

ROCKY RIVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P O Box 16445, Rocky River, Ohio 44116, Ph:440-331-4614
<http://rockyriverhistoricalsociety.org/>

A Centennial City

1903-2003

January 2021 Newsletter



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OHIO'S LIGHTHOUSES ON LAKE ERIE

by Gay Christensen-Dean



Cleveland West Pier



Cleveland East Pier



Cleveland East Entrance

The following is a list of lighthouses that can be seen from the shore of Ohio, from east to west

1. **Conneaut West Breakwater Lighthouse** – 1936

Active, alternating red and white flashes in a 5 second period.
Square, steel, white, 4-story tower with black band, on a square base.
To view, take Broad Street to the end.

2. **Ashtabula Lighthouse** – 1905

Active, flashes yellow every 6 seconds.
White, rectangular house and central cylindrical tower rising from center of red roof.
Private. At end of the rocky Ashtabula Harbor Breakwater.
Old 2-story keeper's house at 1071 Walnut Blvd. is now the Ashtabula Marine Museum.
Last of the Lake Erie lighthouses to be manned (1973).

3. **Fairport Harbor West Breakwater Lighthouse** – 1925

Active, white light, 3 seconds on, 3 seconds off.
Square, white cast iron tower attached to a white, 2-story keeper's house with red roof.
Private. 1 ½ miles out at end of rocky breakwall.
Best viewed from Headlands Beach State Park, Mentor, Ohio.

4. **Old Fairport Harbor Main Lighthouse** – 1871

Inactive.
Red sandstone tower and 2-story brick keeper's house, now the Fairport Harbor Marine Museum, 129 Second St., Fairport Harbor, Ohio.

5. **Cleveland East Entrance** – 1918

Active, red light, 3 seconds on, 3 seconds off.
Round, white, steel tower with red band.
At extreme eastern end of breakwater and best seen from Cleveland Lakefront State Park.

6. **Cleveland Harbor East Pierhead Light** – 1911

Active, green light, 3 seconds on, 3 seconds off.
White, conical cast iron tower with black lantern.
Best viewed from behind Cleveland Browns Stadium.

7. **Cleveland Harbor Main Entrance Light/Cleveland Harbor West Pierhead Lighthouse** – 1911

Active, alternating red and white flashes in a 5 second period.
White, conical tower and black cast iron lantern with red roof, with white keeper's quarters.
On west side of entrance to the Cuyahoga River.
Can be viewed from Wendy Park.

8. **Lorain East Breakwater Lighthouse** – 1965

Active, white flash every 6 seconds.
White, square steel tower rising from a square, 1-story concrete equipment shelter.
Best viewed from boat ramps behind the water treatment plant at foot of Oberlin St.

9. Lorain West Breakwater Lighthouse – 1917

Deactivated.

Square tower rising from one corner of a 3-story steel reinforced concrete white keeper's house with red roof.

Best viewed from behind water treatment plant at foot of Oberlin St.

Occasional tours.

10. Huron Harbor Pierhead Light – 1936

Active, red light, 3 seconds on, 3 seconds off.

Square, steel, white tower.

A 1-mile walk along a rugged breakwall of west pier, or best viewed from Nickel Plate Park at end of Nickel Plate Drive.

11. Sandusky Harbor Breakwater – 1990's

Active, white light occults every 4 seconds.

Round, steel, white enclosure with a single green band.

Closed to public.

At end of the rough stone breakwater, or best viewed from the Cedar Point parking lot.

12. Marblehead Lighthouse - 1821 (Marblehead Lighthouse State Park)

Active, green flash every 6 seconds.

Round, white, Ohio limestone tower with red lantern roof.

Open to public.

Victorian, 2-story keeper's house a mile away is a museum.

110 Lighthouse Drive, Marblehead, Ohio (Ohio Route 163.)

Oldest lighthouse in continuous operation on U.S. side of Lake Erie.

13. Toledo Harbor Lighthouse – 1904

Active, white light, 3 seconds on, 3 seconds off.

