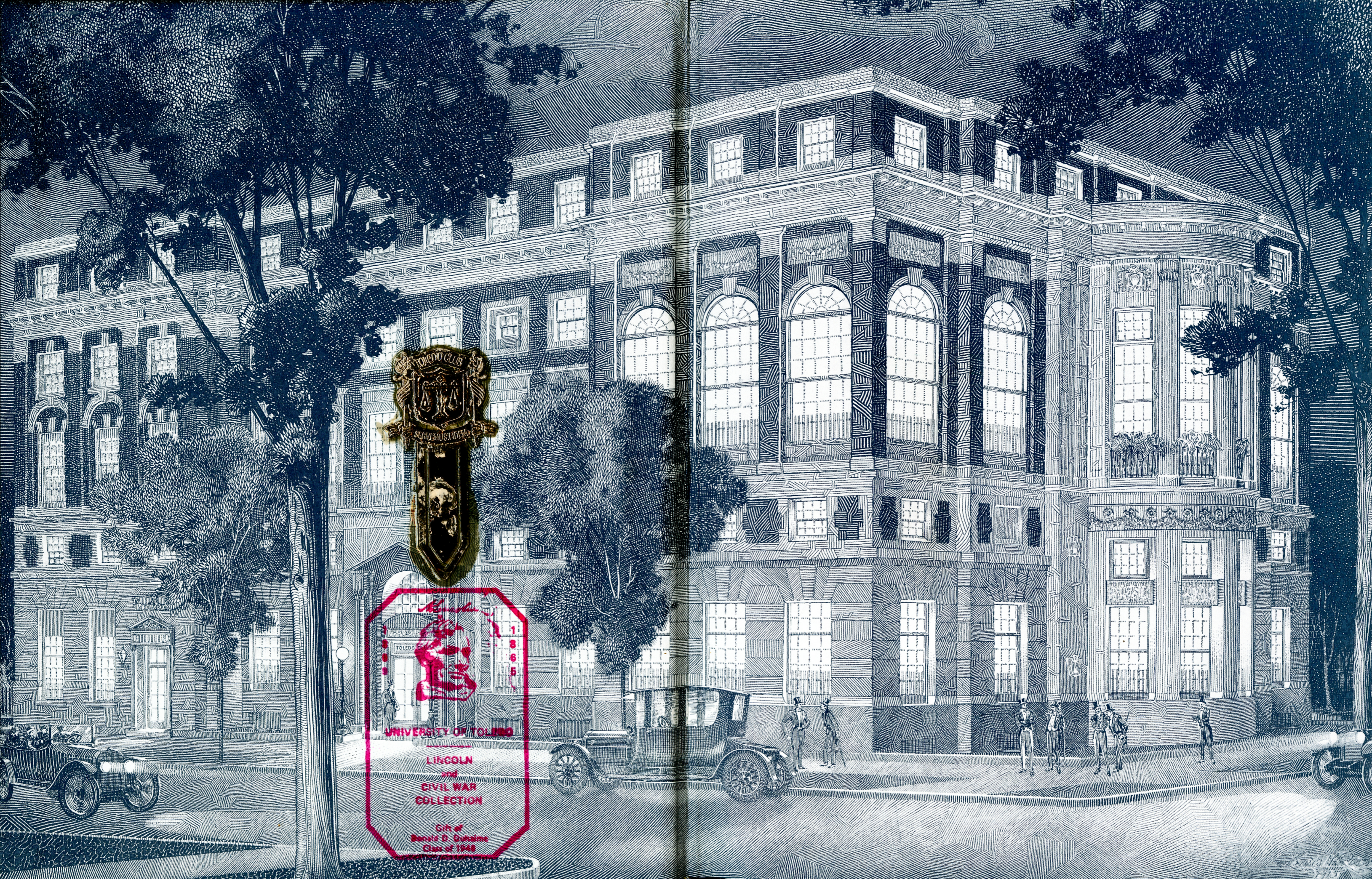


THE  
TOLEDO  
CLUB  
1889 - 1989





1865  
UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO  
LINCOLN  
and  
CIVIL WAR  
COLLECTION  
Gift of  
Donald D. Goshorn  
Class of 1948

Handwritten text at the top of the page, including a date and some illegible characters.

General Walter Churchill  
with highest respect  
semper fidelis  
Donal Hummer (29 pg)



Here's to the next  
100 years.  
Tom White  
1/29/92

To the Great General  
from one of your  
better customers  
Spence Stone



**THE  
TOLEDO  
CLUB  
1889 - 1989**



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Compiled and edited by Carl N. White

## THE TOLEDO CLUB PRESIDENTS

|                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| J. B. Ketcham, II | 1889 - 1892 |
| G. W. Davis       | 1893        |
| F. J. Reynolds    | 1894        |
| R. Fuller         | 1895        |
| W. J. Colburn     | 1896        |
| G. H. Ketcham     | 1897        |
| M. W. Young       | 1898        |
| S. C. Schenck     | 1899 - 1900 |
| G. A. Heinl       | 1901 - 1902 |
| G. F. Kirby       | 1903        |
| W. L. Milner      | 1904        |
| H. C. Vortriede   | 1905 - 1906 |
| J. W. Marshal     | 1907 - 1908 |
| W. S. Walbridge   | 1909        |
| C. A. Schmettau   | 1910 - 1911 |
| J. N. Willys      | 1912 - 1929 |
| A. L. Kelsey      | 1930        |
| C. B. Spitzer     | 1931        |
| E. W. Newcomer    | 1932        |
| H. H. Brand       | 1933 - 1937 |
| J. A. Sheldon     | 1938 - 1944 |
| J. W. Koehrman    | 1945 - 1947 |
| E. P. Brooks      | 1948        |
| F. Kettle         | 1949        |
| W. A. Belt        | 1950 - 1953 |
| J. N. Richards    | 1954 - 1955 |
| A. J. Pete        | 1954 - 1955 |
| C. G. Staelin     | 1956 - 1958 |
| R. S. Cole        | 1959 - 1963 |
| W. P. Zimmerman   | 1964 - 1967 |
| D. Hummer         | 1968 - 1971 |
| B. E. Boyd        | 1972 - 1975 |
| R. E. Graham      | 1976 - 1978 |
| P. M. Grieve      | 1978 - 1982 |
| T. B. Geiger      | 1982 - 1985 |
| J. S. Savage      | 1985 - 1987 |
| T. I. Webb, Jr.   | 1987 - 1990 |



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THE TOLEDO CLUB  
235 FOURTEENTH STREET  
TOLEDO, OHIO 43624  
(419) 243-2201

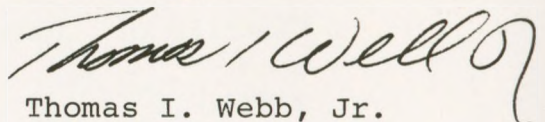
January 1, 1989

Members of The Toledo Club:

For 100 years The Toledo Club has been the equal of the finest city clubs in the United States. It is this tradition of excellence that has maintained The Toledo Club for so long and provides the foundation for the future.

In this, the Centennial Year of The Toledo Club, it is most appropriate to memorialize the Club's first 100 years in this book and dedicate its publication to the second century in the life of one of Toledo's finest institutions.

Sincerely,



Thomas I. Webb, Jr.  
President

TIW/tg



TOLEDO CLUB

Built by  
The Henry J. Spieker Company  
General Contractors

Showing Athletic Wing--Both Units erected by The Henry J. Spieker Co.  
Contract Let January 30, 1925 --- Completed February 1, 1926

Architects  
Mills, Rhines, Bellman & Nordhoff



# CHAPTER I

## GENERAL HISTORY



# HISTORY

by

Carl G. Staelin (1911 - 1977)

*The following history was written by Carl G. Staelin and published in The Toledo Club Magazine in 1984. An attorney and avid historian, he was past president of The Toledo Club (1956 - 1958) and served as chairman of the Art Committee until his death.*



he Toledo Club, rich in tradition and heritage, stands as one of the most outstanding city clubs in the nation ... perhaps even the world.

Its elegant old-world spaciousness provides quiet accommodations for business and social gatherings as well as a haven from the stormy turmoil of life itself.

The seeds giving birth to the Club were laid almost a hundred years ago when Toledo was struggling with several other towns for the distinction of becoming the leading commercial center of the Maumee Valley.

Following the Civil War, Toledo's businessmen gathered occasionally in the primitive accommodations of the taverns to discuss trade conditions and enjoy social relations. In the canal days of the 1870's an intimate circle took rooms in Alf Gleason's old residence on Superior Street in the rear of the Blade newspaper office, now the site of Dyer's Chop House, and engaged a chef to prepare meals, which were served by a boy named Riley via a dumbwaiter lift.

Among this pioneering group was David Ross Locke, Toledo Blade publisher, famed nationally as Petroleum V. Nasby. The Nasby Letters on the Civil War, slavery, temperance, and other current topics were widely read and were especially noted by President Lincoln. In 1879 Mr. Locke proposed the formation of a regular club for the group. The name "Draconian" was selected, derived from the severe Draconian laws in seventh century B.C. Athens. Mr. Locke was elected the first president. Three years later, May 15, 1882, The Draconian Club was incorporated and headquarters were obtained on Summit Street near Madison Avenue.

In 1889 the thriving membership changed the name to The Toledo Club and erected a fine brownstone and brick building on the southeast corner of Madison Avenue and Huron Street. From an architectural standpoint this structure was regarded as one of the most beautiful in the city. The massive blocks of stone in its outer walls expressed solidity and elegance. The three story building had a large banquet room and several private dining rooms. The basement housed a billiard room and the top floor had sixteen sleeping or guest rooms.

Among those frequently entertained at The Toledo Club was William McKinley, Congressman through many of those years, until his election as Governor of Ohio and finally President of the United States in 1897. He was an honorary member of The Toledo Club.

Another member whose memory is cherished as part of the old Draconian Club was Morrison R. Waite, seventh Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. This jurist gained his fame while a resident of Toledo and became an able expounder of the Constitution. Other Presidents who have passed over its threshold are Theodore Roosevelt, Taft, Harding, Hoover, and Franklin Roosevelt.

Membership in the Club was then limited to 350 and after a quarter of a century of service, the edifice was outgrown and the need for a more adequate building was apparent. At first it was thought to enlarge the building but after much debate the members courageously decided to purchase a site on the southwest corner of Madison Avenue and 14th Street and construct a new building. To finance the building the Club issued \$250,000 in first mortgage bonds and \$200,000 in second mortgage bonds, of which Mr. John N. Willys agreed to take a large share. The old building was sold for about \$200,000. During the transition period the Club was housed in the Old Tavern Hotel on St. Clair Street, and in 1915 the Club had rooms in the Hotel Secor.

On Saturday, June 19, 1915, the imposing new \$500,000 Clubhouse was formally opened. The handsome five story edifice was immediately acclaimed as one the most notable works of architecture in the city. Designed by architect Lawrence Bellman in the style of the English Renaissance, the walls were of Harvard brick and the stonework Indiana limestone. The main entrance opened directly into a large lobby on the first floor, flanked on the left by a

magnificent billiard room and on the right by the great living room. So impressive was this room that a national magazine ran a full color picture of it over the caption, "Where men of influence congregate."

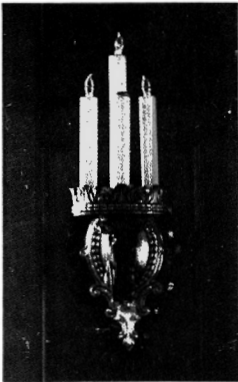
At the far end of the living room is an imposing fireplace of Missouri limestone in old English style. On the breast of the chimney is inscribed the coat of arms of the Club, containing the Latin motto, "Servemus Fidem" - Let Us Keep Faith. Surrounding the coat of arms is a quotation from the Latin poet Ovid. Freely translated it means, "Leisure refreshes mind and body; unremitting toil destroys both."

A Men's Grill Room directly opposite the entrance was furnished in English Oak and Caen stone. As a new concession to the ladies, a side entrance was provided, leading to a Ladies' Reception Room and small private elevator to conduct them to the second floor Ladies' Lounge and third floor Ladies' Dining Room. The elegant Main Dining Room originally for men only was on the third floor, and sleeping and guest rooms filled the fourth and fifth floors.

The grand scale and splendid appointments of the new clubhouse were due in large measure to the foresight, driving force, and generosity of John N. Willys, president of the Club from 1912 to 1929.

The original clubhouse had no athletic facilities. In the absence of an athletic club in Toledo, an enterprising group of citizens with the support of some Toledo Club members and outside interests, stimulated a movement to organize a new athletic club. In the face of this challenge, and led by eager younger members, a special meeting of the membership was held in 1924 to consider the addition of an athletic department. Architect Bellman outlined a plan for an athletic wing at a price of \$172,000 which the membership authorized the Board of Trustees to accept. The project was financed by some cash in hand and the issuance of \$150,000 third mortgage bonds, subscribed for by a group of members.

The new athletic wing, completed in 1926, provided a range of recreational facilities, including a gymnasium with basketball court on the top floor, and a standard length swimming pool which later attracted championship calibre events, such as exhibitions by world champions Johnny Weissmuller and Eleanor Holm. The pool has enabled children of members to perfect swimming skills and participate in spirited and often successful competition with other





teams in aquatic events. In 1956 The Toledo Club Swin Team won the Ohio State AAU age group championship. On the ground floor was a four-lane bowling alley and five squash courts used by a lively inner group of over 100 young members. The first Club squash champion, Martin L. Newhall, in 1926 and 1927 also succeeded in winning the National Squash Championship. Ever since, squash champions of the Club have most often been city champions and The Toledo Club teams have a respectable record in their annual inter-club tournaments. Increasingly over the years The Toledo Club was becoming a family club.



The spirit of high living and high stake card games of the Roaring 20's affected Toledo Club life. Several poker tables in the card room had their daily devotees at lunchtime. One can still find a secret panel in what is now the Madison Room where beverages were secreted during the Prohibition Era.

To focus attention on business affairs and promote communications among its executives, the Auto-Lite Company regularly reserved for lunch one of the private dining rooms which was known for many years as the Auto-Lite Room.

The sizeable debt that financed the construction of the Club and its athletic expansion seemed manageable at the time in the light of a growing membership and lively activity at the Club. But, it was not long before the market crash of 1929, and resignations poured in. Through the 30's periodic membership drives were required to bolster dwindling rolls. In March 1939 the University Club, with a membership of 200, was consolidated with The Toledo Club, although only a few members actually transferred at that time. The University Club, formed in 1924 by a group of young men lately out of college, had occupied the old W.W. Knight red brick mansion at 2215 Collingwood Avenue, but the pressures of the depression gradually forced it to close in debt, and the building was taken over by the Red Cross.



With stringent retrenchment measures and salary cuts The Toledo Club limped along to the early World War II years of the forties. Payments on the three mortgage bonds totalling \$468,000 were now in default, placing the Club in jeopardy of losing its clubhouse through foreclosure. Studies were made by the holders of the bonds for converting to other uses, such as apartments or office space.

In March of 1941, one of the first mortgage bondholders brought suit on his bond. As a result of the reorganization that followed, a small group of 21 loyal Club members\* purchased the \$200,000 second mortgage bonds for \$21,000 and the \$125,000 third mortgage bonds for \$1,875. New first mortgage bonds were issued in the amount of \$85,800 equal to 60% of the face value of the old first mortgage bonds then outstanding. The payment of the new bonds was secured by the real estate and personal property of the Club.

To carry out the reorganization it was necessary to begin foreclosure proceedings, by which the Commerce Guardian Bank, as Trustee, bought the real estate of the Club and took a deficiency judgment for \$168,000. This judgment was later purchased by the Club for \$25,845.95. The Club also purchased the second and third mortgage bonds from the group of Club members who had purchased them from the original holders.

Through the reorganization, the Club again became the owner of its real estate and personal property, free from debt except the new first mortgage bonds. The Toledo Club was saved.

Through the World War II years the Club struggled along, poor but proud, and by frugal management finally paid off the new mortgage bonds with rejoicing and relief in 1947.

As the war years receded into history and industrial activity quickened, Toledo Club membership ranks swelled beyond 1,450. However, this presented serious crowding problems, and on function nights cars had to be parked for several blocks in all directions.

Parking space became crucial. Directly behind the Club was the Trianon Ballroom, a large dance hall which had, for thirty-five years, attracted the top bands of the country and throngs of enthusiastic dancers. The popularity of this spot for entertaining one's date through the era of the roaring twenties had gradually faded. As the Trianon fell out of style, The Toledo Club was given an opportunity to purchase the premises, which it did in 1954. The building was razed to yield 160 parking spots.

By now the Club also needed additional dining facilities. To provide a ballroom, the little used gymnasium and basketball court was converted in 1957 into the grand new Great Lakes Room.

