



Kirkwood Historical Society

At Mudd's Grove

302 West Argonne Kirkwood MO 63122

AUGUST 2018

NEWSLETTER FOR AUGUST 2018

EVENTS FOR AUGUST –

August 6, 2018 – **FRIENDS OF THE KIRKWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING.**

Topic: Discover the story of the family of Robert Campbell. Presented by: Andy Hahn, Campbell House Museum. Time: 10:00 am – 11:00 am. At Mudd's Grove.

August 21, 2018 – Kirkwood Historical Society Board Meeting at 7:00 pm at Mudd's Grove, 302 W. Argonne, Kirkwood, Missouri.

FRIENDS MEETING FOR AUGUST

You are invited to join the "Friends of the Kirkwood Historical Society" as we "Discover the Story of the Family of Robert Campbell" with Michael Stoecklin from the Campbell House Museum on **Monday, August 6th, 2018 from 10 until 11:30 at Mudd's grove.** Campbell, an important figure in St. Louis history, was a mountain man who became a millionaire. Plus, enjoy stories about the Campbells from Joe and Kay O'Connell, two volunteers who have been the Campbells at the Museum for many years.

Submitted by: Sharon Laux.

QUARTERLY MEETING: PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN LOCATION:

Plan to join us for a very interesting **Quarterly Meeting on Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at 7:00 PM.** Our presenter will be Diana Linsley, photographer for the Webster-Kirkwood Times, with a program of some of the best photos from the 40 year history of the paper. **PLEASE NOTE:** this meeting will be held at the **Kirkwood Community Center, Room 300.** The Community Center is located at 111 S. Geyer Road, Kirkwood, Missouri and there is plenty of parking and an elevator. As always the meeting is free and open to the public.

Submitted by Nancy Reeves.



DOCENTS NEEDED: - Are you interested in meeting new people, making new friends and helping to preserve the rich history of Kirkwood? Consider volunteering as a Docent at Mudd's Grove. The house is open on Thursday's and Sunday's from 1:00 pm until 4:00 pm. There are no public tours during the month of January. Currently, Docents are needed on the following dates:

The 4th and 5th Thursdays of the month. July 26th and 29th; August 23rd and 30th; September 27th and 30th; October 25th; November 22nd. No Docent needed (Thanksgiving Holiday) November 22nd; November 29th; December 27th and 30th.

From the KHS Newsletter of June 2012 (Vol. 5 No. 2, Gail Vier, editor: (slightly edited.)

We can never say *thank you* to our volunteers enough The strenght of any organization rests with those who give the gift of time. So to all who work in the *Gatehouse Gift Shop, the Library*, and to all the *docents* who sometimes spend long afternoons alone waiting for that one visitor to ask for a tour, **THANK YOU.** To every *Board Member* who serves without pay **THANK YOU.** To all who help in many ways by volunteering to make the KHS what it is today, **THANK YOU!**

The following announcement was received from Maryellen Dick, Chairperson Greentree Festival Booth Committee.

The Greentree Booth Committee is looking for persons willing to staff the KHS tent on
Saturday, September 15, 2018 and Sunday, September 16, 2018.
Shifts are 2 hours duration and begin at noon and ending at 6:00 PM.

If you would like to share your interest in the Kirkwood Historical Society with visitors attending the festival please contact: **Maryellen Dick at 314-821-5601.**

A GREEN THUMB TIP OF THE MONTH – The following article was gleaned from the City of Kirkwood’s website and is from the Kirkwood Garden Club. Visit them at Kirkwood Garden Club.org.

Many of us tend to bypass directions and instructions and things generally turn out well. When it comes to lawn and garden products, however, not reading and following directions more often results in disasters. Reading the label on most grass and weed killers will tell you they are only effective between 70 and 90 degrees. Fertilizer’s are designed for specific types of plant materials. Veggie fertilizer is not well suited for use on the lawn and vice versa.

Fertilizers for acid loving plants can keep other types of plants from growing and blooming. Check labels for the proper time of the year to use, such as “right after blooming” or “as new growth begins.”

Amounts and application methods are another important step to follow. Using more than directed may result in burning the plant and ultimately killing is. When in doubt, use less than the recommended amount, never more. Many fertilizers need to be watered in after application. This will help avoid burning the plant and get the nutrients to the plant roots. To tell the truth, fertilizer scares me, so I tend to use compost. I may not have the biggest and best of everything, but I haven’t killed anything either. I’ve also kept a lot of chemicals out of my yard.

No surprise we are still behind in rainfall, so keep the sprinklers going.

WEEDERS NEEDED: - To help keep the grounds of Mudd’s Grove looking beautiful we are in need of additional hands to help with weed removal. If you are willing to help, please contact Kate Ives at kwdkate@att.net for more details. Many hands make light work.

