

THE HISTORICAL RECORD

Summer 2024

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

YOU NEVER KNOW WHERE YOU MIGHT FIND SOMETHING GOOD.....

With the cusp of the 2024 Summer Olympic Games upon us, our friends at the Friends of the Public Library Used Bookstore Warehouse recently found this little gem in their treasure trove of boxes.

It's a trophy from the Hamilton County Suburban Athletic Association Boy's Swim Team Championship in 1977. The team trophy is in the possession of Wyoming High School. This is one of the individual trophies awarded to the team members who were:

B. Schimberg, S. Smith, D. Smith, S. Schuholz, J. Anderson, F. Adams, S. Urban, E. Adolph, S. Stamler, J. Dorworth, A. Hoffman, J. Gendell, G. Livingston, E. Fegelman, B. Levine, R. Stamler, B. Henderson and C. Hanson. The team was coached by Bob Silver.

The team is immortalized in the 1977 Wyoming High School Yearbook, which helped us identify the victors behind this new artifact which will be housed in the Wyoming Historical Society's museum. The museum is open to the public on Tuesdays from 10:30am to 3:00pm or by appointment.



HAPPY 150TH WYOMING!!!!

Wyoming Historical Society
800 Oak Avenue
Wyoming OH 45215
513.842.1383

History@Wyomingohio.gov

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



Wyoming History Museum
A Unique and rewarding
place to visit.

Member of:
Ohio Association of Historical
Societies and Museums,
American Association for State
and Local History,
Ohio History Connection

Wyoming Historical Society
is a 501 (c) 3 not-for-profit
corporation.

IMAGINEERING...

Many people who live or lived in Wyoming have 'invented' something. Whether its a formula for a soap, a cooking spray or a piece of art. We continue to highlight some of those people who helped make our life better in their special way.

CHARLES G. MERRELL.....Amy Purlisey

Charles G. Merrell was the grandson of William S. Merrell, the founder of a small pharmacy in Cincinnati, Ohio, which sprouted increasingly larger pharmaceutical firms with this attached surname: Richardson-Merrell, Merrell Dow, Marion Merrell Dow.

William opened the Western Market Drug Store at the corner of Chestnut Street and Western Row (now known as Sixth Street and Central Avenue) in 1828. In the 1840s, he gained notoriety for his advancements in the field of indigenous materia medica, or native plant-based pharmaceuticals. After William's death in 1880, his son, George Merrell, reorganized the business under the name "William S. Merrell Chemical Company."

Charles, George's eldest son, graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1888 with a degree in chemistry. Charles began working with his father immediately upon graduating. In the 1890s, he served as head of the company's chemical laboratory. Charles ascended to the presidency of the company when his father passed away in 1915. He became Chairman of the Board in 1937 and retired in 1943.

Around 1923, Charles and his wife, Lily, moved to 67 Reily Road (now known as 550 Larchmont Drive). The property was about 9 acres at that time and housed cows, chickens, a garden and an orchard. Shortly after moving to Wyoming, he applied for a patent for "a product of castor-oil that (retained) the therapeutic action of castor-oil, but (was) devoid of the nauseating taste and oily characteristics thereof." Patent #1,862,315 was awarded to him in 1932.

Charles also served as a Hamilton County Commissioner from 1937 to 1941. He passed away in Pennsylvania in 1956.

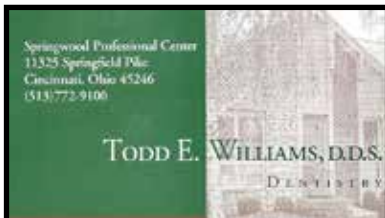
ADDING TO THE ARCHIVES....

We have added a number of items and information about the Stearns & Foster Company, the Lockland Lumber Company and the Ibold Cigar Company and the families that started and ran these Wyoming related companies. Thank you Michael & Marcia Wasson for sharing these treasures with us.

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



ACCESS AUDIO

Access Audio is a full-service event production company specializing in professional sound, lighting, and video. Behind every Access Audio event is a client with a vision and a team of passionate craftspeople breathing life into it.

It's this relationship that makes our productions truly custom experiences. It's what takes an event from memorable to unforgettable. From audio equipment rental and event lighting rental to AV installation, training, and consulting, Access Audio exists to support you.

2024 Wyoming Historical Society

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Megan Wasson	

NEW MEMBER WELCOME...

Joyce Cantor
Michael & Marcia Wasson
Megan Wasson

-- MARK YOUR CALENDAR -- PROGRAMS FOR THE 2024-2025 YEAR

September 26 November 14
January 23 February 20
March 27 April 24

!!! BE THERE OR BE SQUARE !!!

BUSINESS MEMBERS



CELEBRATING THE OLYMPICS...

Compiled by Glenn Lewis

The 2024 Paris Summer Olympics are here. We combed our archives looking for Wyoming people who were connected to the Olympics. Can you add to the list? They just need to have been a Wyoming resident.