---

\*This group of leading citizens consisted of Messrs. B.T. Batsch, C.B. Belknap, J.E. Bentley, Harold Boeschstein, C.E. Bunting, W.A. Eversman, A.V. Foster, Dean Higgins, W.W. Knight, J.W. Koehrman, J.P. Levis, E.J. Marshall, J.E. Martin, G.M. Mather, G.L. McKesson, C.O. Miniger, J.T. Rohr, Daniel Searles, R.A. Stranahan, Ernest Tiedtke, G.P. MacNichol, Jr., and L.T. Williams.

Handsome crystal chandeliers and sconces, and mammoth Fiberglas draperies especially designed with a Great Lakes historical motif, decorated the new room. The hallway leading to the fourth floor elevator was opened and kitchen facilities and other amenities were provided in the former bedrooms. Air conditioning, progressively added to all the major rooms, made Club use pleasant through the summer months. As finances strengthened, refurnishing and rejuvenation programs were developed throughout the Club. Abandoned coal bins and other basement areas were converted into much needed office space.

In 1963 the adjacent Red Cab properties on Jefferson Avenue were purchased to extend the parking area. Thus The Toledo Club became one of the only city clubs in the country owning the entire block on which it stood. This added land enabled a long sought objective to be realized, a motor entrance directly from the parking lot. The addition provided a *porte cochere* and lobby with an entrance hall through a part of the Men's Grill, converting the remainder to a Gift Shop. A new Men's Grill was then created in the old card room on the second floor, panelled in solid walnut.



As part of the program for additional private dining facilities, a number of sleeping quarters on the fourth floor were torn out to make way for the elegant Corinthian Room, in Greek motif, and the warmly colorful River Room. To provide a second elevator adjacent to the main lobby elevator, a new shaft was hollowed out of the building in 1969, chopped through closets and hallways. All of these additions adhered to the policy of decorations and furnishings consistent with traditional decor and exquisite good taste.

During its long history the Club has been the scene of great public dinners and many jolly parties. By far the greatest attendance at any Club function occurred in early September 1958 when the enterprising entertainment committee engaged the famous Guy Lombardo and his 14-piece Royal Canadian Orchestra. So popular was his sweet music that a staggering 813 reservations poured in. To accommodate the crowd double seating had to be arranged, first for dinner and later for dancing.

Every available dining area was brought into play for dinner, including hall space. For dancing, a huge circus tent was erected over the parking lot in back of the Club. Access was provided by removing the two windows flanking the living room fireplace, and building ramp to the outdoor dance floor. A torrential downpour

flooded the dance floor during the afternoon, requiring a frantic clean-up using every available mop from friendly hotels, but by evening a beautiful harvest moon emerged and stars glistened in the sky. The gay and romantic participants enjoyed one of their most delightful and memorable occasions.

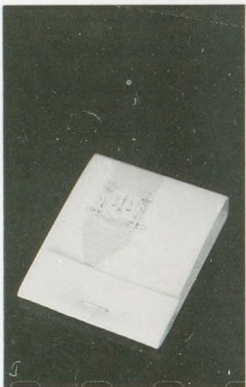
The Toledo Club has traditionally served the cultural tastes of its members. A well-stocked library was assembled with painstaking care and housed in the Living Room.

Throughout the building the walls are hung with notable paintings, either owned by the Club or loaned by members. Many local artists are represented. Two of these are by an early member, Edmund Osthaus, famous painter of hunting dogs. The dining room features portraits of our members who were outstanding community and national leaders.

In keeping with Toledo's renown as the Glass Capital of the World, a showcase in the Red Room displays an interesting and changing collection of Libbey and other glass objects, some on loan from members.

From early days, lectures on topics of current interest from noted speakers have been regularly programmed on the Club Calendar. For music lovers, under the stimulus of Mrs. Arthur Langenderfer, the Annual Fireside Musicales were inaugurated in 1958, featuring noted pianists or other musicians, performing Sunday afternoons in the gracious surroundings of the Living Room.

Originally The Toledo Club was exclusively for men, but in the last half century the interests of ladies have been recognized and continually accommodated. In 1920 the Main Dining Room was opened to the ladies. The Ladies' Lounge on the second floor was modernized and refurbished in 1953. The conversion of the gymnasium to the Great Lakes Room, redecorated in 1971 as the Versailles Room, made provision for ladies' special concerns for wedding receptions, dinners, dances, and card parties. The magnificent Men's Billiard Room on the first floor gave way in 1937 to the cocktail lounge called "The Red Room," featuring the painting of "The Red Girl," a remarkable production by Walter Dean Golbeck. The designation of the "Ladies' Dining Room" finally disappeared in 1969 when it was redone and named the West Point Room. Not only are special hours allotted to ladies for exclusive use of the pool, but also of the Health Department for service of our masseurs.



All of the post World War II modernization and expansions involved investments exceeding many times the original cost of the building. As a result of these imaginative programs, visitors from all over the world rank The Toledo Club as one of the finest city clubs found anywhere, a ranking in which our travelled members appreciatively concur.

*The following is an update by Donal Hummer, who was the president of The Toledo Club (1968 - 1971).*

In 1961 the bowling alleys in the sub-basement of the athletic wing were removed to make space for the new locker room.

In 1968 an extensive remodeling of the Club was undertaken, involving updating of the entire electrical service and air conditioning of the private dining rooms. As a part of this project the motor entrance from the parking lot was constructed through the area that had formerly been the Men's Grill. A new Men's Grill, in traditional walnut panelling was constructed on the second floor in an area that had formerly been the card room. The original 1915 elevator serviced approximately 325 members, and in 1968 the Board approved the construction of two new elevators to improve service. The former Ladies' Dining Room on the third floor was converted into the West Point Room, and the Corinthian Room and the River Rooms were constructed on the fourth floor.

In 1972 the Athletic Department received a complete renovation with the addition of a lounge, and a new steam room, sauna and whirlpool.

In 1983 the swimming pool, which is on the first, second, and third floors, and just over the squash courts, received a major renovation with the addition of a new aluminum lining.

In 1989 the Club is undergoing extensive remodeling in the form of new infrastructure items such as a new drainage system, new roof, and new boilers and air conditioning equipment. The Living Room is newly renovated to maintain the original decor of 1915.



*The following is an update by Thomas I. Webb, Jr., the president of The Toledo Club from 1987 through 1990.*

The Board of Trustees of the Club decided in 1988 to conduct, with the aid of architects and engineers, an extensive inspection of the Club building and to develop a plan for addressing all mechanical, structural and interior design problems that might exist at that time or in the foreseeable future. Upon completion of the inspection it was clear that a significant amount of work needed to be done in various areas of the Club. The Board responded by adopting a capital improvement program to be financed and implemented over a period of five to seven years.

In order to address immediate problems, an assessment was levied upon members and renovation work was immediately begun. During 1988 and 1989 the following projects were completed:

- Replacement of a large section of the roof.
- Renovation of the boilers.
- Replacement of most components to the air handling and cooling systems.
- Repair of the storm sewer.
- Replacement of a large amount of plumbing.
- Structural repairs to the building's foundation.
- Redecorating and interior design projects in the Centennial Room, Red Room, Grill Room, second floor corridor, West Point Room, Chelsea Room, Shamrock Room, Georgian Room, third floor corridor, Corinthian Room, Board Room, Ivy Room, and fourth floor corridor.

Upon completion of these projects, the immediate needs of the Club had been addressed. At the same time, all other structural, mechanical and interior design needs were identified and incorporated into a five year capital improvements program which will serve the Club well into its second century.

The 100th Anniversary of The Toledo Club was celebrated at the Club on September 8, 1989 with a black tie dinner party attended by 616 members and guests.

In 1991, after extensive renovation and the addition of large windows, the former Versailles Room was reopened as The Belvedere Room.







## THE MEN'S CLUBS OF OHIO - THE CLUBS OF TOLEDO

by

Lucas J. Beecher and Charles Quinn

*The following is an excerpt from an article written by Lucas J. Beecher and Charles Quinn, published in The Ohio Magazine in 1907-08, as part of a series of articles devoted to the Men's Clubs of Ohio.*



If the progress and development of a city are to be measured by the number and excellence of its clubs, then Toledo is in a fair way to become a great metropolis, for the city is as well provided with these social institutions as any municipality of its size in the country.

Club life in the metropolis of northwestern Ohio is of course an evolution, the same as it has been elsewhere. In the early days of the city, when Toledo was struggling with several other towns for the distinction of becoming the leading commercial centre of the Maumee valley, the pioneer life of the time did not admit of the luxury of today. The primitive social accommodations of the fifties and sixties, while adapted to the needs of the sturdy builders of the present day commercial structure, were as far removed from the splendid clubs that now administer to the wants of the people as is the present intricate civilization from the simple life of those who blazed a trail through the trackless forests of the Black Swamp.

Five decades ago there were in Toledo no clubs, as we now understand the word. The merchants of that time did not lead the strenuous life. There was more time for fraternal and social intercourse in their daily associations, hence the community resembled that of the small interior towns of today. But as the population of the city grew the "chop house" where the businessmen occasionally assembled to talk over trade conditions disappeared, to be supplanted by a more modern institution where a chef could be engaged by the subscribing members.

To go into the history of club life in Toledo would take one back to that most democratic of all institutions, the tavern of the pioneer. Here was germinated the seed that was to blossom forth in the splendid Toledo club of today, which has a membership of 340

of the most prominent business men of the city; the Country Club, the playground of Toledo's aristocracy; the Inverness Club, which has one of the finest golf courses in the State; the Toledo Yacht Club, that is building a magnificent new home; the Lincoln Club, one of the most influential political organizations in the State; the Business Men's Club, and others.

Club life in Toledo, it might be said, dates from about 1875, when the future of the city was assured. Local commerce had by this time reached such proportions as to warrant the establishment of institutions of a social nature. The railroad builders had with that prescience characteristic of them foreseen the trend of coming events and stretched their tentacles of steel to the heart of the city. Big industries had established themselves within the confines of the municipality and the complexity of modern life becoming manifest, the business men inevitably outgrew their "Beefsteak Clubs."

While Toledo in its pioneer days never could boast a Mermaid Tavern or Temple Bar rendezvous, yet these famous primitive clubs of old London had their counterpart in the Maumee metropolis. Following the civil war and until 1875 there were a number of saloons and taverns where the Bohemian spirits of the time mingled. They usually occupied a large room either in the rear or above the liquid dispensaries, and here meals were served. It is true there were no Shakespeares, Ben Jonsons, Beaumonts and Fletchers, and no Sir Walter Raleighs to make the gatherings memorable by the brilliance of their repartee, the bright glitter of their genius or the infinite flow of their wit, but nevertheless there were Petroleum V. Nasby, and others almost as well known. These congenial souls who made Northwestern Ohio famous in the great internecine struggle between the North and the South, spent many evenings together in this environment, which was the best the city could then afford. While the elegance and comfort of the present day clubs were absent there was always a "feast of reason and flow of soul" that would do honor now to any of our modern social organizations.

## THE TOLEDO CLUB

The first club in Toledo that might be dignified with the name was the old Draconian Club, that was organized in 1879. This institution, which had its rooms on Superior street in the rear of The Blade newspaper office, was the outgrowth of a small club that met



over a saloon on Summit Street. Following the post-bellum movement of the time when social clubs were forming throughout the country, the Draconian Club came into existence with what was then regarded as extravagant quarters. The members thought they had reached the apex of luxuriance in the furnishing and decoration of their home, though in comparison with the clubs of today the rooms would appear as barren as the meeting place of a colony of New England Quakers.

The Draconian Club was in existence ten years, when in 1889 the Toledo Club was formed. As most of the members went into the new organization the old club died a natural death. One year after the Toledo Club was launched its fine brownstone building on the southeastern corner of Madison avenue and Erie [sic.] street was erected. This structure is today one of the most beautiful in the city from an architectural standpoint. The massive blocks of stone from which the outer walls are constructed are suggestive of solidity and elegance. Having been erected before the age of steel, everything about the building is indicative of the pre-modern spirit which is the very antithesis of the bustle and hurry of today. One look at the structure and the passing pedestrian knows that behind those walls are rest, comfort and quiet. It is a haven for the worried and harassed business man, a harbor of refuge from the commercial storms that rage without.

When the building was erected it was thought that it would meet the needs of Toledo for several generations, but it is now practically outgrown and plans have been prepared by a local architect for its enlargement. In the beginning the usual scheme was adopted of making every member a stockholder in the club. Each member was compelled to buy one share of stock, the par value of which was \$100. While this proved efficacious in raising money for the purchase of the lot and the erection of the building, it had its defects. Many of the stock shares in time became involved in estates of deceased members and it was impossible to transfer these shares to others who wished to join the club. Then, too, some members left the city and discontinued the payment of dues but refused to surrender their stock certificates. All this resulted in a change in the form of the club's organization by the passage of a resolution at the annual meeting recently, abolishing the stock plan and substituting an initiation fee of \$100, this money to be surrendered when the member leaves the club. The dues are \$80 a year.

The club has decided to completely remodel the interior of the building and refurnish the rooms. This work will be undertaken this Autumn without regard to the enlargement of the structure, which project may also be realized soon. With respect to the latter undertaking it may be said that the club has in the rear of its lot an unimproved piece of land 20 x 60 feet and if the addition is built the quarters of the organization will be greatly enlarged.

As the membership of the club is limited to 350, the roster of the organization will be completed when ten more names are added, after which a waiting list will be established. The club has 100 non-resident members who are scattered throughout the country. Some of the most prominent captains of industry in the United States are included in this list, among them being Eugene Zimmerman, the railroad magnate of Cincinnati and the father of the Duchess of Manchester. Mr. Zimmerman comes to Toledo frequently on business and always makes his headquarters at the club.

Of the older members who are now deceased may be mentioned W.E. Hale of Chicago, one of the greatest electric railroad organizers of his time. Mr. Hale, in company with Norman B. Ream, now of New York, was interested in the Toledo Traction Company, which absorbed the old Robinson lines in the Maumee city and then sold out to the Everett-Moore syndicate.

Another prominent member was W.E. Pierce, Sr., who will be remembered by his connection with the Clover Leaf road, having for several years been receiver of the property.

There is also on the "In Memoriam" list the name of Frank H. Hurd, the silver tongued orator of the Maumee. This mental giant, whose voice resounded through the halls of congress when he represented the Ninth congressional district in the lower House, was one of the best known figures that ever sat in the Federal lawmaking body. He was a free trader of the Cobden school and like the great English economist he remained steadfast to its principles until the last. It has been said that were it not for the influence of Frank H. Hurd, the protective tariff principle would have become a fact in the political economy of the United States ten years before it did.

Among the departed ones of the club there is also found a name that is revered throughout the length and breadth of the country. This is none other than the great McKinley, the martyred president who fell by the assassin's bullet at Buffalo in 1901. While this apostle of protection was but a State figure in politics and long

before his influence reached beyond the borders of Ohio, he was frequently entertained at the club, and when the nation placed him in the executive chair at Washington he was made an honorary member.

Two members, whose memory is cherished because of their connection with the old Draconian Club were Petroleum V. Nasby (David Ross Locke) and M.R. Waite, seventh chief justice of the United States. Both of these great men gained their fame while residents of Toledo, the one as a humorist and satirist, the other as a jurist. None played a more prominent part in molding the opinion of the nation on the question of slavery and in upholding the administration of Lincoln than did Nasby, and there has been no more able expounder of the constitution on the supreme court bench since the days of Marshall than M.R. Waite.

It will thus be seen that the comparison between Toledo's clubs and the old chop house at Mermaid Tavern is not after all so farfetched. If the city by the Maumee cannot boast of poets and great essayists, it had its political and commercial leaders, its satirists and its jurists and that they enriched the life of the club and made it more than a mere eating and drinking place, those who are now members can testify.

The Toledo Club, aside from being a social centre, is of great commercial benefit to the city. Here are entertained all the visiting bankers and financiers who come to the city in search of opportunities for investment. As all the local leaders of finance are members of the organization, the visitors naturally gravitate toward this haven where, in a private room, they may lay before the Toledo capitalists their plans. It may safely be assumed that nine-tenths of the big projects that find realization and that are helping to so rapidly build up the city are discussed and planned at the Toledo Club. Here it is easy to find the "right people," those who possess the capital that will insure the success of the enterprise.

Then again the club acts as a sort of host for the whole city. When Toledo wished to do honor to Theodore P. Shonts after his appointment by President Roosevelt as chairman of the Panama Canal Commission, he was banqueted at the club. If any man of national prominence makes a visit to Toledo, the club represents the city in the entertainment.

The club building is a three-story and basement structure with splendid accommodations. There is one large room where

banquets are held and several small dining rooms for the convenience of private parties. In the basement is the billiard room and on the top floor are sixteen sleeping or guest rooms.

The lot on which the club's building is erected is one of the most valuable in Toledo. It has a frontage on Madison avenue of 60 feet and is 120 feet deep on Huron street, giving the structure an abundance of light on two sides. Being located in the very heart of the business district the property has enhanced with the rapid appreciation of town values until the lot is worth over \$3,000 per linear foot. Recently an offer of \$200,000 was made for the sixty feet, but the members, believing that nothing is too good for the club, refused to sell. When the property was purchased in 1889 the price paid was \$400 per foot.

