



Vision: The Kirkwood Historical Society will preserve and share the history of the Kirkwood area and be a source of community pride marked by vibrant membership and civic engagement.
Mission: The Kirkwood Historical Society fosters an active appreciation for preserving the history of the Kirkwood area and its relevance to the present and future.

SPOTLIGHT FOR OCTOBER 2019

MEMBERSHIP DUES: - There are a lot of great things happening at the Kirkwood Historical Society! The best way to ensure that you do not miss out on all that the Society has to offer is to be sure that your membership dues are current.

Membership dues are the lifeblood of the Society and currently, over 100 members have not renewed their dues. If you have not already done so, please take a moment to renew your membership today. There are two easy ways to renew:

- Renew your membership on line at <https://www.kirkwoodhistoricalsociety.com>. Click Join or Renew, complete the form along with your credit card information (**It is a secure transaction**) then click submit.
- Download and print the Membership Form at <https://www.kirkwoodhistoricalsociety.com>. Complete the form, enclose your check and mail to: **Kirkwood Historical Society PO Box 220602, Kirkwood, MO 63122.**

FRIENDS OF THE KIRKWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY EVENT: Submitted by Gretchen Curry:

The Gateway to the South: Understanding Missouri as a Southern State

Sitting near the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers, St. Louis Proudly wears the title of “Gateway to the West,” a status displayed in the Gateway Arch, the city’s iconic landmark, the Old Courthouse (where the Dred Scott case was tried) speaks to St. Louis’s and Missouri history of slavery. Thus, we are reminded that a north-south axis along the Mississippi River, not just the relationship between east and west, also shaped St. Louis’s and Missouri’s history and identity. While Missouri is commonly recognized as midwestern, its historical identity is more complicated. The area of Little Dixie along the Missouri River, the conflict with Kansas on Missouri’s western border before and during the Civil War, a history of codified racial segregation, and even the University of Missouri’s recent inclusion in the Southeastern Conference all speak to the state’s identity as “the northernmost southern state.” Using examples from history and popular culture, historian Bryan Jack explores Missouri’s southern identity. The goal of the presentation is not to convince anyone that Missouri is “southern,” but to help people understand how its geography and culture occupies a unique place in American culture.

The presentation will be held on *October 7th, 2019* at the *Kirkwood Public Library* *Program begins at 5:30 pm.* *The library is located at 140 E. Jefferson Ave, Kirkwood, MO 63122. Phone 314-821-5770.*



Bryan Jack is associate professor of historical studies at Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville. He is the editor of *Southern History on Screen: Race and Rights 1976-2016* and the *St. Louis African American Community and the Exodusters*. His articles have appeared in *The Griot* and the *Councilor*, and in international publications from the *British Association of American Studies* and *American Studies of Turkey*. Jack earned his PhD from Saint Louis University, a master’s degree from the University of Alabama, and a bachelor’s degree from Baker University. He lives in the City of St. Louis.





DRED SCOTT: September 17, 1858 Dred Scott died in St. Louis of tuberculosis. I suppose everyone knows the story of Dred Scott & his wife Harriet, but many aren't familiar with the details of his burial. He was originally interred at Wesleyan Cemetery, near Grand & Laclede, with the expenses paid by the Blow family. But when that cemetery was closed nine years later, all the bodies had to be removed. Taylor Blow arranged for him to be moved to Calvary, which had a policy where non-Catholic blacks could be buried, if their former owners were Catholic. But Taylor Blow was required to purchase a lot with room for three graves, putting Dred Scott in the center one, & leaving the other two vacant. That way, no white person would have to be buried next to him.

DECORATING MUDD'S GROVE FOR THE HOLIDAYS: Submitted by Nancy Reeves: - It's that time of year already. Volunteers are needed to help decorated the house for the upcoming holiday season. So, here is the what and when of the event: **Wednesday, November 14, 2019 at 6:30 PM.** Please come and help us "Deck the Halls" and the parlors and the rooms for the season . Please call Mudd's Grove at 314-965-5151 or send an email to kxn896@hotmail.com if you can help.