ERRATA: - This was received from Jim Baker, noted St. Louis Author regarding the article in the July issue of the Newsletter:

“King Trolley and the Suburban Queens” was publised in 2005 and is available in the Gatehouse Gift Shop. “Meramec Highlands Another View – Vol. 1” was published in November 2017 and is avilable from the author at: jfbmhbooks2003@gmail.com. “Meramec Highlands Another View – Vol. 2” is in process and is targeted for publication in November 2018. We apologize for the error.

SNIPPETS FROM THE 2018 KHS STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL:



The menu consisted of the finest gourmet hot dogs in St. Louis plus the best tasting ice cream and fresh strawberries available to be had. Many thanks to all of the folks who worked hard to make this years Festival a rousing success. We will publish more pictures next month.

The following Obituary appeared in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch of April 22, 1941.

GEORGE W. BAUMHOFF DIES AT AGE 84 – Once active in City Politics and County affairs succumbs at home near Valley Park. Mr. Baumhoff was a nineteenth century builder and manager of St. Louis streetcar lines, active in city politics and later in St. Louis County Politics, died yesterday at his home, Treecourt Farm, near Valley Park. He was 84 years old and had been ill for four months. The funeral will be tomorrow afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. The funeral was held at the Lupton Funeral Chapel on Delmar and will be conducted by the Rev. W. W. S. Hohenschild, rector of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Communion. Burial will be in Bellefontaine Cemetery. Mr. Baumhoff began his streetcar career in 1872, as driver of a "bobtail" mule car on the lines running out Washington Avenue to Garisson Avenue, He became General Superintendent of the Lindell Railway, with its main stem on Washington and Finney Avenues, and lines on Delmar, Page, Vandeventer and Taylor-Euclid Avenues, besides the present Park-Compton branches and the Chouteau-Oakland Avenue tracks now part of the Forest Park line. He built most of the lines named, as parts of the Lindell system, besides other sections of track which have been removed. More than 250 miles of track in the city and county, the later including the Creve Coeur, Clayton, Brentwood-Meramec divisions, were built by him. Mr. Baumhoff is survived by two daughters , Miss Isabelle M. Baumhoff, former Superintendant of St. Louis Maternity Hospital, who resided with him, and Miss Alice M. Baumhoff of Greenville, S. C. and two sons George W. Baumhoff, Jr. of Hagerstown. MD. And Richard G. Baumhoff a member of the Post-Dispatch staff. Three brothers, Frederick W. Baumhoff, former Postmaster of St. Louis; Charles and Julius Baumhoff also survive. Manager after the 1899 merger, the consolidation of a half dozen trolley systems in 1899, by authority of an act of the Legislature, formed the St. Louis Transit Company, and Mr. Baumhoff was made its General Manager. All city and county lines except those of the St. Louis and Suburban present Hodimont-Manchester, Diamond-Manchester, and Sarah Union divisions were in the merger. St. Louis got universal transfers in place of the limited transfer facilities of the separate systems. The 5-cent fare prevailed, and wages were little affected by the change. Union organizers worked among the company's employees, and in May of 1900, a strike was called. The strike lasted through the summer, caused visual suspension of service for several weeks and was attended by disorders in which several persons were killed.

The transit company, headed by the late Edwards Whitaker as President and Manager Baumhoff, won but at such a cost in money and public favor that a change in management was decided on. Mr. Baumhoff resigned in 1901, and received a bonus of a years salary (\$10,000). In his work as an executive of the Lindell Railway and the Transit Co., he played politics, got franchises and promoted important developments in the realty market. Delmar Garden amusement park at the end of the present Delmar line in University City, was built by him in conjunction with Adolphus Busch, M. Greensfelderand John Poulo.,

who was its manager. Earlier, he was a factor in the building of the Forest Park Highlands, south of the park. His main purpose in both directions was to increase the use of the streetcars. He served on Republican city and congressional committees, and used political influence in the franchise part of the old House of Delegates and City Council. He said in later years that he demonstrated the possibility of getting franchises without bribery, but he found, that political favors were indispensable in such an undertaking.

To get a franchise for track on Channing Avenue, between Laclede and Easton Avenues, he marched a band of track workers to City Hall, the men wearing badges which demanded "Work for the unemployed" Lines in County, Kansas. After retiring from streetcar work here, Mr. Baumhoff built an electric line at Iola, Kansas, and one in the southern part of St. Louis County no longer in use. He devised several mechanical improvements, including a rail-breaker machine still in use.

He purchased the old Keyes Dairy about 1903 and ran it several years. The dairy farm at Keyes Summit became the 430 acre "Treecourt", the name being the English version of the German words Baum and Hof. He acquired farm property in Illinois and a ranch near Colorado Springs, Colo. Drilling for oil on his St. Louis County Farm, he brought in a well of sulphur water which filled Treecourt swimming pool, a successful venture of his later summer years.