The officers of the Toledo Club are: President, J.W. Marshall; Vice-President, W.P. Tyler; Secretary, Dan D. Schenck; Treasurer, George L. Freeman; Directors, the foregoing together with Henry Vortriede, W.S. Walbridge and William Hardee; House Committee, Henry Vortriede, chairman; W.S. Walbridge and William Hardee.

**CHAPTER II**

**BEGINNINGS**  
**IN THE**  
**DRACONIAN CLUB**  
**IN 1882**







1287

# Articles of Incorporation of The Draconian Club

We, whose names are hereunto subscribed  
desiring to become incorporated, do hereby make  
certify and declare the following

## Articles of Incorporation

- First - The name of the Corporation shall be  
The Draconian Club
- Second - The Corporation shall be located at the City  
of Toledo in the County of Lucas and State of Ohio
- Third - The Corporation is formed for the purposes of  
association, amusement, literary and social culture  
and mutual improvement; and for providing and  
maintaining in said City of Toledo Club Rooms  
and a Club House for the use of the Corpora-  
tion and its guests, with such furniture, fixtures,  
library, and paraphernalia as may be deemed  
necessary or desirable to carry out the purposes  
of the Corporation

The Corporation is not formed for pecuniary profit.

In witness Whereof we have hereunto subscribed our  
names and set our seals at Toledo Ohio this 15<sup>th</sup> Day of  
May A.D. 1882

David B. Leck (Seal)

Howard T. Young (Seal)

William L. King (Seal)

C. A. King (Seal)

J. E. Murray Jr (Seal)

John W. King (Seal)

The State of Ohio 1287 A4-1338  
County of Lucas Be it remembered, That on  
this 16<sup>th</sup> day of May A.D. 1882

before me, Alfred W. Gleason a Notary Public  
within and for said County personally came David  
R. Locke, Chas. A. King, William (Wm) Frank  
J. Young, George E. Roseberry Jr. and John M. Fiske  
the subscribers and readers of the foregoing articles  
of incorporation, to me all personally known, and  
each and all duly acknowledged the same.

In Testimony Whereof I have hereunto  
set my hand and affixed my official seal the  
day and year above written

A. W. Gleason  
Notary Public

The State of Ohio,  
LUCAS COUNTY, ss.

I, R. C. QUIGGLE, Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, the same being a  
Court of Record within and for the County of Lucas and State of Ohio, do hereby certify that

A. W. Gleason before whom the annexed instrument  
was acknowledged, and to the certificate whereof he has signed his name officially, in his own  
handwriting, was, at the date thereof, and now is, a Notary Public within and for said County  
of Lucas, duly commissioned and sworn as such, and that by virtue of said office and the laws of  
the State of Ohio, he was fully authorized to take the acknowledgment of deeds and other  
instruments of writing.

I FURTHER CERTIFY, that the annexed instrument is duly executed and acknowledged  
as required by the laws of the State of Ohio. Also, that I am acquainted with the handwriting  
of the above-named Notary Public, and I verily believe his official signature to the annexed  
certificate to be genuine.

In Testimony Whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name and  
affix the seal of said Court, at the City of Toledo, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of

May A.D. 1882  
R. C. Quiggle, Clerk.  
N. H. Schullert, Deputy.



A4-1336  
The Recorder's Office

1287

Filed May 18, 1882

Also returned  
the original  
copy

Recording Oct. 24

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## INCORPORATORS OF THE DRACONIAN CLUB - 1882

### David R. Locke (1833 - 1888)

David Ross Locke, who wrote the Nasby Letters under the name Petroleum Vesuvius Nasby, was the proposer of the formation of and the first president of The Draconian Club. President Abraham Lincoln read and chuckled over the humor and philosophy of the Nasby Letters and it is said that President Lincoln was reading them at home just before he left for Ford Theatre the night he was assassinated. He was the editor and publisher of the Toledo Blade. His residence was at 1305 Jefferson Avenue.

### Frank I. Young (1847 - 1888)

Frank I. Young was born in Maumee, Ohio. His mother's maiden name was Angeline L. Upton, stepdaughter of Dr. Horatio Conant of Maumee. His sister was married to Frank B. Swayne. He was in the grain business with the firm of Young and Backus from 1870 until 1879 when he and his brother formed the grain business of Young Brothers, which continued until his death at age forty one years. Upon his death the hall of the Produce Exchange at Toledo was draped and closed early, and a proclamation was read. His residence was at 83 Locust.

### William L. Hoyt

William L. Hoyt was born in 1836 in Norwalk, Ohio and moved to Toledo in 1865 after serving as a captain in the Twenty-fifth Ohio Infantry. He was the only person who was an incorporator of both The Draconian Club in 1882 and The Toledo Club in 1889. He was secretary of the Draconian Club. His biographical record discusses his indefatigable efforts to the success of both social institutions and states that the Draconian Club means "written in gore" and comes from the name of the famous Greek lawmaker, Draco, who wrote his general edicts in blood, and for a time the letters and all printed matter of the Club were written or printed in red. He lived at 19 Thirteenth Street.

Charles A. King (1817 - 1893)

Charles Augustus King was born in Sckets Harbor, New York, and came to Toledo in 1841. In 1846 he entered the grain business with an elevator at Water Street near Madison and Jefferson Avenues. He organized the first board of trade in Toledo, and was president of the Produce Exchange. He was also president of the Mutual Insurance Company of Toledo. He was a Whig and when that party no longer existed he became a Republican, and was elected mayor of Toledo in 1867 and served two years. He was a state senator and an unsuccessful candidate for Congress. He was active in the organization of the Toledo Public Library and was president of the Library Board at his death. His daughter married Robinson Locke, the son of David Ross Locke. His residence was at 1906 Monroe Street.

George E. Pomeroy, Jr. (1848 - 1928)

George Eltweed Pomeroy, Jr. was born in Clinton, Lenawee County, Michigan. He was the lineal descendent in the eighth generation of Sir Ralph De Pomeroy, chief of staff to William the Conqueror who received immense estates in Devonshire, England which his family held through many generations. His father and mother were both lineal descendents of the earliest members of the Plymouth Rock Colony. He spent his youth on his father's 360 acre farm in Michigan and in 1865 moved to Toledo with his parents. He was active in banking and real estate and had business acquaintances and associates in all the large cities of the world. His home at 806 Huron Street had a rare and peculiar charm as it was a treasure house of old and interesting books and paintings handed down for generations.

John M. Fiske

John M. Fiske was a member of the Toledo Produce Exchange, associated with W.T. Walker and Company

A.W. Gleason - notary

A.W. (Alf) Gleason had the old residence at 216 North Superior Street where the founding members first gathered in the rear of the Toledo Blade's newspaper office, now the site of Dyer's Chop House.

CHAPTER III

FOUNDERS  
OF  
THE TOLEDO CLUB  
IN 1889





THE E.H. CLOSE  
REALTY CO.  
BUILDING

THE E.H. CLOSE REALTY CO. BUILDING  
1714 E. 92

THE E.H. CLOSE  
REALTY CO.  
BUILDING

HOME SAVINGS BANK,  
H. J. SPIEKER CO. CONTRS.  
MAY 8, 1923.

# These Articles of Incorporation

OF

The Toledo Club

Witnesseth, That we, the undersigned, all of whom are citizens of the State of Ohio, desiring to form a corporation, not for profit, under the general corporation laws of said State, do hereby certify:

FIRST. The name of said corporation shall be The Toledo Club

SECOND. Said corporation shall be located, and its principal business transacted at Toledo, in Lucas County, Ohio.

THIRD. The purpose for which said corporation is formed is for association,  
 amusement, literary and social culture and mutual improvement; and for the purpose of acquiring, by purchase lease or otherwise, and owning and maintaining in said City of Toledo, club rooms and a club House, for the use of the Corporation and its guests, with such real estate, furniture, fixtures, library and paraphernalia as may be deemed necessary or desirable to carry out the purposes of the Corporation.

Said Corporation shall have a capital stock of Thirty five thousand (\$35,000) Dollars, divided into Three hundred fifty shares of One hundred (\$100) Dollars each, to be used only for the purpose of acquiring and maintaining the said Club House and Club rooms as above specified and for other purposes incidental thereto.

In Witness Whereof, We have hereunto set our hands, this Twenty Eighth day of August, A.D. 1889

John B. Hutton 11

William A. Goshier

William J. Carrington

Walter N. Conant

Dean V. R. Manley

William L. Hoyt

The State of Ohio, County of Lucas, ss.

On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of August, A.D. 1889, personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public, within and for said county, the above named John B. Ketcham 2<sup>nd</sup> William A. Gosline William T. Carrington Walter N. Bonant Dean T. Q. Manley and William L. Hoyt, who each severally acknowledged the signing of the foregoing articles of incorporation to be his free act and deed, for the uses and purposes therein mentioned.

Witness my hand and official seal on the day and year last aforesaid.

Wm A. Mills  
Notary Public.  
Lucas County Ohio

The State of Ohio, County of Lucas, ss.

I, John P. Bronson, Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas within and for the county aforesaid, do hereby certify that Wm A. Mills, whose name is subscribed to the foregoing acknowledgment as a Notary Public, was at the date thereof a Notary Public, in and for said county, duly commissioned and qualified, and authorized as such to take said acknowledgment; and further, that I am well acquainted with his handwriting, and believe that the signature to said acknowledgment is genuine.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court, at Toledo, Ohio, this 28<sup>th</sup> day of August, A.D. 1889

(Clerks will please use this Certificate and not use their own)

J. P. Bronson  
Clerk  
By J. Hadwell Deputy

Form B.

Articles of Incorporation  
OF  
The Toledo Club

Filed in the office of the Secretary of State,  
at Columbus, Ohio, on the 31<sup>st</sup>  
day of Aug, A.D. 1889  
Samuel J. Ryan  
Secretary of State.

Vol 49 page 931  
copied  
2

REMARKS.  
Articles of Incorporation must be subscribed by at least five persons, a majority of whom must be citizens of Ohio. They may be acknowledged before any officer who is authorized to take acknowledgments of deeds; and the official character of the officer taking such acknowledgment must be certified to by the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas of the County in which the acknowledgment is made.



## INCORPORATORS OF THE TOLEDO CLUB - 1889

### John B. Ketcham, 2d (1832 - 1897)

John B. Ketcham, 2d was born August 27, 1832 at Cornwall, Orange County, New York, the son of Valentine Hicks Ketcham. His brother, Valentine Ketcham, built the Valentine Theatre and was the owner of the famous race horse, "Croescus." In 1852 he came to Toledo and entered the wholesale grocery business with Secor, Berdan and Co. He was in the wholesale grocery business in various partnerships until 1887. In 1885 he organized a private banking business, and on January 1, 1888 the Ketcham National Bank was organized with John B. Ketcham, 2d as president, and commenced business at the southeast corner of Madison and St. Clair Streets. In 1890 he lived at the Boody House.

### William A. Gosline (1839 - 1910)

William A. Gosline organized the earliest company dealing in coal in Toledo. In 1872 he entered the Gosline and Barbour company, a wholesale and retail coal and coke business and a mining company operating three mines in Ohio. They were large jobbers of West Virginia, Kentucky and Pittsburg coals as well. In 1901 the company name was changed to W.A. Gosline & Company. His residence was at 1541 Summit Street.

### William T. Carrington

William T. Carrington was a member of the Toledo Produce Exchange, and a member of one of the most successful and large grain and commission house and shipping businesses on the Great Lakes, the firm of Carrington and Casey. In 1854 his family moved from Middlebury, Indiana to Toledo. His father, Miles D. Carrington, was a founder of the Toledo Board of Trade and the Toledo Produce Exchange. His residence was at 807 Superior.

Walter N. Conant (? - 1890)

Walter N. Conant was vice-president of The Toledo Club from 1889 through 1890. He was in the furniture business at 204 Summit Street with B. Meilink & Co. In 1885 he was an incorporator of the Conant Bros. Furniture Co., whose offices, factory, and warehouse were at the junction of Summit, Adams, and Water Streets. His residence was at the northwest corner of Parkwood and Woodruff in Toledo.

Dean V.R. Manley

Dean V.R. Manley was born in 1853 in Buffalo, New York and came to Toledo in 1873 and entered the employ of Bostwick, Braun & Co. He began his career in the banking business with the Second National Bank. He was president of the National Cement and Rubber Company and the chief executive of the Home Savings Bank. He was treasurer of The Toledo Club from 1889 through 1896. In 1889 he lived at 237 Summit Street.

William L. Hoyt

William L. Hoyt was born in 1836 in Norwalk, Ohio and moved to Toledo in 1865 after serving as a captain in the Civil War. He was a chief clerk with a railroad company and later he engaged in the commission and brokerage business, and afterward was in the insurance business and was secretary of Toledo Coal and Ice Co. He was the district manager for the North American Accident Insurance Company of Chicago. He was secretary of The Toledo Club from 1889 through 1896 and was the only person who was an incorporator of both The Draconian Club and The Toledo Club.





he present site of The Toledo Club is fourteen blocks west of the Maumee River, just outside the central business district. It occupies more than one city block at Madison Avenue and Fourteenth Street.

Nearby historic and architecturally significant buildings include the Hillcrest Hotel, the former Post Office, and the YMCA.

This site was assembled from many parcels of land acquired over the years, beginning in 1912 when John N. Willys, the president of the Club, purchased the parcels on which the original building was constructed.

Due to the unusual political events and the unusual way in which the tracts of land were assembled, it was difficult to trace the title to the lots where The Toledo Club is situated. It was similar to assembling a puzzle, working backward in time from the present to the 1830's; then working forward in time from 1610 to the 1830's. But there was a missing piece of the puzzle in the 1830's. The missing piece proved to be a September 5, 1837 agreement between six "undivided interest" property owners, which was found in a Ledger Book of Vistula. With that document, the pieces fit.

The very early history of the ownership of The Toledo Club site requires a discussion of the early history of the city. The first deed, from the Congress of the United States, was made in 1828-1831, when the land was considered to be part of the Michigan Territory.

As stated by Clark Waggoner in his *History of the City of Toledo and Lucas County, Ohio* (New York and Toledo: Munsell & Company, 1888):

Taken all in all, the site on which Toledo stands has gone through a series of mutations in government and control which will find few, if any, equals in this country or elsewhere. Among these may be named the following:

As early as 1610, the French Government ... laid claim to the territory.

In 1763, as the result of the French and Indian War, Great Britain dispossessed France and assumed jurisdiction.

In 1783, by the treaty of peace between the colonies and Great Britain, this territory was conceded to the former, although in fact, it remained under British control until after the victory of General (Mad Anthony) Wayne at Fallen Timbers in 1794.



In 1787, it was made part of the Northwest Territory.

In 1796, it became part of Wayne County (Michigan) of said Territory.

In 1800, it passed to the Territory of Ohio.

In 1802, it became by jurisdiction, part of the Territory of Indiana.

In 1805, the new Territory of Michigan assumed jurisdiction ... and it was practically in Wayne County.

In 1817, Monroe County, Michigan, was organized and this locality passed to its control.

In 1820, Wood County, Ohio, was created with nominal jurisdiction here.

In 1827, Port Lawrence Township, Monroe County, was organized ....

As early as 1831, parts of the present territory of Toledo were in the separate plats of Port Lawrence and Vistula ....

In 1833, Port Lawrence and Vistula were consolidated in the Town of Toledo.

In 1835, the County of Lucas was established by the Legislature of Ohio, to include Toledo.

(The "Toledo War" took place during the summer of 1835. The only blood drawn during the war occurred when Two Stickney stabbed Deputy Sheriff Joseph Wood of Monroe County in the hand with a penknife.)

In 1835, until January, 1837, ... the issue of jurisdiction remained in dispute.

In 1837, the incorporated Town of Toledo became the City of Toledo.<sup>1</sup>

In 1827 or 1828 an 86 acre parcel was entered as Congress land at \$1.25 per acre by Judge John Hollister at Perrysburg. Within the next five years it was sold by him three times; the first two sales at \$3.00 per acre successively failed because the purchasers were unable to pay, so the land was taken back by Hollister. The third sale was to Dr. J.V.D. Sutphen at \$6.00 per acre, after Major B.F. Stickney and his partners announced the start of Vistula (1831). (The towns of Vistula and Port Lawrence were combined in 1833 to form the Town of Toledo.) In June, 1832, Dr. Sutphen sold a seventy acre tract

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1 - Waggoner 310.

to Jessup W. Scott at \$12.00 per acre. In 1835 Scott sold to Edward Bissell, for himself and others, an undivided half of the seventy acre tract for \$6,000. <sup>2</sup>

In an agreement dated September 5, 1837 between Edward Bissell, Isaac S. Smith, George W. Scott for Jessup W. Scott, Henry W. Hicks, Wm. Taylor for himself and Hiram Pratt, and Stephen B. Comstock, the undivided interest of the land for Lots 1400 to 1579 of Vistula was put together and appraised and divided into tracts. Lots 1557, 1558, 1559, 1569 and 1570 became part of the Scott Tract. As a part of this agreement they put six tickets into a hat and drew two tickets out to see which two paid for the cost of the survey. For the purpose of this agreement they fixed appraised values as follows: Lot 1570 - \$320; Lot 1569 - \$320; Lot 1558 - \$270; Lot 1559 - \$340; and Lot 1557 - \$210. <sup>3</sup>

The best residence property on the tract is on Madison, between Tenth and Seventeenth Streets, and is now (in 1888) worth (100 feet deep) say \$80 per front foot, or at the rate of \$20,000 per acre, including streets. <sup>4</sup>

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2 - Waggoner 509, quoting a letter written in January, 1879 by Jessup W. Scott.