Speaking of the holidays, last year I had the opportunity to ask two of our young guests if they believed in Santa Clause! One replied enthusiastically "I DO!" The other not so enthusiastically replied "NO WAY!" I had mentioned that he may wish to rethink that as I told him my grandmother stopped believing and when Santa found out, "Grandma Got Run Over By A Reindeer!" ---Editor.

TOUR OF THE TOWN: Our inaugural Tour of the Town fundraiser event held on September 8 was an unqualified success! The Tour was hosted by the owners of the residence at 201 N. Taylor, a recent **New Home of Merit Award winner.** This event provided an opportunity to experience a one-of-a-kind home and the ability to learn the details beyond the scenes from the architect, builder and designer was priceless. The afternoon included a great opportunity for current and new Society members to tour the home and spend some time around the pool with drink, food and good friends. Be sure to join us next year at our Second Annual Tour of the Town event!



201 N. Taylor.



Getting acquainted.



Dinner is served.



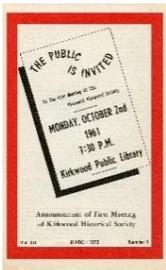
Exploring the game room.



The Honorable Timothy E. Griffin
Mayor (2nd from right)

PHOTOS: Julia Bambini.

Special thanks to all who purchased tickets success.



Pictured at left is the cover of the March 1973 issue of the Kirkwood Historical Society Review announcing the first meeting of the Kirkwood Historical Society.
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EVER WONDER WHAT'S IN THE HARLAN GOULD LIBRARY? - The Harlan Gould library is a non-lending repository that offers an extensive collection of historical resource materials from books, newspapers, periodicals and maps to an assortment of other publications. It is open to the public on Sunday and Thursday, 1 to 4 p.m. year round. The library has provided the material for original research for scholars, gifted children, and the just plain curious. Go to: <https://www.kirkwoodhistoricalsociety.com>, click on Harlan Gould Library and click on the repository link.

DOCENT'S: - Do you have a love for history? Are you interested in greeting and meeting lots of new people? Are you willing to commit to 3 hours on a Thursday or Sunday, once a month (or more, your choice)? Then we have a spot for you. Additional docents are needed to greet and provide tours at Mudd's Grove the home of the Kirkwood Historical Society. Please contact John F. Crowley, Docent Coordinator at kxn896@hotmail.com or call 314-821-7785 or 314-0809 for more information and to sign up.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE KIRKWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Submitted by Peggy Childress

1. I moved to Kirkwood with my family in 1954 when I was 4 years old.
2. One of Kirkwood's special features is its distinctive personality that reflects an appealing, charming small-town feel. The community-minded residents plan and come together for several civic events geared to the family. Kirkwood is viewed as a destination, with its many restaurants, shops, and access to the arts.
3. The importance of preserving and sharing our city's history lies with its ability to educate, to give historical perspective, and to spark involvement in the community.



Pictured at left is the Kirkwood Historical Society booth at this years Greentree Festival held in Kirkwood Park on September 13, 14 and 15. Our booth was in the capable hands of KHS Member Maryellen Dick. Thanks you to everyone who helped setup, staff and take down the booth after the festival.

RENT MUDD'S GROVE FOR A SPECIAL EVENT:

Mudd's Grove house and grounds are available to rent for special events, such as weddings, receptions and birthdays.

Mudd's Grove, a Greek Revival home built in 1859, is located in the heart of Kirkwood. It is two blocks west of the Kirkwood Train Station and is located in a lovely residential neighborhood. The grounds feature a gazebo and a beautiful herb garden.



The house provides a lovely intimate setting for parties up to 75 guests. The grounds are available for up to 200 guests. Tents may be used to enhance the garden atmosphere. *See contact information at the bottom of the page.*

That's all until next month.



The Kirkwood Historical Society is located at Mudd's Grove, 302 W. Argonne Dr, Kirkwood, Missouri 63122.

Contact us on the web at: <https://www.kirkwoodhistoricalsociety.com>

By phone at: 314-965-5151.

Public tours of Mudd's Grove are held Thursdays & Sundays from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm February through December.