In 1957, the Goosmanns sold most of the farm to Sycamore Development Company for the construction of Compton Woods Subdivision. This land was also annexed into the city of Wyoming that same year.

According to the Hamilton County Auditor's Office, the existing house at 470 Hilltop Lane was constructed in 1894. This indicates that the Yerkes family probably constructed this house. This house actually faces Compton Road, not Hilltop Lane, because the house was built about 60 years before Hilltop Lane was built. The large brick house at 460 Hilltop Lane was built by the Goosmanns in 1928 or 1929. According to the current owners of 460 Hilltop, the Goosmanns had the foresight to construct their house with the future roadway in mind. However, they did not know exactly where the road would be built, only that it would be built perpendicular to Compton Road. Therefore, the Goosmann house actually has two front entrances, one on the east side and one on the west side of the house. Once the future roadway location was determined, the elaborate front porch was added to the west side of the house.

Fun story: Dr. Charles Goosmann, the original owner of the house at 460 Compton Road, had many varied interests. He was a radiologist, a champion bridge player, a horseman, and a goldfish farmer. In 1928, there were 12 goldfish hatcheries in the greater Cincinnati area. One of these was owned and operated by Charles Goosmann, "a Cincinnati medical specialist (who) built up a thriving sideline by propagating goldfish on a suburban farm on Compton (Road), east of Mt. Healthy. He employs three men and ships thousands of goldfish to other cities." (Cincinnati Post, 12 June 1928, pg. 22)

But even goldfish farming has its risks. In November of 1930, Dr. Goosmann reported 1500 goldfish valued at \$150 missing from his breeding pools. According to the Cincinnati Enquirer, "(t)hey disappeared Thursday night from the pools and Dr. Goosman is satisfied that they did not run away or just go out for a walk and get lost. He is equally certain that they have not been smelted up by any assayer or pledged in pawnbroker shops, but he is satisfied that they were stolen. As none of the paraphernalia at the place was taken, it is believed that the thieves were provided with buckets or cans in which they carted off the fish. No description of the missing fish could be furnished, except that they include nearly every variety known in the goldfish family." (Cincinnati Enquirer, 22 November 1930, pg. 24) There is no indication that the local wildlife population was questioned in this mysterious case.

Note: At one time the Goosmann Farm had 8-10 ponds. Spring Pond was called that because it was spring fed. Another, called Lake Wisconsin, was stocked with bass so the Goosmanns could fish!!



The Goosman House at 460 Hilltop Lane built in 1928 or 1929 by Dr. Goosmann.

CROSLY SR. VS CROSLY JR. VS CROSLY AVENUE

Crosley Avenue is part of the "Almonte Addition to Wyoming" which was a subdivision established in the fall of 1889. Powel Crosley is listed as the land owner and developer of this subdivision. But this is not the Powel Crosley of radio fame. This was his father. Powel Crosley, Jr., the maven of radio components, electric appliances and even automobiles, was only three years old when this subdivision was platted.

The elder Powel Crosley was born on Christmas day in 1849 to Moses and Sally Ann (Eulass) Crosley in Springboro, Ohio. He was the seventh of ten children born to them.

After high school, Powel Crosley embarked on a brief career as a teacher and an even briefer career in business. In pursuit of a law career, Mr. Crosley attended Ann Arbor Law School, graduating in 1876. Upon his convocation, he came to Cincinnati to join Congressman Ben Butterworth's law firm.

In October of 1885, Mr. Crosley married Charlotte "Lottie" Utz in her family home in Walnut Hills. Eleven months later, Powel Crosley, Jr. was born. They would have three more children: Lewis, Charlotte and Edythe. Sadly, Charlotte died at the age of three due to scarlet fever.

Mr. Crosley dabbled in real estate and established a sizable fortune "until the financial panic of 1893, when he lost nearly everything." (The AWA Review, Volume XVI, 2003, pg. 7) One of his endeavors was the development of "Almonte Addition to Wyoming" in 1889. This subdivision consisted of the construction of Pendery Avenue (from Burns to Oak), Burns Avenue (from Pendery to Oak), Oak Avenue (from Pendery to Burns) and the self-named Crosley Avenue.

Perhaps Crosley Sr.'s most notable business endeavor was the Pike Opera House on Fourth Street, between Vine and Walnut Streets, in Cincinnati. In 1890, he obtained "a perpetual lease, with privilege of purchase, on the historic Pike Opera House." (Cincinnati Enquirer, 14 September 1932, pg. 12) Crosley attempted to maintain a full schedule of entertainment in the theater portion of the building while renting office space throughout the remainder of the building. The building caught fire in 1903 and could not be salvaged. After two years of legal turmoil, Crosley turned over the property to a group of investors that would build the Hotel Sinton on this site.



Mr. & Mrs. Powel Crosley, Sr.
Photo courtesy of crosleyautoclub.com

Powel Crosley, Sr. died on September 13, 1932. He is buried at Spring Grove Cemetery with his wife, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

IN MEMORIAM

Roger Honebrink
(1925-2024)

Roger was Past President of the Wyoming Historical Society.

The Wyoming Historical Society
800 Oak Avenue
Wyoming OH 45215

Look forward to seeing you at our
next program on April 11th

PRESIDENT'S LETTER...Jim Walton

Dear Members,

As we celebrate Wyoming's 150th birthday this year, the Historical Society will be selling mugs to commemorate the occasion, and proceeds will help support our ongoing mission to preserve and promote Wyoming's grand history. We will also have a booth at the City's 150th Celebration at the Village Green on May 31st. Looking forward to seeing you there!



The mugs have both logos and the wording "150th Anniversary" on them.