3 - Ledger Book of Vistula, Manuscript Collection 30, Box 1, Toledo-Lucas County Public Library, Local History Department 117-119.

4 - Waggoner 509.

The original Toledo Club building is situated on three lots in the Vistula Subdivision of Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio, described as Lot 1559, Lot 1558, and the Northeast fifty (50) feet of Lot 1557. These three lots have been deeded as one parcel from 1881 to the present as follows:

Lots 1558, 1559 and NE 50' Lot 1557

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| The Toledo Club                         | July 23, 1913      |
| John N. Willys                          | December 12, 1912  |
| E.H. Close Realty Co.                   | December 2, 1912   |
| Aaron Chesbrough                        | May 23, 1912       |
| James Nicholas & Wm. W. Bolles, Trustee | January 29, 1902   |
| Jonathon F. Morris, Trustee et al       | January 28, 1896   |
| Frederick Fowler                        | July 25, 1893      |
| Ellie B. Rogers                         | June 6, 1893       |
| Jno. S. Eck                             | May 13, 1890       |
| William Bolles                          | September 15, 1881 |

Prior to the time these lots were combined in 1881 these lots were owned as follows:

Lot 1559

|                               |                    |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Ezra Bliss                    | April 18, 1861     |
| Morgan L. Collins             | August 17, 1855    |
| Ezra Bliss                    | May 10, 1850       |
| Jessup W. Scott               | October 25, 1845   |
| Jno. Fitch                    | October 8, 1845    |
| W.C. White & R.S. Barnes      | September 28, 1843 |
| Edward Bissell                | February 28, 1843  |
| Isaac S. Smith                | July 21, 1835      |
| Edward Bissell                | June 20, 1835      |
| Jessup W. Scott               | June 1832          |
| Dr. J.V.D. Sutphen            | 1829-1832          |
| Congress of The United States | 1827               |

Part of Lot 1559 (SW 60')

|                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Jane Wheeler Moore | March 28, 1864 |
|--------------------|----------------|

Lot 1558

|                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Ezra Bliss                    | April 18, 1861    |
| Morgan L. Collins             | August 17, 1855   |
| Ezra Bliss                    | May 10, 1850      |
| Edward Bissell                | February 28, 1843 |
| Isaac S. Smith                | July 21, 1835     |
| Edward Bissell                | June 20, 1835     |
| Jessup W. Scott               | June 1832         |
| Dr. J.V.D. Sutphen            | 1829-1832         |
| Congress of The United States | 1827              |

Part of Lot 1557 (NE 50')

|                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Ezra Bliss                    | May 10, 1850      |
| Jessup W. Scott               | December 16, 1847 |
| Walter Titus, Jr.             | March 13, 1843    |
| Edward Bissell                | February 28, 1843 |
| Isaac S. Smith                | July 21, 1835     |
| Edward Bissell                | June 20, 1835     |
| Jessup W. Scott               | June 1832         |
| Dr. J.V.D. Sutphen            | 1829-1832         |
| Congress of The United States | 1827              |



The remainder of the present site is the large parking area that has been assembled on part of Lot 1557, Lot 1645, Lot 1569 and Lot 1570 in Vistula, and Lot 6 in Mott's Second Addition. These lots have been purchased, beginning in 1954, with the most recent acquisition in 1980, when the former 15th Street was vacated to become part of The Toledo Club parking lot. These lots have been owned, as follows:

Part of Lot 1557

|                                 |                    |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| The Toledo Club                 | November 7, 1962   |
| Frank R. Lockard, Administrator | March 8, 1941      |
| Mary Lockard                    | September 20, 1920 |
| Floyd G. Crandall               | June 30, 1917      |
| Nellie E. G. McMachen           | March 4, 1907      |
| Benson G. McMachen              | November 11, 1903  |
| Belle M. Briggs                 | May 3, 1893        |
| Edward Bissell                  | February 28, 1843  |
| Isaac S. Smith                  | July 21, 1835      |
| Edward Bissell                  | June 20, 1835      |
| Jessup W. Scott                 | June 1832          |
| Dr. J.V.D. Sutphen              | 1829-1832          |
| Congress of The United States   | 1827               |

Lot 1645

|                                 |                    |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| The Toledo Club                 | November 7, 1962   |
| Frank R. Lockard, Administrator | March 8, 1941      |
| Mary Lockard                    | September 20, 1920 |
| Floyd G. Crandall               | June 30, 1917      |
| Nellie E. McMachen              | March 4, 1907      |
| Benson G. McMachen              | November 11, 1903  |
| Belle M. Briggs                 | May 3, 1893        |
| Ezra Bliss                      | May 10, 1850       |
| Jessup W. Scott                 | February 18, 1846  |
| Edward Bissell                  | February 28, 1843  |
| Isaac S. Smith                  | July 21, 1835      |
| Edward Bissell                  | June 20, 1835      |
| Jessup W. Scott                 | June 1832          |
| Dr. J.V.D. Sutphen              | 1829-1832          |
| Congress of The United States   | 1827               |

Part of Lot 1557 and Part of Lot 1645

|                                  |                    |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Frank R. & Sweet M. Lockard      | September 23, 1939 |
| Ohio Savings Bank and Trust Co.  | February 19, 1937  |
| Elizabeth U. Larkin              | May 2, 1932        |
| John J. Moylan                   | April 25, 1928     |
| Carl O. Peinert & John J. Moylan | November 28, 1927  |
| Alfred J. Bode                   | October 28, 1927   |
| Julia W. Smith                   | ?                  |
| Floyd Crandall                   | June 30, 1917      |
| Benson McMachen                  | May 20, 1911       |
| Nellie E. McMachen               | March 4, 1907      |
| Benson G. McMachen               | November 11, 1903  |
| Belle M. Briggs                  | May 3, 1893        |
| Walter Titus, Jr.                | March 13, 1843     |
| Edward Bissell                   | February 28, 1843  |
| Isaac S. Smith                   | July 21, 1835      |
| Edward Bissell                   | June 20, 1835      |
| Jessup W. Scott                  | June 1832          |
| Dr. J.V.D. Sutphen               | 1829-1832          |
| Congress of The United States    | 1827               |

Part of Lot 1570

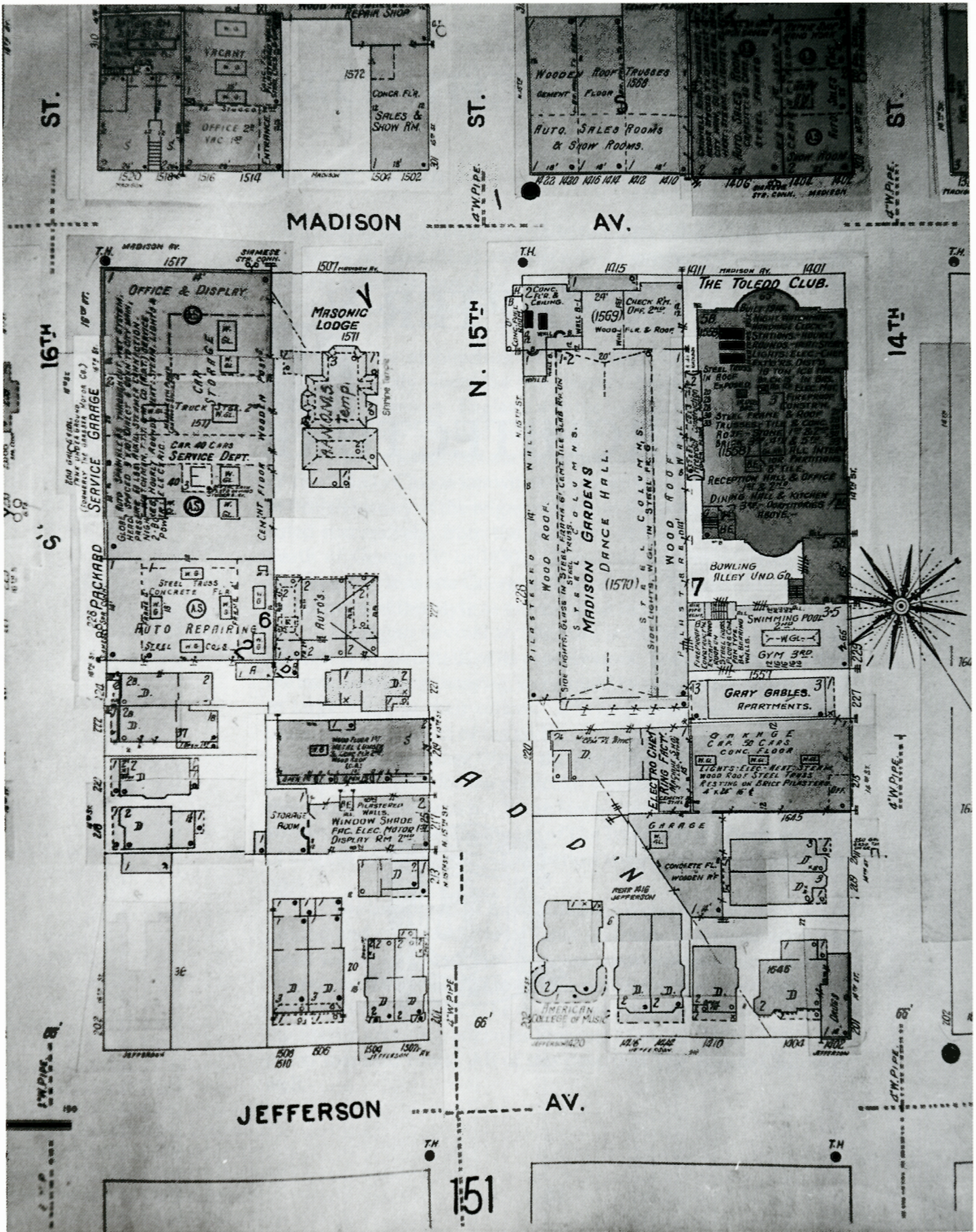
|                                 |                   |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| The Toledo Club                 | November 6, 1962  |
| Frank R. Lockard, Administrator | March 8, 1941     |
| Mora B. Snyder and Mary Lockard | January 28, 1926  |
| Clarence B. Snyder              | ?                 |
| Claire O. Coghlin               | August 1, 1905    |
| Ella A. Coghlin                 | January 17, 1890  |
| William Bolles                  | October 26, 1881  |
| Ezra Bliss                      | May 10, 1850      |
| Edward Bissell                  | February 28, 1843 |
| Isaac S. Smith                  | July 21, 1835     |
| Edward Bissell                  | June 20, 1835     |
| Jessup W. Scott                 | June 1832         |
| Dr. J.V.D. Sutphen              | 1829-1832         |
| Congress of The United States   | 1827              |

Lot 1569

|                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| The Toledo Club               | July 20, 1954     |
| Claire Coghlin                | May 4, 1905       |
| Ella A. Coghlin               | January 17, 1890  |
| William Bolles                | October 26, 1881  |
| Ezra Bliss                    | April 18, 1861    |
| Morgan L. Collins             | August 17, 1855   |
| Ezra Bliss                    | May 10, 1850      |
| Jessup W. Scott               | December 16, 1847 |
| Walter Titus, Jr.             | March 13, 1843    |
| Edward Bissell                | February 28, 1843 |
| Isaac S. Smith                | July 21, 1835     |
| Edward Bissell                | June 20, 1835     |
| Jessup W. Scott               | June 1832         |
| Dr. J.V.D. Sutphen            | 1829-1832         |
| Congress of The United States | 1827              |

Vacated 15th Street

|                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| The Toledo Club | August 5, 1980 |
|-----------------|----------------|



# CHAPTER V

## ARCHITECTURE



# ARCHITECTURE

by

Charles H. Stark, III

*The following description of the architecture of the Toledo Club was written by Charles H. Stark, III, an architect who is a member of The Toledo Club. His firm, Bauer Stark and Lashbrook is a successor to the architectural firm of Mills, Rhines, Bellman and Nordoff which designed the present building.*



he architecture of the Toledo Club has its roots in Italy where the Renaissance began in the Fifteenth Century. England was the last European country to fall under this "new" classical influence by way of France.

The period of the Late Renaissance that influenced the design of The Toledo Club is known as Georgian (pertaining to the period of British history of the reigns of the four kings named George who ruled successively, from the accession of George I in 1714 to the death of George IV in 1830). Therefore we should refer to the building's style as late Georgian Revival. The Toledo Club is as fine an example of this style as one can find in the United States.

Georgian Revival architecture is characterized by its strict adherence to the details of its predecessors. These details, as well as the basic forms and massing, were found by well educated architects in large folios in their offices. It is important that the architect understood the spirit of the style.

Sir Christopher Wren, the great British architect, was the principal influence for the particular style of Georgian architecture that we enjoy. Perhaps his "Swan House" in Chichester is the closest surviving example to the design of The Toledo Club. The floor plans of English town houses of this period were symmetrical and compact.

The basements of these buildings were only part way below ground and contained the servants' quarters. They had brick and stone walls, symmetrically disposed sash windows and classical doorways. They had parapets, the portion of the outer walls that extends over the eaves. The roofs were often hipped in the style of the French architect, Nicholas Francois Mansart (1598 - 1666), and called mansard roofs. All of this describes The Toledo Club very well.

Architects describe the exterior wall treatment as "astylar" because it lacks columns. The limestone first story is "rusticated" stonework because of the deeply recessed joints. The bay windows at either end of the original building are, in my opinion, the most beautiful and distinctive details on the exterior.

It is not surprising that the architectural firm of Mills, Rhines, Bellman and Nordhoff (now Bauer Stark and Lashbrook) was commissioned to design the present building because George Mills had been instrumental in persuading John N. Willys to bring his automobile plant to Toledo in 1908. Mr. Willys was, of course, a principal backer of the new building when it was built in 1914-1915. It is also not surprising that the Mills firm chose to eclecticise the English Renaissance style, because he was born and educated in England before he founded Ohio's oldest continuously operating architectural firm in 1892.

George Mills was a straight laced English gentleman who set rigid standards for the firm. He is credited with being one of the first in this country to bring architects and engineers together in the same office.

The principal designer for the firm at that time was Lawrence Bellman. Mr. Bellman may have been the best designer in the Toledo area in 1913, and his work had much to do with the firm's national reputation. One of his sketchbooks is still in existence in the Bauer Stark and Lasbrook archives and indicates a very careful and accurate interpretation of the classical details that were used on our Club. Mr. Bellman was a slight, quiet man with enormous talent and he designed most of the major houses the firm did in the twenties.

The original building and the 1925 addition were constructed by the Henry J. Spieker Company, which was one of the most prominent construction firms in Northwest Ohio.

It was fortunate that Mr. Bellman was available to design the addition on the south end of the building in 1925, this time as the head of the firm. The addition blends so well with the original building that it is difficult to discern where it begins.

The firm continued to be the Club's architect through a number of improvements under the name of Bellman, Gillett and Richards. John N. Richards, a member of the firm, served a term as president of The Toledo Club in 1953-54.















I was first involved as the designer of the pedestrian canopy for the motor entrance for the firm in 1968. I also designed the Corinthian Room, the new Men's Grill, and the Barber Shop that year.



The interior of The Toledo Club is, in my opinion, even more important than the exterior. Architect Bellman borrowed freely from important English buildings. Perhaps the concept of the main stairway was derived from the staircase at Blickling Hall in Norfolk, England, or the first floor oak panelling from the drawing room at Stockton House, Wilts, England. At any rate we are sure that the interior architecture of the center lobby is an English derivation of the Roman Doric order. Rooms that flank this hall span several centuries in their inspiration.

The Living Room or Reading Room, renamed the Centennial Room, is a derivation of the English Tudor Renaissance Revival style. This two story room with a barrel vaulted ceiling has cast plaster mouldings applied in geometric patterns. Colored appliques are located between the mouldings. The columns are of Italian, Tuscan derivation with "egg and dart" mouldings at the ceiling. The oak panelling has a frieze of mouldings of a wood pattern called triglyphs about two thirds up the wall from the floor. The panelling is surmounted by a crown moulding with decorative motifs of French influence. The entrance to the hall has a classic Greek pediment with wooden festoons in the architrave.