Black brick tower rising from center of a 3-story, buff-colored brick, Romanesque-style keeper's house with black roof.

Closed to public.

View from Maumee Bay State Park.

Sources: www.lighthousefriends.com; www.us-lighthouses.com; touringohio.com;
www.ashtabulalighthouse.com; www.fairportharborwestlighthouse.com;
lighthouse.boatnerd.com; onlyinourstate.com; northernohiotourism.com;
heartofohio.com; usbeacons.com; lorainlighthouse.com; cyberlights.com;
ibiblio.org/lighthouse/oh.htm

CORRECTION to NOVEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER:

Earl Martin was employed as repair and maintenance man of the street lighting system in Rocky River on February 20, 1923. The November 2020 newsletter photo of Earl Martin was actually Earl's son, Mayor Earl Martin.

**Taken from "CITY of ROCKY RIVER GOLDEN JUBILEE
And OHIO SESQUI-CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION 1903-1953"
By Ralph D. Richards, and contributor Mayor J. Frank Gibson**

March 20, 1923 – Application made to annex part of Goldwood township to Rocky River.

August 11, 1923 – Ordinance passed to prepare plans for elimination of grade crossing of West Lake Road and to provide underpass beneath railroad tracks.

August 21, 1923 – First parking regulations enacted by council.

December 18, 1923 – Consent given county commissioners for Hilliard Road extension improvement.

December 18, 1923 – Land appropriated for disposal and water plants on West Lake Road.

January 22, 1924 – J.W. Gordon sworn in as mayor.

May 20, 1924 – Grade crossing abolished. Cost \$39,995.00.

December 16, 1924 – Fire department organized – lieutenant and one fireman. Clarence Anderson appointed lieutenant; Harley Streebberger, fireman.

January 20, 1925 – Chief of fire department created – Clarence Anderson appointed. Charles Duggan and Ray Urban added to the department.

March 20, 1925 – Fairview granted right to use of sewer and sewage disposal plant.

February 6, 1926 – Petition for annexation of part of Goldwood township granted.

January 4, 1927 – Five men appointed as secret service men for purpose of enforcing prohibition law.

June 23, 1927 – Resolution authorizing contract with City of Cleveland to furnish water.

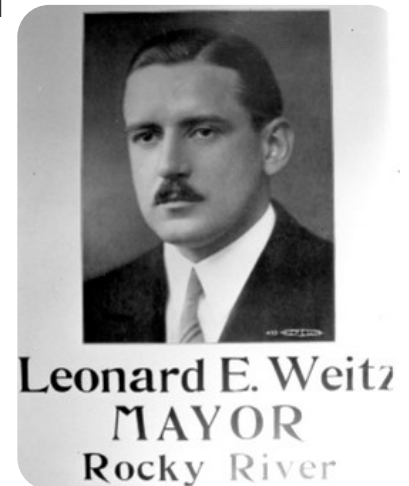
January 1, 1928 – L.E. Weitz became mayor.

May 8, 1928 – Water plant in Rocky River valley north of Nickel Plate ordered sold.

February 5, 1929 – First zoning ordinance enacted.

January 7, 1930 – Police department organized with the following: Chief, Gunder Robertson; James Johns; lieutenant, A.W. Heider; sergeant, Albert Cornish; Howard Gerbrand, Burt Johnson as patrolmen.

January 7, 1930 – Street department organized. Earl Martin, superintendent; Wm. Kinzer, assistant; Fred Wagner, foreman.



Happy 75th Anniversary to Drellishak's Service

21512 Center Ridge Road, Rocky River

Frank Drellishak, Sr. started Drellishak's Service in Rocky River in 1945, next to the Rustic Restaurant. It serviced residential cars, and tractors/etc./vehicles associated with Rocky River's large greenhouse businesses. In 1988, son Eugene moved the business to its current location at 21512 Center Ridge Road, at the corner of Pease Drive. Now in 2020 it is still run by members of the Drellishak family, including grandson Frank Drellishak, Jr.