- 1896 Albert C. Tyler competed in the pole vault, won a silver medal by vaulting 3.25 meters.
- 1904 Lida "Eliza" Peyton Pollock* competed in archery where she won a gold in the team round and two bronze medals in the individual events.
- 1904 Emily Smiley Woodruff, wife of Charles S. Woodruff Jr., was a member of the woman's team that won gold that year and she placed 4th in the two individual events. She was 58 years old.
- 1904 Charles S. Woodruff Jr., husband of Emily, competed in archery that year also. He placed 4th and 8th in the individual events and won a bronze medal in the team event.
- 1904 William A. Clark, silver medal in men's team event at St. Louis.
- 1948 1933 WHS graduate Major Philip Roettinger competed on the pistol and rifle team.
- 1948 Wyoming's Dottie Lang served as a team nurse for those Olympic Games.
- 1972 Deena D. Deardorff, Class of 1975, won a gold medal in the woman's medley relay.
- 2000 Alyssa Beckerman, gymnast, WHS 1999, qualified at the USA 2000 trials and was selected to go as an alternate.
- 2000 Gregory Ruckman, a member of the WHS Class of 1992, qualified in the men's lightweight four rowing category.
- 2008 David Thorn Payne, Class of 2000, won a silver medal in the 110 meter high hurdles.

We can also add to the list - sort of - former Wyoming resident Tim Hunter, son of Ed and Marilyn Hunter, designed the cauldron that held the flame for the 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Olympics.



Our 150th mugs are on sale at Gabby's, the Wyoming Pastry Shop, Wyoming Community Coffee or the Wyoming City Building. Or, stop down at our headquarters on Tuesday's between 10:30 am and 3:00 pm to say hello and buy your mugs.

WYOMING'S PROGRESSIVE IDEAS

(Newspaper article of 1889- Author unknown)

The annual official reports of the village of Wyoming, which we will state for the benefit of distant readers is one of Cincinnati's handsomest suburbs, always contain something of note, especially the message of its capable and enterprising Mayor, Mr. R. D. Barney. Wyoming has been greatly beautified by the intelligent public spirit of its citizens and constant effort is made to enhance the comfort and convenience of its residents.

Mayor Barney calls attention this year to the desirability of introducing the electric incandescent lamp for interiors and the same or the arc lamp for streets and grounds. He expects that fuel gas, either natural or artificial, will soon banish coal fires with their smoke and dirt. Mr. Barney has been looking into the subject of a corporation electric service. The kind chosen for Wyoming, whose streets will require twenty-two miles of wire is the alternating current system.

The cost of the plant will be about \$20,000. In addition to the lighting of the streets and residences brilliantly, electric power will be available. Mr. Barney says of this: "The same current taken from the same wire that lights our sitting-rooms, can operate our sewing machines and ventilating fans. It can light our kitchens and at the same time operate our churns, washing machines and ice cream freezers. It can light our stables and operate pumps to lift water into tanks so situated that they can furnish house and out-buildings with a copious service of water for daily use, and afford the best possible protection against destruction by fire." It is added that the new electric plant will insure for every street and residence in the village all the lighting and power they will require. The new electric plant will pay for itself at once in the increased values of property. "Blessed is the time and opportunity," says Mayor Barney, "when people can make money by doing good."

During the past year nearly two miles of Portland cement sidewalks, by far the best in use, have been laid in Wyoming, at a cost of fifteen cents a square foot. With proper care these will last a lifetime. They should not be trodden by horses hitched to snow-plows, nor subjected to battering-ram avalanches from coal carts. They should not be discolored with salt sprinkling, nor should any other pavement. The driveways will stand ordinary wear and tear, but where there is continuous heavy hauling the concrete should be protected with boards.

Plans for the complete sewerage of the village are being perfected. It would be well for Cincinnati to keep an eye on the municipal development of Wyoming. The village is in the van of progress, and has an apt way of doing the things that other corporations are just beginning to talk about. The reports for 1889 are printed in a pamphlet published by Robt. Clarke & Co.

WHAT A BIRTHDAY.....

Thanks to Steve Tonne for driving his 1923 Dodge Brothers Eagle Coupe, in the July 4th parade and for inviting resident Alma Reckner to ride along to help celebrate her 100th birthday, July 6th!

Happy Birthday Alma!!!!



The Wyoming Historical Society
800 Oak Avenue
Wyoming OH 45215

Look forward to seeing you at our
next program on September 26th.

ANOTHER 100TH BIRTHDAY....

Wyoming Historical Society board members David Savage, Jim Walton and Amy Pursley walk in the July 4th parade. They are walking past 102 Wentworth which is celebrating its 100th birthday this year. The Kiley's are just the 4th owner in all those years. Neighbors were invited to celebrate the birthday, have a piece of cake and sing Happy Birthday to the grand old home.



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

...Jim Walton



Dear Members,
Hope you are having a splendid summer!
A friendly reminder your Historical Society continues to be operational during these lazy, hazy days. Our office is open throughout the summer on Tuesdays from 10:30am to 3:00pm. Stop by and say hello.

We again participated in the July 4th Parade. It was nice seeing so many friendly faces waving and cheering. Plans for fall activities are shaping up as we continue to promote and celebrate Wyoming's 150th birthday: Civic Center Programs, Fall Festival, and more are coming soon. As always, thank you for your dedication and support.