The Red Room is in the Italian Renaissance Revival style, a two story well proportioned room centered on a semi-circular bay window. The most distinctive feature is the hand stenciled simulated beamed ceiling. The oak panelling clads about two thirds of the walls and is terminated with a crown moulding supported by wooden brackets.

Such an artistic olio of style was totally acceptable in the Renaissance Revival used by American architects. The differences in these rooms are subtle and have to do with the mouldings and decorative motifs used. Each room was probably copied from a plate in the architectural firm's archives.



The third floor center hall is an English derivation of the Italian Renaissance. It is an interesting space with a softly curved glass vaulted ceiling reminiscent of an Italian galleria. The painted columns are Greek, Ionic in style. The room has a painted wood wainscot and an entablature consisting of subtle images of modillions, urns and festoons. The grand stair opening into this space is,



in my opinion, the most "comfortable" in Toledo. The proportions of the treads and risers are almost perfect and, along with the large landing space, contribute to the ease with which one traverses them.

The Main Dining Room, on the third floor is late English Renaissance Revival style. Again the architects used a change of detail to provide variety in the Club's ambiance. The wooden fluted columns have gilded acanthus leaf capitals from the "golden age" of Greek architecture. The panelling is of stained oak and the tall windows have fan light heads. The plaster ceiling mouldings are interesting and varied, consisting of "egg and dart" patterns, dentils, reeding and modillions bracketed by plaster garlands and still more reeding. The fireplace is unusual because of fragile wood mouldings of festoons and other flowery details. One might have expected a larger and more heavily detailed motif for the scale of the room. Most of the decorative elements of this type are from a book of French designs from the Eighteenth Century still in my possession.



The firm of Bauer Stark and Lashbrook and its predecessors was called back on more than one hundred occasions to make modifications, including the addition of the second elevator in 1967, modifications to the athletic wing in 1961 which included removal of the bowling alleys from what is now the squash locker room, and changes in the sleeping rooms in 1966. Our firm was also responsible for the addition of the running track and renovation of the swimming pool in 1983.

The following is a list from the records of Bauer Stark and Lashbrook of the visible projects at The Toledo Club's various locations.

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Vestibule                                | 1903 |
| Alterations/additional story             | 1906 |
| Squash Court (Doyle Lewis building)      | 1908 |
| New Club (Madison and Huron)             | 1910 |
| Temporary Quarters (Tavern Hotel)        | 1911 |
| New Club (Madison and 14th)              | 1913 |
| Athletic Building Addition               | 1925 |
| Addition and alterations to Card Room    | 1927 |
| Bar                                      | 1934 |
| New Bar in Billiard Room (now Red Room)  | 1935 |
| Massage Table                            | 1945 |
| New Elevator                             | 1946 |
| Alterations to Bar and First Floor Grill | 1946 |
| New Locker Room, Athletic Department     | 1948 |
| Storage Room over Kitchen                | 1951 |
| Analysis of Air Conditioning Bids        | 1951 |
| Ladies' Powder Room Alterations          | 1952 |
| Skylight Alterations                     | 1952 |
| Ladies' Locker Room Alterations          | 1954 |
| Barroom Alterations                      | 1955 |
| Gymnasium Alterations                    | 1956 |
| Fourth Floor Alterations                 | 1958 |
| Wall removals: Second and Fifth Floors   | 1959 |
| Barber Shop and First Floor Restroom     | 1960 |
| Remove Bowling Alleys                    | 1961 |
| Squash Lockers and Lounge                | 1961 |
| Lighting for Natatorium                  | 1962 |
| Remodel Great Lakes Room                 | 1962 |
| Fourth Floor Alterations                 | 1964 |
| Fifth Floor Alterations                  | 1965 |
| New Elevator Shaft                       | 1967 |
| New Entrance                             | 1968 |
| Parking Lot                              | 1980 |
| Running Track                            | 1982 |
| Nautilus Room                            | 1986 |



# CHAPTER VI

## THE PORTRAIT GALLERY





## DAVID ROSS LOCKE

(1833 - 1888)



David Ross Locke was born in 1833 at Vestal, New York. At ten years of age he left home and was an apprentice to the publisher of the *Courtland Democrat* newspaper for seven years.

He attended school only a few years and in the printing shop he found his great university. He had an acquaintance of books and literature such as few men of his time possessed. Those who were not familiar with the struggles of his early life imagined him to be university trained. After his apprenticeship he became a real journeyman in the actual sense of that term and passed several years as a journeyman printer, wandering about the country working in many offices as a printer or reporter.

In 1852 he went to Plymouth, Ohio and co-founded a newspaper, the *Plymouth Advertiser*. In 1856 he started *The Journal* in Bucyrus, Ohio, where he began winning the reputation which placed him among the chief literary men of the Civil War epoch. He wrote a series of stories, one for each week, for six years. Some of these stories had weird and pathetic features, others were tragic and startling, but all were illustrative of certain social phases. The scenes were laid in Bucyrus and the surrounding countryside. They gave realistic descriptions of scenery and names, and though the incidents related were illogical and improbable, there was just enough truth at the bottom of each story to excite interest, criticism and feeling. The stories had such strength, due to their realism, and were so full of adventure and incidents that they were republished in some of the leading newspapers of the day, carried across the ocean into English newspapers, and occasionally were translated into French and German. He was identified with several other Ohio newspapers, including those in Mansfield and Bellefontaine.

During the first year of the Civil War he was editor and proprietor of a weekly newspaper, *The Jeffersonian*, published at Findlay, Ohio. One night, in a drugstore in Findlay, he met a man who caused him to create a fictional character, "Rev. Petroleum Vesuvius Nasby," and that week a letter purporting to come from an ignorant and penniless Kentucky democrat who was devoted to free whisky and the perpetuation of slavery, and who desired to be

postmaster, was published as the first Nasby Letter. Thus commenced the most remarkable series of satires upon public men and measures that were ever written. It was the development of this character, "Petroleum V. Nasby," which brought about the Nasby Letters.

In October of 1865 he moved to Toledo and took editorial charge of *The Blade*, which was a daily paper. His greatest ambition was to build up a family newspaper with a national circulation. He soon became the sole proprietor of *The Blade*.

The popularity of his Nasby Letters created a demand for him on the lecture platform and he lectured in all the principal cities of the North, and though not a master of oratory, as he often declared, he never failed to draw a crowded house and to evoke prolonged applause. As "Petroleum V. Nasby" he was known to the world at large and was "a mighty factor in molding opinion and creating history during the Civil War." Abraham Lincoln in the White House read and chuckled over the humor and appreciated the philosophy of the Nasby Letters.

In the spring of 1881 he went to Europe and traveled there almost two years while recording his impressions of European countries, which he sent back in a series of letters to *The Blade* published as "Nasby in Exile." In *The Blade*, on January 9, 1882, during the year The Draconian Club was incorporated, "Nasby In Exile" wrote: "Geneva, Switzerland and Thereabouts ... Geneva is a pleasant place to come to, and but for the exorbitant hotels, would be a place that one could be loth to leave. Swiss hotel keepers have got swindling down to so fine a point that further progress in that direction is impossible."

He returned to Toledo and died at his home in the 1200 block of Jefferson Avenue on February 15, 1888. He was the man who proposed the formation of and was the first president of The Draconian Club, which later became The Toledo Club.



EDWARD GILMOR LEE



## EDWARD DRUMMOND LIBBEY

(1854 - 1925)



Edward Drummond Libbey was born at Chelsea, Massachusetts on April 17, 1854. At the age of twenty he had an interest in his father's glass business, the New England Glass Company, and on the death of his father in 1883 he became the sole proprietor.

It was the discovery of natural gas in Northwestern Ohio that caused him to move the business to Toledo in 1888 and incorporate it as the Libbey Glass Company. The Libbey Glass Company erected a beautiful building at the Columbia Exposition at Chicago in 1893 in which the art of glassmaking and the cutting of glass was demonstrated to familiarize the world with this art.

He was a founder of the Owens Bottle Company, which later became Owens-Illinois. He was also a founder of the Libbey-Owens Sheet Glass Company, which later became Libbey-Owens-Ford.

It has been said that he has done as much for Toledo as anyone who has ever lived here.

He and his wife, Florence Scott Libbey, founded the Toledo Museum of Art in 1901, and in 1905 they deeded his wife's family's homestead to the museum. As the major patrons of the museum they presented many beautiful paintings and other works of art to the museum, together with an endowment fund. The Libbey endowment is still a major source of funding for the Toledo Museum of Art.

He took a prominent role in the board of education of the city and Libbey High School was named in his honor in recognition of his efforts. His residence was at 2008 Scottwood, at the corner of Woodruff, directly across from the Toledo Museum of Art, and the front of the museum can be viewed from the library windows of his home.



## JOHN NORTH WILLYS

(1873 - 1935)

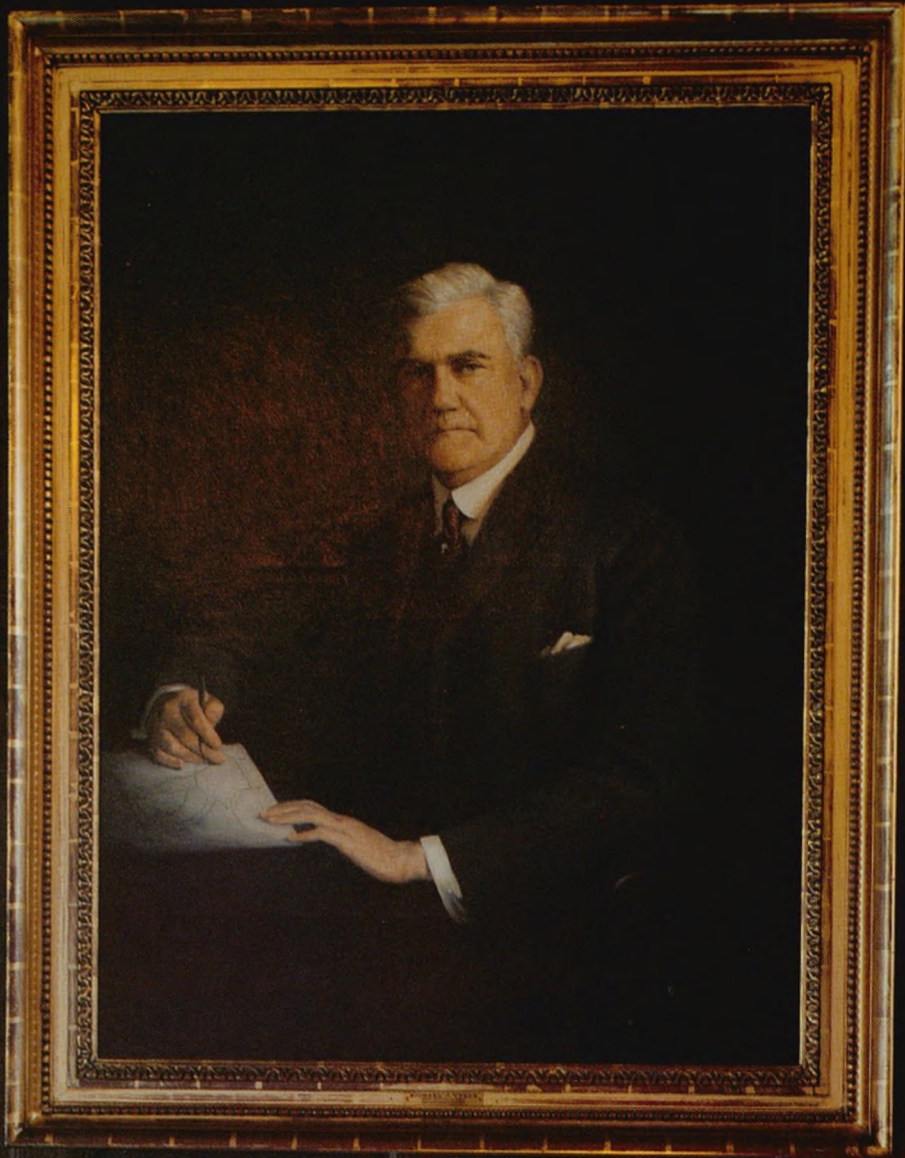


John North Willys, president and founder of the Willys-Overland Company, was born in 1873 in Canandaigua, New York. As a boy he was fond of doing little business deals with his friends. He was doing well in his studies and working in a law office when his father died and he had to give up his college dreams. He saw in bicycles a profitable outlet for his ingenuity as a salesman, and at age eighteen he had organized a bicycle sales company. Gradually he worked into the wholesale distribution of bicycles and at the age of twenty five did a business of \$500,000 annually.

Then came the automobile and he conceived the idea of national distribution of motor cars. In 1906 he formed the American Motor Car Sales Co. and entered into a sales agreement with the Overland Automobile Company to buy 500 cars. He quickly sold these 500 cars and in 1907 he wired to the company that he needed more cars to fill the orders he had already taken. This was a time of a money panic and the factory wired back that it would have a hard time filling the orders he had already booked, and that he was to accept no more orders. He took the next train to the factory in Indianapolis and was told on a Sunday that the company was going into bankruptcy the next day, as the checks they had issued to the workmen were not covered by funds in the bank on Monday morning. Mr. Willys raised the money and for the next five weeks he made frantic journeys here and there gathering money to keep the company alive. The Overland Company was in a sheet-iron shed 300 feet long and 80 feet wide and had debts of \$80,000 and no cash. In January of 1908 he became the president, treasurer, general manager and sales manager. He revolutionized the company and put it on its feet and made cars in numbers never before known, and within eight years he was offered \$80 million for his share of the company.

In 1908 the Overland Company was moved to Toledo, and in August of 1908, it showed a net worth of \$58,000. Some years later he was asked what he considered the biggest thing he had ever accomplished and he replied: "Making a million dollars in one year on a capital of \$50,000." His philosophy of life was revealed over his signature: "The older we grow the more certain we realize, I think, that the greatest blessing in life, outside of good health, is work." His residence was at 2210 Robinwood at Bancroft.





## MICHAEL JOSEPH OWENS

(1859 - 1923)



Michael Joseph Owens was born in 1859 in Mason County, Virginia (now West Virginia) of parents who had migrated from Wexford County, Ireland in the early 1840's. His was a large family and when he was ten years old his family moved to Wheeling, West Virginia and he went to work in a glass factory. He acquainted himself with all of the tasks performed by boys in a glass factory and at age fifteen became a glass blower. He continued as a glass blower in Wheeling until he came to Toledo in August of 1888 to work at the new Libbey Glass Company factory. Three months later he was superintendent of the plant and when a new Libbey Glass Company factory was established at Findlay, Ohio he became the plant manager, continuing in that position for two years. During the Columbia Exposition in Chicago in 1893 he had charge of the famous exhibit of the Libbey Glass Company.

Glass containers had always been blown by human lung power and for generations men had endeavored to devise a practicable machine for mechanically blowing glass. He believed the problem could be solved and his early experiments encouraged and convinced him. In 1895, together with Edward Drummond Libbey, the Toledo Glass Company was organized for the purpose of acquiring, developing and operating the inventions which they had patented. In 1903 he and his associates organized the Owens Bottle-Machine Company, a New Jersey corporation, for the purpose of manufacturing, operating and licensing the machines. In 1907 it was reorganized under Ohio laws and the name was changed to The Owens Bottle Company.

The Owens Bottle Machine was described in the mid 1920's as follows: "It feeds itself with a fiery fluid of molten glass; sucks it up methodically, clutches it with iron hands, blows its breath into it, releases its grasp, nonchalantly drops a finished bottle - and moves on to take another fiery gulp. At the rate of 150 bottles a minute - for it has fifteen mouths and arms and pairs of hands - it goes on. It is a monster, weighing over one hundred thousand pounds and ten feet high."

The family residence was at 2345 Collingwood Boulevard in the early 1920's.



ROBERT BENTLEY  
1811-1880



MORRISON R. WAITE  
(1816 - 1888)



Morrison R. Waite, the seventh Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, was born at Lyme, Connecticut on November 29, 1816. He graduated from Yale in 1837 and began the study of law with his father in Connecticut. In 1838 he moved to Maumee, Ohio and was admitted to the practice of law in 1839. In 1850 he moved to Toledo and opened a law office.

He was a Whig until the dissolution of that party, after which he was a Republican. In 1846 he was the Whig candidate for Congress, but lost. In 1850 he lost the election for candidate for delegate to the Constitutional Convention. In 1852 he was elected to Toledo City Council. In 1863 he was tendered an appointment to the Ohio Supreme Court bench, which he declined. In 1873 he became internationally known through his appointment by President Grant to the Tribunal of Arbitration at Geneva, Switzerland to resolve Civil War claims of commerce, resulting in the establishment of liability of the English Government for furnishing supplies in British ports to Confederate ships.

