



Kirkwood Historical Society

“The history of Kirkwood is too valuable to lose.” – Nancy Reeves

NEWSLETTER FOR OCTOBER 2018

SIGNIFICANT DATES IN OCTOBER:

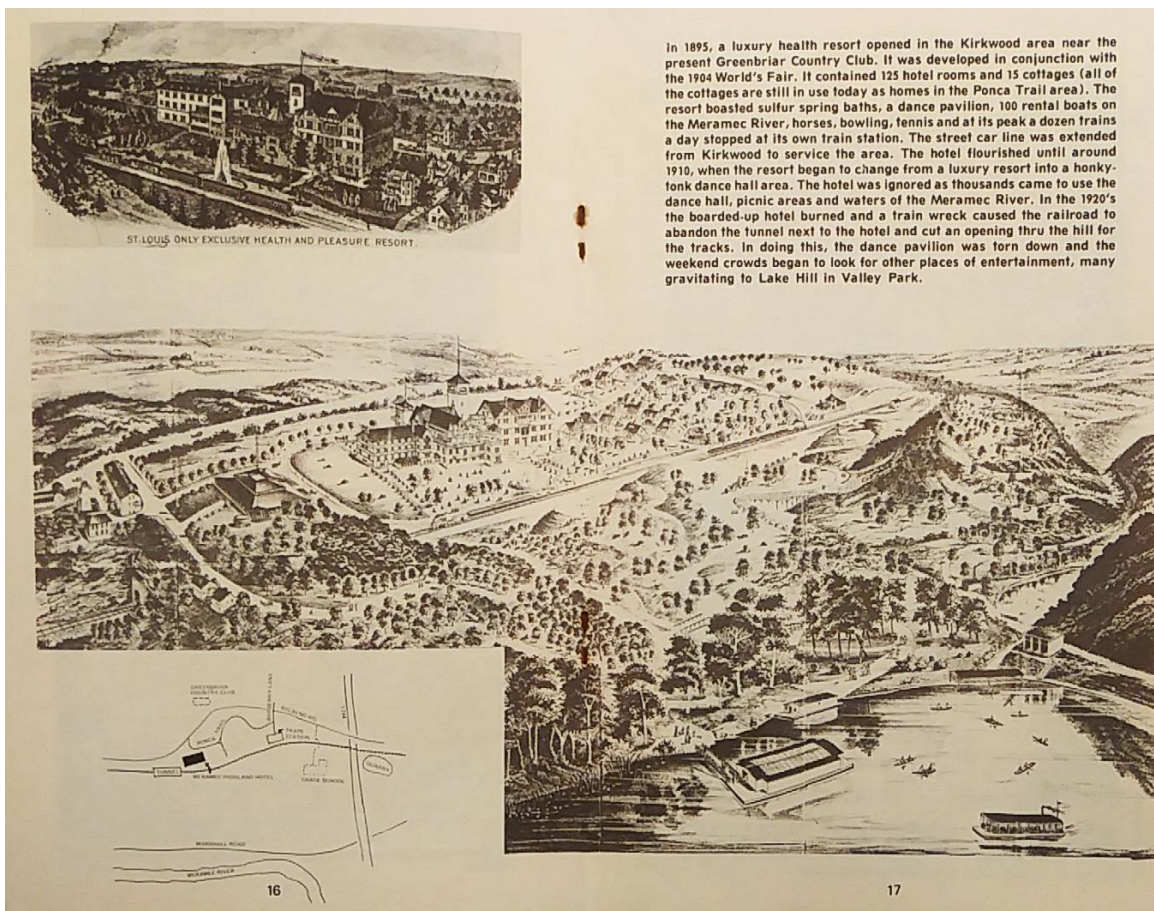
1st - Friends of the KHS Meeting – 10 am Mudd’s Grove.

5TH – Columbus day.

16th – National Bosses Day.

24th – United Nations Day.

31st -



The above appeared in the booklet: “A Pictorial Glimpse of early Kirkwood” – Vol. 1



IT IS TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP – The Kirkwood Historical Society is moving forward and we want to make sure are a part of all the exciting things to come. If you have not already done so, you can renew your membership at

<https://www.kirkwoodhistoricalsociety.com/become-a-member/>.

Stay up to date with **YOUR KIRKWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY BY RENEWING NOW.** Or send a check or Money order to:

KIRKWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY - P.O. BOX 220602 – KIRKWOOD, MO 63122.

Choose your level of membership:

Historian	\$35.00	George Dana	\$500
Family	\$75.00	Wm. Bodley Lane	\$1,000
Kirkwood	\$125	Lifetime	\$2,500
Henry T. Mudd	\$250		

Please renew prior to the issuance of the Winter issue of the “Kirkwood Revue.”



DOCENTS:

The Kirkwood Historical Society has recently received word that Lorraine Schuk has retired as a Docent at Mudd’s Grove. Lorraine’s dedication, hardwork and love of community is what makes a Docent. Her efforts are very much appreciated by us all.