Marian Lane

In 1954, John Marquard Sons Company, an Ohio corporation, purchased five acres of land from George Christensen in the heart of Rocky River, just east of Northview Road. This was the first venture in residential land development by the company, composed of the five surviving sons of the late John Marquard, who started as a building contractor in 1901. The members of the firm were: Roland, president and chief architect; Elmer, supervisor; Lester, foreman; John, sales; and Jerome, carpenter.

After much discussion about a name for the roadway through this plot which terminated in a cul-de-sac, the name Marian Lane was decided upon. It was chosen because, at that time, Pope Pius XII had proclaimed the year 1955 would be dedicated to the Virgin Mary and World Peace, and be known as the Marian Year. Hence it was unanimously decided to dedicate the new development in Her honor.

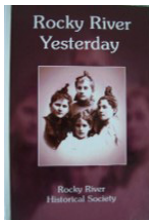
Authenticated by Roland G. Marquard.

BOOK SALE

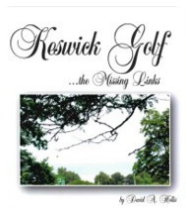
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ROCKY RIVER, OHIO:
WHERE THE RIVER ENDS
\$25.00



ROCKY RIVER, YESTERDAY
\$15.00



KESWICK GOLF
the MISSING LINKS
\$20.00

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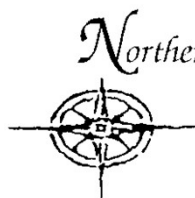
Rocky River, Oh 44116.

(Individual = \$25.00, Family = \$45.00)

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OUR PRESENT BECOMES THE PAST THAT SHAPES OUR FUTURE.

Spotlight on: A Gallery West

20370 Center Ridge Road, Rocky River

Happy 40th Anniversary

In 1980, Sarah Murphy opened "The Frame Corner", in what else, a corner at Baycrafters (now BAYarts) in Bay Village. She liked art and thought custom picture framing would be just the right fit for her.

In 1982, she decided to expand her business. She moved to the current location at 20370 Center Ridge Road, and renamed it "A Gallery West." The location was close to Westgate and the Center Ridge business district, and the demographics of Rocky River were favorable to support her business.



Katie Hudak

Sarah's daughter, Kate Hudak, worked with her off and on until Sarah retired in 1994 and Kate took it over full time.

The store has a homey, inviting feel, with sofa and coffee table for relaxing and selecting frames, and Sarah's magnificent homemade desk that draws you in, past examples of framing possibilities: artwork, diplomas, family heirlooms, children's art, war memorabilia, religious icons, maps, paintings, photos, 3-dimensional items, and needlework, and also other gift items for sale.

Kate says a big change between the early days and more recent times is the quality of the materials being used. In the old days, cheaper materials were in vogue. Today, everything is archivally framed, with acid-free paper, UV glass, and keeping conservation upmost in mind.

When asked what was her most interesting framing job/request, she said it was when she was asked to consult on the restoration/framing of Saddam Hussein's portrait, which had been taken by the U.S. Marines when they raided Saddam Hussein's palace in Iraq. They had cut it out of its frame on the wall. The Marines involved all subsequently had signed their names over the portrait, thus obliterating the portrait, and his reign.

!!JUST PUBLISHED!!

ANCIENT NATIVE AMERICAN STONE FACES OF ROCKY RIVER, OHIO

By Rocky River resident, Thomas MacFarland Harper

Bradstreet's Landing Park is a treasure-trove of small ancient Native American stone maskette faces, Native American artifact stone tools, Col. John Bradstreet's boat disaster of 1764 relics and other stone oddities. Tom Harper's book details much of what has been found there. Price = \$25.00.

The book may be purchased at the following Rocky River businesses:
Pier Beverage and Deli, 22474 Lake Rd.
Ace Hardware, 20200 Detroit Rd.
Ford's Clothier, 19821 Detroit Rd.

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