Upon his return to Toledo, he practiced law until 1873 when he was elected president of a convention to revise the Ohio state constitution.

He was appointed by President Grant to the United States Supreme Court to succeed Salmon P. Chase, deceased. His appointment was unanimously confirmed by the Senate, and on March 4, 1874 he donned the ermine of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, a position he filled until his death in Washington, D.C. in 1888.

At a Memorial Service at a meeting of the Toledo Bar one of the tributes to him was: "In his early career it was my fortune to have him as a companion in traveling the circuit, embracing a dozen counties, without roads, without bridges, and with log cabins at long intervals. These journeys lasted weeks at a time and were all made on horseback ... He was always cheerful, and our rides in the midst of the forests, which were then nearly unbroken, were always enlivened by his ready anecdotes. He was remarkable for his adaption to his surroundings. He was the genial gentleman in log cabin and the palace, and the old men and the children were always delighted to call Mott Waite a friend."

# CHAPTER VII

## THE ART



# ART

by

Spencer D. Stone

*The following description of the art of The Toledo Club was written by Spencer D. Stone, the chairman of the Art Committee.*



ow The Toledo Club accumulated most of its paintings and other works of art leaves more to conjecture than recorded fact because little was documented prior to the 1970's. However we do know some interesting things about at least a part of the collection.

The first formal Art Committee was formed in the late 1970's and Allen Owen served as chairman. The first project was to inventory and appraise the Club's collection, something that had never been done. Since then the Art Committee has acquired some excellent additions to the collection which have added both enjoyment and ambiance to the Club's unique character. Following Allen Owen the committee was chaired by Roger Mandel, who was the director of the Toledo Museum of Art and is currently deputy director of the National Gallery in Washington, D.C. Lawrence Bell was the next chairman, and I have been chairman through the present.

The Club's early collection includes several Edmund Osthaus paintings of dogs. In the first decade of this century Edmund Osthaus (1858-1928), the noted Toledo painter of hunting dogs and a member of the Club, offered to sell the club one of his paintings for \$1,500. The trustees gave due consideration to the proposal and the minutes of the Club show that they made the following counter proposition: "Moved that the offer of Osthaus to sell his picture to the Club for \$1,500 be accepted subject to the following conditions: (1) that Osthaus shall make a contribution of \$100; (2) that Osthaus shall accept in part payment prepayment of dues at the rate of \$80 per year for five years; (3) payment of the balance of the purchase price in four annual installments of \$250 each." This resolution passed and this painting has been hanging ever since.

We guess that many of the other paintings were probably given to the club by some of its early generous members, especially those who thought it would be nice to have their likeness displayed.

We know that George Stevens, the first director of the Toledo Museum of Art, was very helpful in getting art donated to the Club, as well as lending some of the museum's art to the Club. In the early days, it was a custom of the museum to loan paintings to various local businesses and institutions, but later this practice was discontinued.

Perhaps our most controversial painting is "Lady With Red Rose" by H. Rondel (born 1857, Avignon, died 1919, Paris) which hangs at the entrance to the main dining room. Occasionally there is a comment or letter on the appropriateness of this very decorative picture. Despite these comments it is nevertheless artworthy enough to be a part of the Club's collection.

Without question the better of the Club's collection of pictures would include "The Rocky Coast" by John Ross Key (1837-1920) of Baltimore; "Winter Rigor" by John Carlson; "Death Valley at Sunrise" by Ferdinand Harvey Lungren (born 1857, Toledo); "The Battle of Lake Erie" by Carleton Chapman (born 1860, New London, Ohio, died 1926); "Winter Scene" by Henry Morviller; "Seascape" by Thomas Parkhurst; "Harlem River Bridge" by Max Kuene; and "Street Scene in Winter" by William Smith of Toledo.

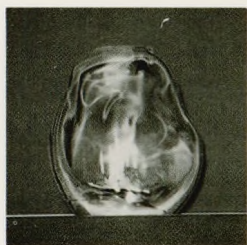
The romantic and decorative paintings in the Red Room should not be overlooked. "Girl in Red" attributed to Walter Dean Goldbeck (American, 1882-1925) and "When Sylvia Walks" by Louis Betts (American, 1873-1961) offer dramatic compliment to the special ambiance of this room, and are fine paintings.

During the last ten years we have been fortunate to be able to add substantially to our collection with the purchase of some very nice paintings and other art objects. An acquisition of particular interest and historical significance is "Grandmother's First Visit" by Wilder Darling, (born 1854, Sandusky, Ohio, died 1933, Toledo) a professional artist who came to Toledo in 1902 and had a studio for many years at 213 1/2 Erie Street. The painting was acquired by the Club in 1984 from the University of Toledo Library, which had discovered it in its stacks along with other old paintings badly in need of repair. The painting was dark and dingy and was sent to the Detroit Institute of Arts for extensive restoration. Through X-ray to determine what might be under the painting we learned that Darling had added a section to the painting on the right side of the original canvas to fit a frame he wanted to use.









To our delight we discovered that "Grandmother's First Visit" had some lovely qualities about it and that it fit well into the decor of the club. We also discovered to our surprise that this painting was exhibited at the 1889 World's Fair in Paris, the same year that the Eiffel Tower was completed and the same year that The Toledo Club was incorporated. In 1989 the Pennsylvania Academy of The Fine Arts contacted the Club to ask if this painting could be used in an important traveling exhibit of American artists whose paintings were shown at the World's Fair of 1889. This painting will soon return to the Club. Paintings by Mr. Darling are in the Toledo Museum of Art permanent collection and in collections throughout the world.

The Club also has some fine examples of Audubon prints and contemporary lithographs by Joseph Raffael. The Red Room has a lighted cabinet with a collection of glass, including a sampling of signed Libbey Glass Company wheel engraved cut glass (c. 1880-1905), a late 1940's Edwin Fuerst vase made by Libbey, and several recent glass sculptures by Toledo glass artist, Dominic Labino (1910-1987).

Along with the recent renovation of the Club almost all paintings and frames have been cleaned, repaired and restored to their original beauty. While the membership and decor may change in the years to come the art will remain, providing a constant and graceful addition to the special charm to The Toledo Club.















# CHAPTER VIII

## ATHLETICS





The Athletic Department was built in 1925 as an addition to The Toledo Club. At that time it included a swimming pool, five squash courts, a gymnasium, boxing room, massage area, bowling lanes, exercise room, steam room, showers and locker rooms.

In 1950 the gymnasium was turned into the Great Lakes Room, which has since been renamed the Versailles Room.

The athletic department personnel consisted of porters and lifeguards, who were all managed by athletic directors. The Athletic Directors over the years included the following: William McCool (1925 - 1941) who was primarily a swim coach; Steve Novak (1925 - 1948) in the bowling area; Bob Foster (1945 - 1952) in the squash area; Les Purcell (1959 - 1976) as swim and squash coach; Sandy Wilson (1957 - 1960); Pete Kennedy (1963 - 1967) pool; Ron Ballatore, Patrick Danehy, and John Danehy in the pool area in the 1970's; and Lou Simpson in the pool area in the 1980's.

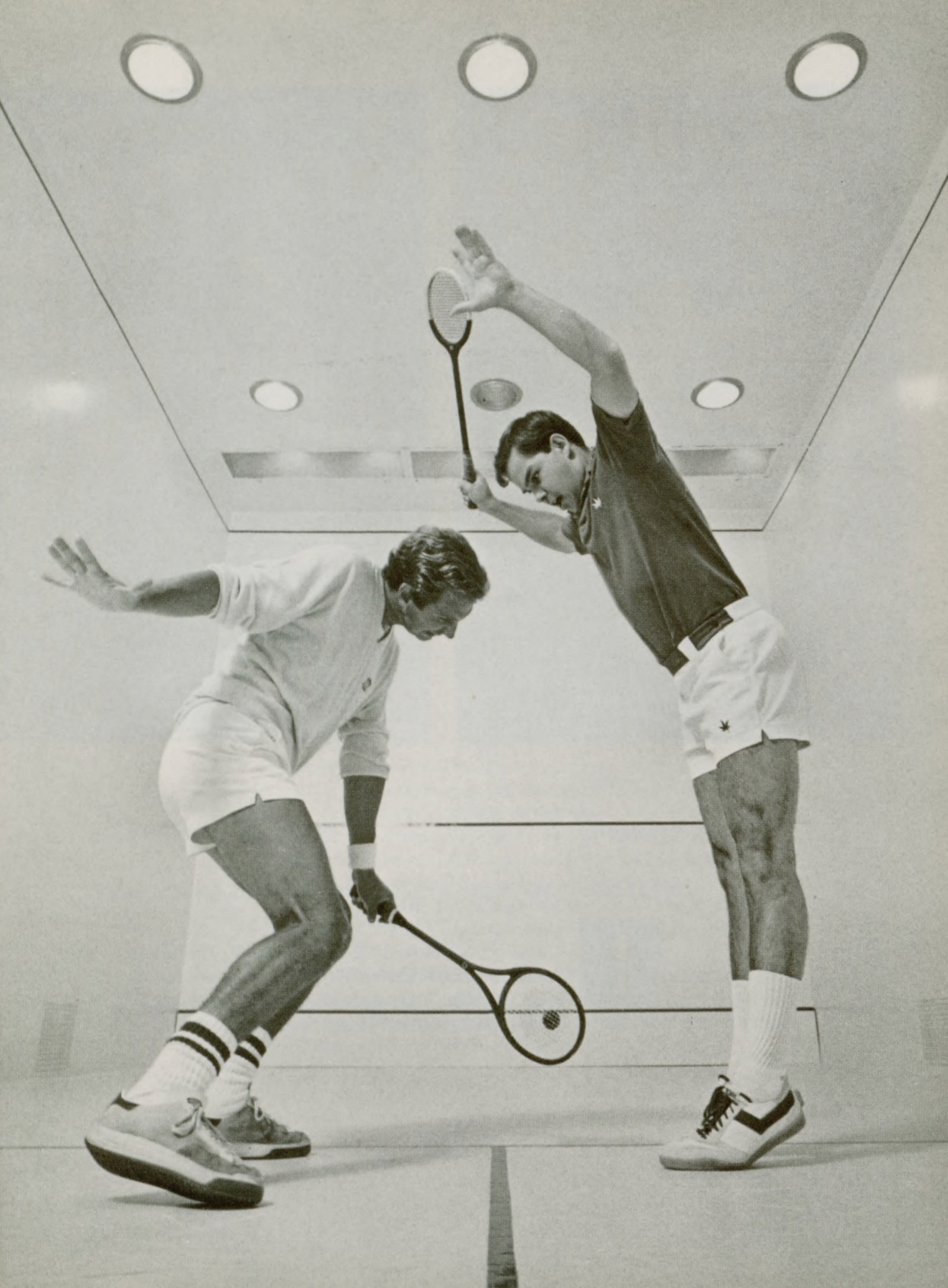
Several other people assumed the role of squash coach, including Bob Thieman and Bob "Peanuts" Long, who was a Bowling Green State University basketball star in the 1970's.

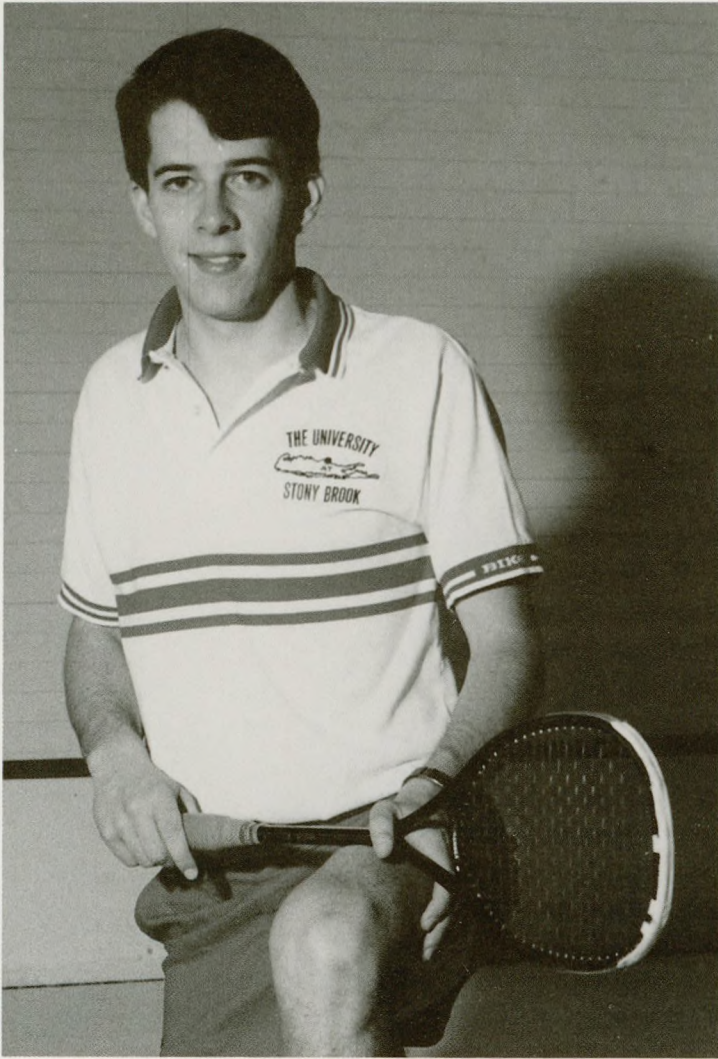
The massage area was handled by brothers Vernon and Ray Hoff for many years. A fixture at the front desk in the Athletic Department for many years was George "Skip" White.

The first full-time squash professional came with the hiring of Jim McCaffrey from New Jersey in 1975. One year later Tom Rumpler came to the club as the squash professional as a graduate of Amherst College, leaving his hometown of Cincinnati, Ohio. In 1979 Charles McKnight came from Brown University to become the squash professional and the following year he took on the double duty of athletic director and squash pro.

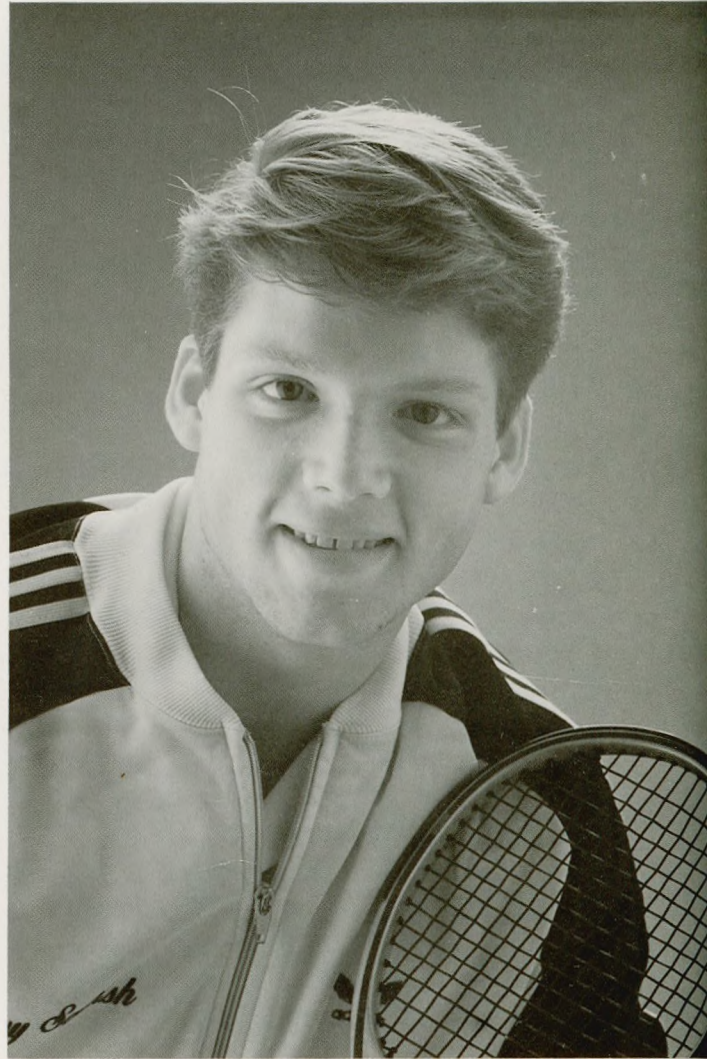
It is interesting to note that The Toledo Club is the only club in the nation that has hosted the World Professional Squash Association's North American Open four years in a row (1987 - 1990), and is the most frequent location of this tournament after New York, which has been host on eight occasions.







ROBERT BRUNO



JOHN SPRENGER

### TOLEDO CLUB'S TWO ALL AMERICAN SQUASH PLAYERS



It was on a Toledo Club squash court where Rob Bruno and John Sprenger first met as ten year old boys in 1975. They were coached by their mentor, Charlie McKnight, who was then the squash pro at the club. They became friends and rivals on the squash court.