Interested in becoming a Docent for the Kirkwood Historical Society? It’s easy. Just send an email to John F. Crowley, Docent Coordinator at kxn896@hotmail.com. Or call 314-821-7785 or 314-764-0809. Be sure to include a phone number and best time to contact you.

Currently there is a need for a Docent on the 2nd Thursday of the month from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm.

THE ST. LOUIS & KIRKWOOD R.R. COMPANY.

The St. Louis and Kirkwood Railroad Company has been reorganized, and, it is reported, has decided to double-track the line. J. D. Houseman, Jr.; Geo. D. Dana and Jos. T. McCausland are interested.

The above article appeared in a newspaper on June 3rd, 1897.



Friends of the Kirkwood Historical Society Meeting –

Join the friends of the Kirkwood Historical Society on Monday, October 1, 2018 from 10:00 am – 11:30 am at Mudd’s Grove for **“The Evolution of American Mourning Customs”** presented by Paula Zalar. The presentation begins with details about Civil War mourning practices and how they differ from earlier customs, then continue emphasizing customs from the Civil war through Victorian times. What did early Christians consider to be a “good death?” Why was the deceased’ hair used in jewelry and other items/ What is the symbolism in markers, placement of flowers and ivy at graves? What were the expectations of widows after the death of a spouse? Learn the answer to these and many other questions during this fascinating presentation. This program is free and open to the public.

Submitted by: Sharon Laux.



The Famlies of Mudd’s Grove: The Peter Behr Family

Sarah Lord was born in Zanesville, Ohio in 1840 and married a REussian immigrant tallow merchant, Peter Behr, in 1857, when she was only 17. Peter and Sarah Behr moved to St. Louis where Peter established a candle and tallow business and they started to raise their family. By the time Peter and Sarah Behr were married ten years their family numbered five children. In addition, Sarah’s younger sister, Virginia Lord, came to live with the Behr family in St. Louis in 1870. In 1871, while living with her sister’s family, Virginia met and married George Dana and after the wedding the newly weds moved into a place of their own.

Peter Behr’s St. Louis candle and tallow business was very successful and the couple had two more children in the late 1870’s for a total of seven. In 1880, though, the Behr’s youngest son, Teddy died. That same year on November 11, Sarah Behr gave birth to a new baby girl, whom she named Gladys, so although she had given birth to eight children, by the end of 1880 the family was back to seven children again. Having such a large family with children between the ages of 1 and 20, was probably instrumental inb the Behr;s decision to move their family out of the city and into Kirkwood in 1880. Apparently the new community was a good fit for the family because, after living in Kirkwood for two years, they decided to make it their permanent home. In 1882, they purchased the house at Harrison and Main from the Mudds for \$7,000.

For seven years Sarah and Peter Behr lived in the house at Jarrison and Main. By that time, only two of their children, Gladys and Benjamin, ages 9 and 16, remained at home with them as all the others had “gone out on their own.” With Sarah ailing and no longer needing such a big house, Sarah and Peter behr decided to sell the house to Sarah’s younger sister and brother-in-law, Virginia and George Dana in 1889. The price they asked was only \$1,000 more than what they had paid in 1880...\$8,000.

Excerpted from the KHS publication “The families of Mudds Groive” by Marie Andell.



Twenty-six historic houses, museums, and privately-owned homes are joining together to present a splendid grand tour on Saturday, December 1st from 10:00 am to 4 pm. For this one-day event, each venue will be decorated with a festive flair and may offer costumed skits, music, other seasonal activities, and refreshments. Choose a themed tour or customize your own. Visit the Historic St. Louis website at: www.historicstlouis.org to discover your newest, spited holiday tradition. *Fees vary by location.*

Special Announcement:



“Youth in Action”, run by KHS member Keith rawlings, and Olive Chapel AME Church will hold a Veterans Day service – **Saturday, November 10th, 2018 at 2:00 pm at Quinette Cemetery. – 12120 Old Big Bend Road, 63122.** The guest speaker is David Davis, the son of KHS member George Davis. Davis retired after 22 years with the United States Marshalls Service as criminal investigation supervisor. He served 27 years in the National Guard with multiple deployments and was awarded the Bronze Starb for valor in Afghanistan. His ancestors served in the United States Army during the Civil War and World war 1 including Private Willis Mitchell who is interred in Quinette Cemetery.

Submitted by: Liz Gibbons.

The Kirkwood Historical Society is located at Mudd’s grove – 302 West Argonne – Kirkwood, Mo 63122. 314-965-5151. The house is open Thursdays and Sundays from 1:00 pm until 4:00 pm except during the month of January. The Harlan Gould Research Library is open for research purposes during hours the house is open including the month of January.

Interested in becoming a docent or volunteer? If so, please send an email to: kxn896@hotmail.com and be sure to include your contact information including your email address, phone number and best time to contact you.