Rob Bruno says, "Charlie was a very positive influence ... as was John Sprenger. John was a rival and friend throughout my squash career. I think John and I owe our respective squash accolades to each other. I do not think we realistically could assume that our achievements in squash would be the same had we not had each other. Each provided a mirror for the other, a guage to one's own progress. Yet John and I were very different in personality and in the way we played the game of squash. We were the perfect complement of one another, and our seperate squash experiences fit nicely together as one story, which had its beginnings at The Toledo Club. Our next goal in squash was to pursue excellence in the inter-collegiate ranks, and John and I marched off together to the Naval Academy Preparatory School in 1983."

"Rob probably kept me in the game," John Sprenger says. "I really began to gain confidence as I played more at The Toledo Club."

In 1984 John Sprenger entered the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis and played all four years varsity squash there, becoming the Academy's first three time All American, first team. In John's four years Navy was twice recipient of the Outstanding Sportsmanship Award. No other school has won this award twice. John was partly responsible for this as he was twice runner up for the Skillman Award for Individual Outstanding Sportsmanship. His Annapolis coach said, "John is the best squash player in the history of the Naval Academy. But his contributions go far beyond his individual accomplishments. John's enthusiasm and team oriented drive for success was contagious."

In 1984 Rob Bruno entered the University of New York at StonyBrook and was their number one squash player all four years, and in his senior year he was named All American, second team. In 1988 he was awarded "Athlete of the Year" over all athletes at StonyBrook. His squash team was awarded the National Coaches' Award, presented annually to that team which best exemplifies the highest standards of sportsmanship in squash racquets."

Rob is presently a squash professional at the Heights Casino in Brooklyn, N.Y. and John is presently on active duty in the U.S. Navy in jet flight school.

The Toledo Club is proud of its two All American squash players, the excellent coaching of Charlie McKnight, and the tradition of good sportsmanship exemplified by these young men.

# CHAPTER IX

## SQUASH TOURNAMENTS





Several years ago, newly hired squash pro, Charlie McKnight, stood before The Toledo Club Squash Committee telling its members, "This year I want to bring a national level tournament to the Club." After the chuckling stopped, they realized he was serious.

The year was 1979 and Toledo hadn't exactly been heralded as the squash Mecca of the universe. In fact - let the truth be known - most Toledoans (including Toledo Club members) didn't know squash from shinola. But that didn't discourage the committee from going along with its new pro. And it certainly didn't daunt McKnight.

So the wheels started rolling. Players and enthusiasts started volunteering to help. Businessmen actually began funding the endeavor. And disbelievers began to believe.

In 1979 the First Annual Toledo Club Invitational was held. Forty players, mostly all local and regional, played in it. There was no prize money to win. And, although Dave Talbott of Detroit was the only pro to play besides McKnight, the tournament succeeded on levels other than national auspiciousness. Namely, it succeeded in identifying and motivating a grass roots organization of men and women who realized that Charlie McKnight's original vision of bringing a national level tournament to The Toledo Club wasn't so far-fetched after all.

It was those same people ... that same group of enthusiastic, energetic individuals that made the next year's event a little bigger, a little better, and set the stage for the future of "big time" squash in Toledo.

Here we are - home of the first national tournament held "in club" where a special glass court is installed for mass attendance and media coverage, the life-blood of any tournament (or sporting event for that matter). Mass attendance means ticket sales. And media coverage means sponsor exposure (the reason why sponsors become sponsors). Both add up to bigger budgets, which add up to bigger prize money, which brings in bigger names which keeps this whole scenario snowballing.

And snowball it has. From its near zero budget in 1979, the budget in 1990 was \$110,000. And virtually every top-ranked player in North America was here competing for a piece of the \$32,500 prize money.



Those in-between years started when the 1980 Toledo Club Invitational Committee received an agreement from #3 ranked Clive Caldwell to play in its fledgling tournament. At that time, Caldwell was the World Professional Squash Association (WPSA) president and was beginning to view The Toledo Club tournament as a good "event" prospect to add to the pro tour. That year's tournament date conflicted with the one-star WSPA Apawamis Club Invitational in Rye, N.Y. where the majority of touring pros were drawn for the weekend, leaving Caldwell with a rather unobstructed shot at a Toledo Club victory over defending champion, Dave Talbott.

In 1981, with one good experience behind him, Caldwell suggested that The Toledo Club Invitational become an officially sanctioned WPSA one-star pro tour event.

That, to put it in perspective, would create a parity status with the Apawamis tournament, again being held the same weekend. The Toledo Club needed to come up with \$6,500 in prize money and Caldwell, still WPSA president, agreed to splitting the top pros between the two clubs.

That year, for the first time, Toledo squash players got to watch top players like Caldwell, Sharif and Aziz Khan, Gordy Anderson, and the then just promising Mark Talbott. All were vying for the top prize of \$1,300, and all enjoyed the five-star treatment they were provided at this new one-star event.

Sharif Khan toppled defending champ Caldwell that year, the last year the Toledo event would ever compete with the Apawamis event.

Prize money for The Toledo Club's second WPSA sanctioned event earned it a second star as well. Prize money climbed to \$10,000, or \$2,000 for the winner. New portable standing bleachers were constructed and installed for increased sponsor viewing demand at The Toledo Club. In 1982 Clive Caldwell scored his second Toledo Club victory, beating Mario Sanchez, as such squash luminaries as Sharif, Aziz and Charlie Khan, Dave and Mark Talbott, and Tom Page looked on.

The 1983 Toledo Club Invitational went smoothly without any major format revisions. More pros, hearing about the member hospitality and relaxed atmosphere, turned out to experience it for themselves. It also became the first time Mark Talbott took home the top prize.

In 1984, with prize money bumped to \$15,000, Mark Talbott again took the top trophy, defeating Mario Sanchez in the finals. Significantly, the finals in 1984 were video taped and cablecast. A move in itself that helped set up the exposure and consequent sponsorship interest for the 1985 tourney.

Over 300 fans were able to see the 1985 tournament finals, and the fact that they were held at The Toledo Club is a story in itself. The realization came that The Toledo Club Invitational was a growing event without the room to grow, and an alternate site became a big issue, mainly because of the need for a place to put a glass court. A portable court was needed, around which, of course, bleacher seating could be placed for viewing and TV cameras could be placed for optimum media coverage.

A thorough city-wide search took place but the suitable alternate locations were all booked. Back in the fourth floor ballroom of The Toledo Club, the committee sat pondering its dilemma when one member, looking upward as if for some heavenly advice said, "It's too bad these chandeliers can't come down, we could have the tournament in here." Well, that triggered approximately the following:

"Well, why can't they?"

(Each chandelier consists of hundreds of pieces of cut glass.)

"Maybe they can, but even so, there's no way to get the court sections in here anyway."

(The court is composed of 25,000 pounds of 500 pound glass sheets 4'x12'.)

"What about through the window?"

(Referring to a 4'x5' window near the ballroom ceiling and approximately 50' up from ground level on the outside.)

Needless to say, the chandeliers came down, exterior scaffolding went up, a crane came in, the window came out, and the court went through.

Definitely not done as easily as said, but done none the less. Proof, not only of the committee's resourcefulness, but also of its ongoing tournament commitment.

And with that, what started out as a small time Toledo Club Invitational, suddenly became the big-time 1985 Toledo Western Open. Mark Talbott, for the third straight year at The Toledo Club, took home the first place prize money after successfully fending off a hard driving Ned Edwards in the fifth game.

In 1986 The Toledo Club tournament grew to become the WPSA Championship, and the winner was Mario Sanchez, who defeated Mike Desaulniers 3-0.

In 1987 The Toledo Club tournament again grew to become the North American Open, and Ned Edwards beat Mark Talbott 3-1. In the 1988 North American Open at the Club, the winner was John Nimick who defeated Todd Binns 3-0. In 1989 Mark Talbott continued his tradition of winning in Toledo by defeating Mario Sanchez 3-1 at the North American Open. The 1990 North American Open at the Club saw John Nimick defeat David Boyum 3-1.

#### THE NORTH AMERICAN OPEN WINNERS

| YEAR | WINNER               | HOMETOWN             | SITE           |
|------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| 1954 | Henri R. Salaun      | Boston               | New York       |
| 1955 | G. Diehl Mateer, Jr. | Philadelphia         | New York       |
| 1956 | Hashim Khan          | Peshawar, Pakistan   | New York       |
| 1957 | Hashim Khan          | Peshawar, Pakistan   | Cedarhurst     |
| 1958 | Roshan Khan          | Karachi, Pakistan    | Detroit        |
| 1959 | G. Diehl Mateer, Jr. | Philadelphia         | Pittsburgh     |
| 1960 | Roshan Khan          | Karachi, Pakistan    | Hartford       |
| 1961 | Roshan Khan          | Karachi, Pakistan    | Indianapolis   |
| 1962 | Azam Khan            | London, England      | Atlantic City  |
| 1963 | Hashim Khan          | Peshawar, Pakistan   | New York       |
| 1964 | Mohibullah Khan      | Boston               | Buffalo        |
| 1965 | Mohibullah Khan      | Boston               | Wilmington     |
| 1966 | Mohibullah Khan      | Boston               | Detroit        |
| 1967 | Ralph E. Howe        | New York             | Montreal       |
| 1968 | Mohibulla Khan       | Boston               | Indianapolis   |
| 1969 | Sharif Khan          | Toronto              | Cincinnati     |
| 1970 | Sharif Khan          | Toronto              | Chicago        |
| 1971 | Sharif Khan          | Toronto              | Toronto        |
| 1972 | Sharif Khan          | Toronto              | Louisville     |
| 1973 | Sharif Khan          | Toronto              | Pittsburgh     |
| 1974 | Sharif Khan          | Toronto              | Toronto        |
| 1975 | Victor Niederhoffer  | New York             | Mexico City    |
| 1976 | Sharif Khan          | Toronto              | New York       |
| 1977 | Sharif Khan          | Toronto              | Philadelphia   |
| 1978 | Sharif Khan          | Toronto              | Toronto        |
| 1979 | Sharif Khan          | Toronto              | New York       |
| 1980 | Sharif Khan          | Toronto              | Salt Lake City |
| 1981 | Sharif Khan          | Toronto              | Toronto        |
| 1982 | Michael Desaulniers  | New York             | Cleveland      |
| 1983 | Mark Talbott         | Cudjoe Keys, Florida | Cleveland      |
| 1984 | Jahangir Khan        | Pakistan             | New York       |
| 1985 | Jahangir Khan        | Pakistan             | New York       |
| 1986 | Mark Talbott         | Providence, RI       | St. Paul       |
| 1987 | Ned Edwards          | New York             | Toledo         |
| 1988 | John Nimick          | Boston               | Toledo         |
| 1989 | Mark Talbot          | Providence, RI       | Toledo         |
| 1990 | John Nimick          | Boston               | Toledo         |



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Securities  
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Coulacos/Brennan and Associates

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THE TOLEDO CLUB  
FOUNDED 1889

Imperial  
AI Sprenger's  
Placement Service

YARKAL



**The New England**  
Your Financial Partner

Coulacos/Brennan and Associates

THE GROUP

Rudolph Libbe

PEOPLE'S SAVINGS

Prudential Bache  
Securities  
Rock Solid Market Wise



# CHAPTER X

## MANAGERS AND EMPLOYEES



# MANAGERS AND EMPLOYEES

by

Charles T. McKnight

*The following history of the managers and employees of The Toledo Club was written by Charles T. McKnight, the general manager of the Club since 1986.*



he first employees of the forefathers of The Toledo Club were a chef and a boy named Riley, who served meals via a dumbwaiter lift in Alf Gleason's old residence at 216 North Superior Street in the 1870s. As the group grew and the association of men discussing business turned into The Draconian Club in 1879 and eventually into The Toledo Club in 1889, the need to provide service to these members also grew. Therefore, more employees were hired to provide the excellent service which is a tradition at the Club.

In 1915, when the new clubhouse opened at Madison Avenue and Fourteenth Street, Charles Murphy was hired as the first manager. Mr. Murphy and his wife took residence within the rooms of the Club so he could provide constant watch over the staff and facilities. Mr. Murphy stepped down in 1937 when George Presser was promoted to the manager's role. Interestingly, the last person hired by Charles Murphy was a telephone operator by the name of Willis Garwood. Mr. Presser managed the club until 1954, at which time he turned the reins over to Willis Garwood.

Willis Garwood became the longest tenured manager at the Club, as he was the manager until 1984. In fact, given the brevity of many manager's terms at clubs across the nation, Mr. Garwood ranks as one of the longest tenured managers in the country. During this time many outstanding employees come to mind, particularly Captain Christoph, who commanded the Main Dining Room along with his staff of waiters. Les Purcell, who moved up from the Athletic Department was one of Willis Garwood's right-hand men, along with Joe Murdock. John Danehy also came up from the Athletic Department before becoming Assistant Manager. It is interesting to note that three men who were once in the Athletic Department at the club, Bob Foster, Les Purcell, and John Danehy, went on to become managers at the Sylvania Country Club.

Following Willis Garwood's retirement in 1984, Bill Diehl came from Fort Worth, Texas as the general manager for approximately two years. Mr. Diehl introduced tableside cooking to The Toledo Club, which to this day has remained very popular. In 1986 Mr. Diehl moved to a position with another city club, and Charles McKnight was appointed as interim manager.

Charles McKnight had been the athletic director and squash professional at the Club for seven years, and the tradition of promoting from within was continued when he was appointed manager in 1986. Mr. McKnight was responsible for bringing the professional squash tournament to Toledo.

With the service industry becoming one of the fastest growing industries in the country, the prospects for clubs and club employees looks very promising. As members become more select in their service needs, it is up to the private clubs to meet these challenges by hiring and developing the best staff available. The Club has come a long way since our boy, Riley, and the chef originally started serving our forefathers. The staff of the Club has grown from the original 2 to the current 150.

The following is a list of long time Toledo Club employees from the past and present along with their positions:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Ellen Apple - Operator                   | Cathy Lipkowski - Accounting Supervisor |
| Charlie Balesak - Head bartender/Steward | Alex McGee - Maitre d'                  |
| Rosie Biel - Banquet                     | Marianne Marciniak - Banquet            |
| Louis Boyk - Tailor                      | Connie Mikolajczyk - Maitre d'          |
| Lois Chandler - Front Office Manager     | Elsie Miller - Waitress                 |
| Alice Chappell - Housekeeper             | Joe Murdock - Assistant Manager         |
| William Christophe - Maitre d'           | Walter Nuzum - Bellman                  |
| Marge Clark - Gift Shop                  | Sunday Oshodin - Head Waiter            |
| Charles Crittenden - Steward             | Donald Perry - Chef                     |
| John Danehy - Assistant Manager          | Henry Presser - Assistant Manager       |
| Sally Davis - Computer Manager           | Les Purcell - Assistant Manager         |
| Ron (Bucky) Demko - Bartender            | Emy Randolph - Head housekeeper         |
| Shelby Durliat - MDR Manager             | Roy Rousch - Maintenance                |
| Ann Farkas - Cook                        | Elsie Roy - Banquet                     |
| Lucy Fearing - Bookkeeping               | Fred Royster - Maitre d'                |
| Ed Fitzgerald - Doorman                  | Tom Smith - Barber                      |
| John Galyas - Bartender                  | Virginia Spencer - Coat check           |
| Flo Henderson - Waitress                 | Norman Sypucinski - Operator/Printer    |
| Ray Hoff - Masseur                       | Clara Thomas - Cook                     |
| Vern Hoff - Masseur                      | Jim Turner - Waiter                     |
| Essie Hunter - Housekeeper               | Bob Vincent - Doorman                   |
| Emil Krall - Head bartender              | Howard Winger - Doorman                 |
| Lillian Kwiatkowski - Banquet            | Marilyn Yant - Waitress                 |
| John Lanier - Houseman                   |   |





**CHAPTER XI**

**GLIMPSES, GLANCES  
AND ASIDES**



## John N. Willys

MR. WILLYS claims to be making this year a machine that will go *Over-Land* at frequent intervals.

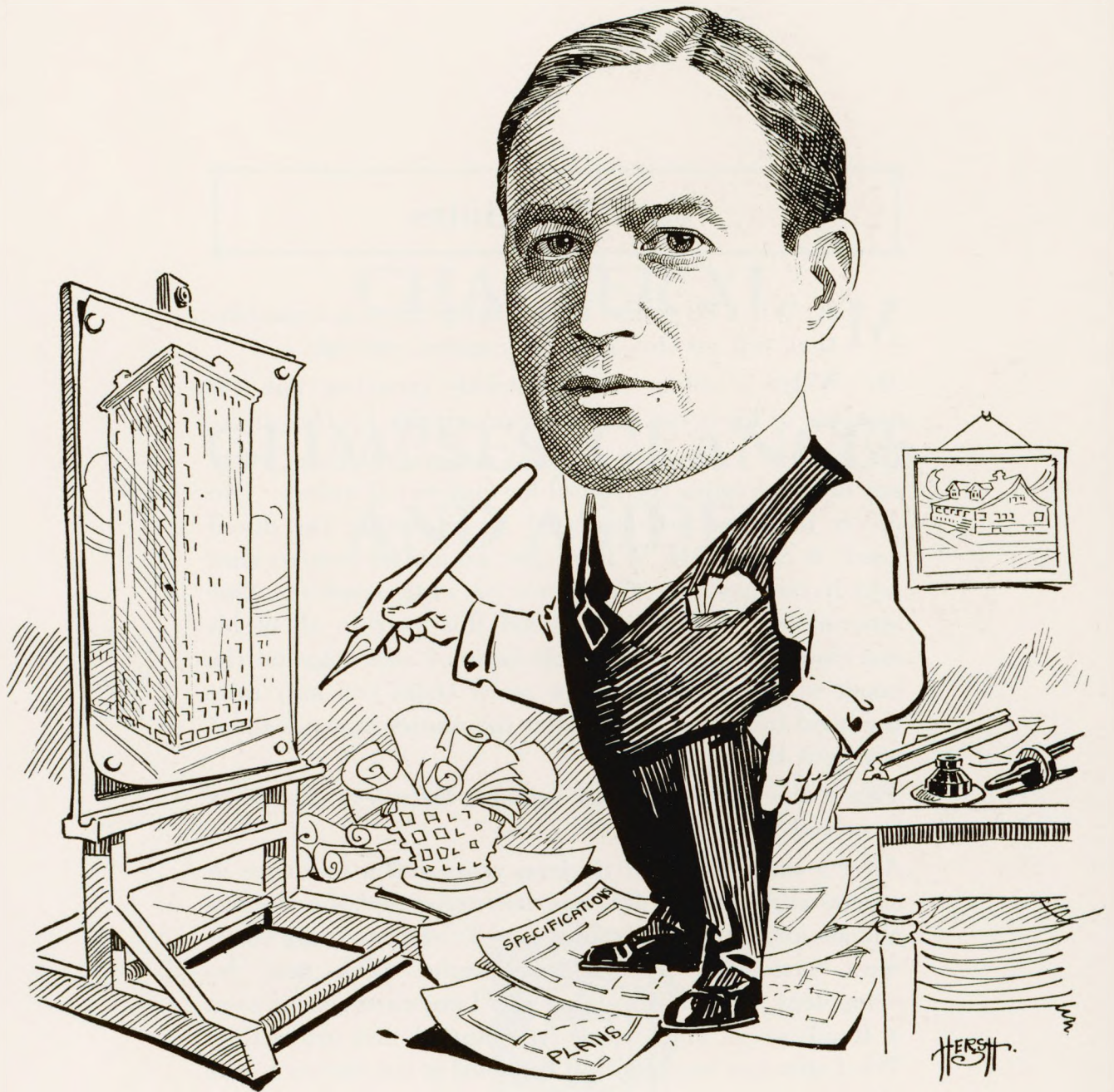
Mr. Willys is not an *aviator*, strictly speaking, but this machine of his is *run* and *sold*—principally by *Hot Air*.

He has *now* some *seven* different *designs*, each and every one of which holds the record for *high cost of upkeep*. No driver has ever been arrested for exceeding the Speed Limit in one of Mr. Willys' cars; no matter how reckless said driver may be. *The caution lies in the machine*. One especial feature has been added this year to all of his machines and that is a double-barreled *steel hinge* on the hood, so that no matter how many times you may raise the hood to look in to see what the matter is, you cannot wear out the hinges.

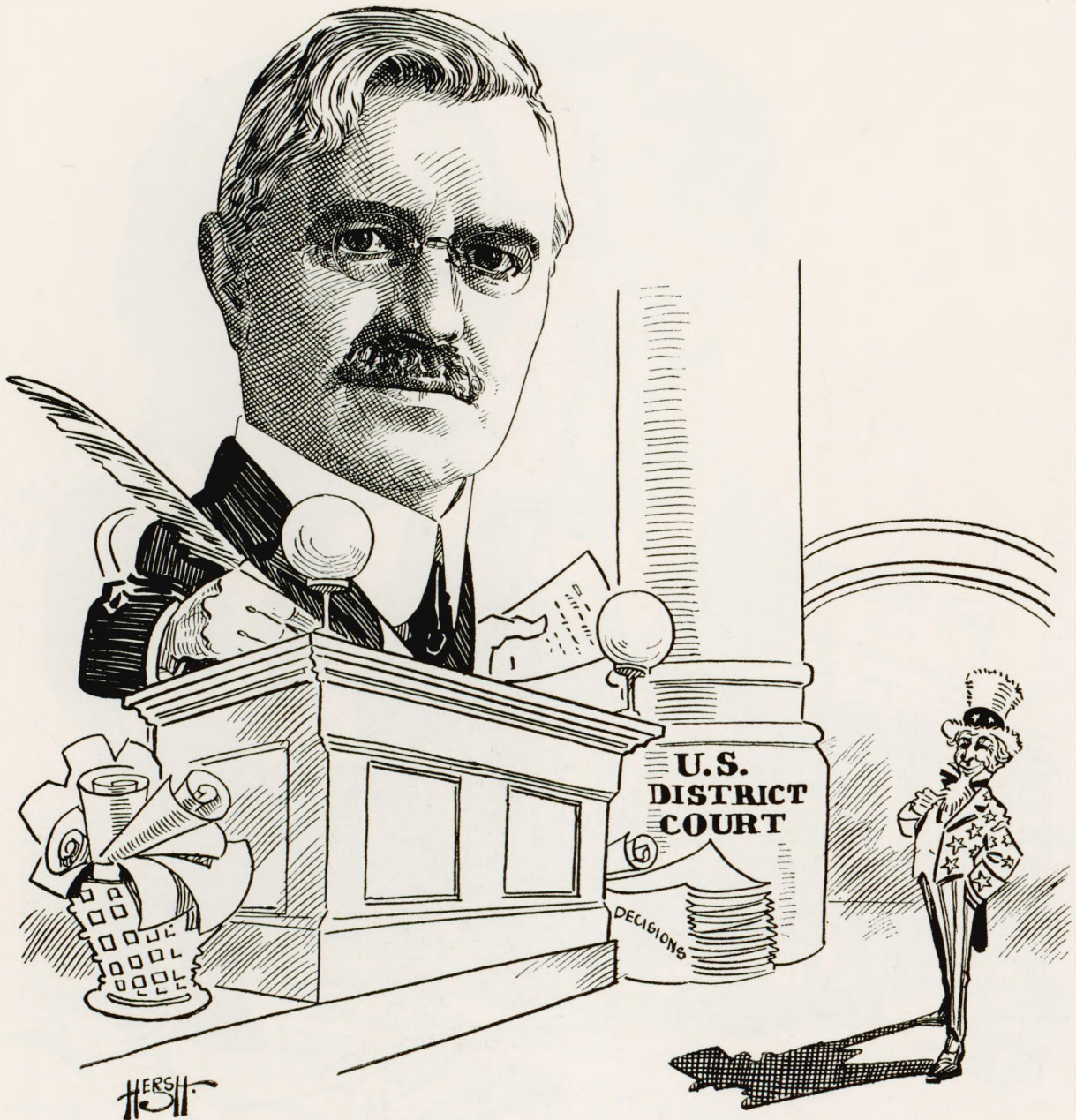
This is the latest and most valuable feature in the "New Overland."

After a married life of thirteen years and a residence in several cities, Mr. Willys has discovered that the glorious climate and unusual advantages of Toledo can bring about most wonderful, but *natural*, results. This new development, while not as large as a Limousine car, or even a Roadster, is much more complicated and interesting. What this new machine will be called is not known to the Historian.

We suppose that it will *depend* upon the *crank shaft*, but we guess that the same will be either *John* or *Mary*.



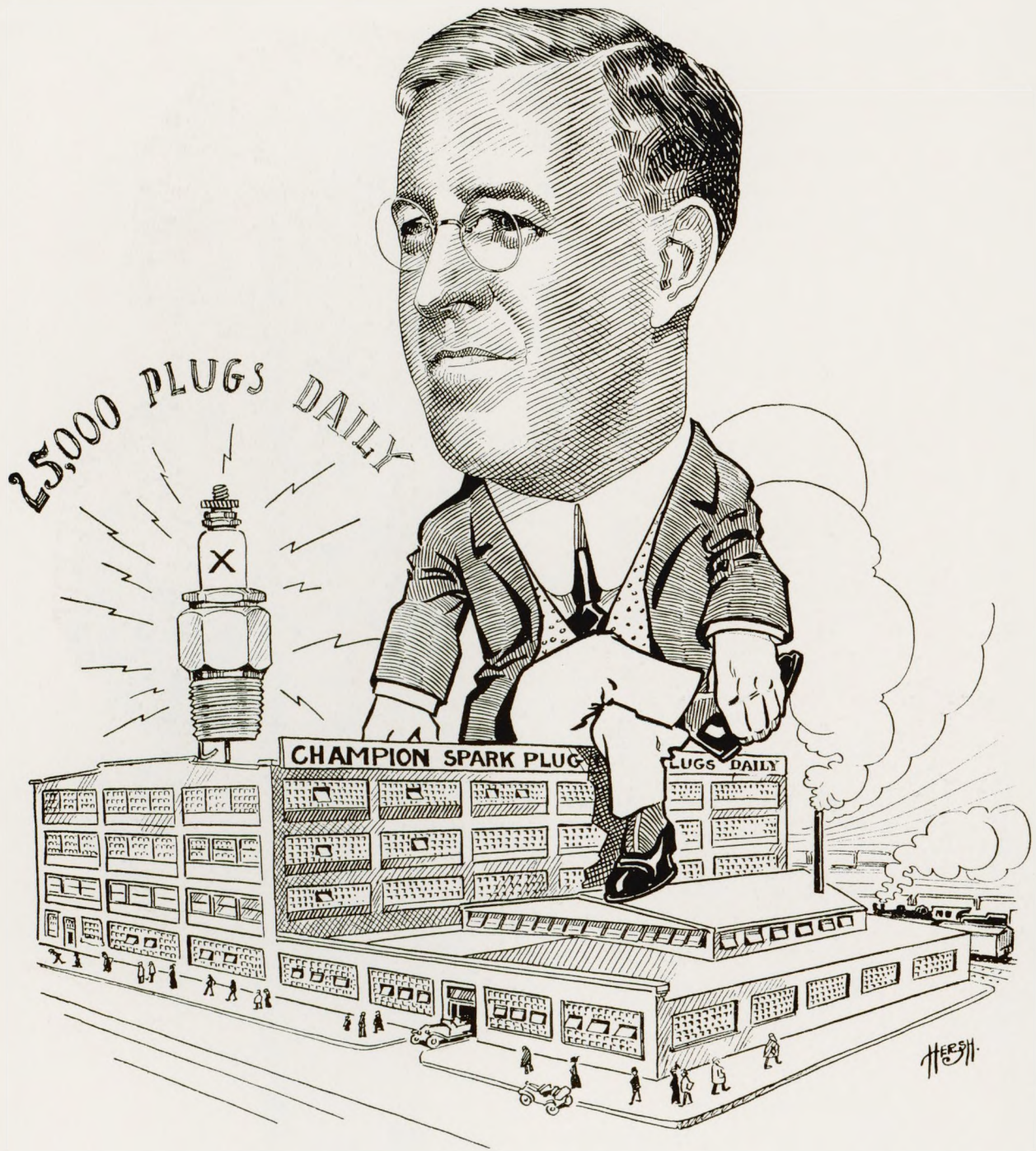
GEORGE S. MILLS  
Architect



JUDGE JOHN M. KILLITS  
Attorney

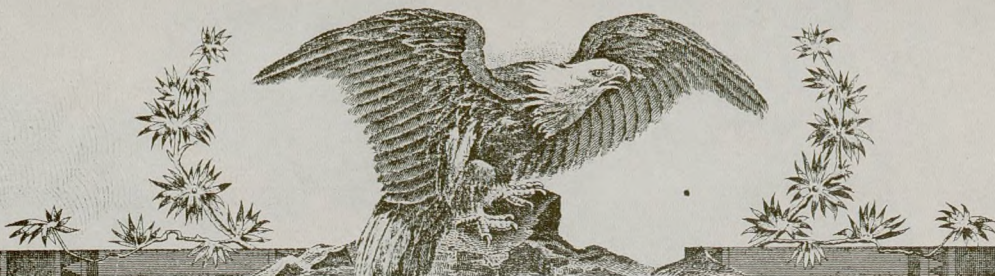


H. J. SPIEKER  
H. J. Spieker Co., Contractors



F. D. STRANAHAN  
Champion Spark Plug Co.

No. 1164



# THE TOLEDO CLUB

TOLEDO, OHIO

This is to Certify that Ch. Edward Myers

HAS BEEN DULY ELECTED AND HAS QUALIFIED AS A

Resident Member of The Toledo Club

While in good standing he is entitled to all the *rights, benefits and privileges* of said Club, and subject to all the Laws, Rules and Regulations thereof.

Witness the Corporate Seal of said Club and the signatures of its President

and Secretary this 24th day of November 1922

Charles W. Dellman  
SECRETARY

John J. Willys  
PRESIDENT

This is what happened elsewhere in 1882, the year The Draconian Club was incorporated:

BIRTHS:

Samuel Goldwyn  
Franklin D. Roosevelt  
Igor Stravinski  
Virginia Woolf  
James Joyce

DEATHS:

Henry W. Longfellow  
Charles Darwin  
Ralph Waldo Emerson  
Jesse James, shot

The Hague: Three mile territorial water limit set  
Robert Louis Stephenson: wrote "Treasure Island"  
Paul Cezanne: painted "Self Portrait"  
Tchaikovsky: composed "1812 Overture"  
Gilbert and Sullivan: "Iolanthe" performed in Boston  
Boston, Mass.: first incandescent stage lighting  
Wagner: composed "Parsifal"  
Debussy: composed "Le Printemps"  
Thomas A. Edison: built first hydroelectric plant  
H. S. Maxim: patented recoil-operated machine gun  
Queen Victoria: gave Epping Forest to the nation  
John L. Sullivan: defeated Paddy Ryan bare knuckle  
F. R. Stockton: wrote "The Lady or the Tiger?"  
Lillie Langtry: played New York stage in "As You Like It"  
Mark Twain: wrote "The Prince and the Pauper"  
Phil Casey: brought the game of handball from Ireland to NY  
Jesse James: killed by Robert Ford of his gang  
William H. Vanderbilt: said "the public be damned"  
Congress: passed first Federal Law restricting immigration  
S. S. Wheeler: developed electric fan  
Rev. M. J. McGivney: founded Knights of Columbus  
Babe Hurd. won 8th Kentucky Derby on "Apollo"

And in Toledo:

Wheeler Opera House: General Tom Thumb played - admission 10¢  
Wheeler Opera House: "Humpty Dumpty" played on January 13  
Lower St. Clair St.. Electric Light Works established  
Police Station: January 13 - not a complaint made last night  
Telephone service: Toledo soon to be connected with Detroit  
Stonecutter's Union: wages \$3.50 per day after April 1  
Police Station: Bacon and Will's front door found open last night -  
nothing taken.



This is what happened elsewhere in 1889, the year The Toledo Club was incorporated:

BIRTHS:

Adolph Hitler  
Charles Chaplin  
George S. Kaufman

DEATHS:

Jefferson Davis  
Robert Browning  
Archduke Rudolph, suicide

Mark Twain: "A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court"

Edward Bok: first published "Ladies' Home Journal"

Samoa: American, British and German warships to civil war

Nellie Bly: traveled around the world in 72 days

Singer: first electric sewing machine

T. A. Edison & George Eastman: first movie film

Bessemer Steel: first produced "I" beam for skyscrapers

Bicycles: first "safety bicycle," not a high-wheeler

Benjamin Harrison: Inaugurated as 23rd President of U.S.

Oklahoma: Land rush

Johnstown, Pennsylvania: Johnstown flood killed 2,295 people

Theodore Roosevelt: published "The Winning of the West"

C. H. Dow & E. T. Jones: first "The Wall Street Journal"

North & South Dakota: admitted as 39th and 40th states

Montana & Washington: admitted as 41st and 42nd states

Andrew Carnegie: published "Wealth"

John L. Sullivan: defeated Kilrain, last bare knuckle bout

Vincent Van Gogh: painted "Landscape With Cypress Tree"

A. G. Eiffel: designed Eiffel Tower for Paris Exposition

And in Toledo:

135 Ontario St.: sold "new style surreys, carriages and piano box buggies"

Meilink Company: sold furniture

People's Theatre: ten pairs of rental opera glasses stolen

Memorial Hall: Major William McKinley spoke to vast audience

Wheeler Opera House: "Rigoletto" - seats .50 to \$1.50

Steamer Gazelle: \$1.00 round-trip transportation to Put In Bay from foot of Jefferson St.

This is what happened elsewhere in 1915, the year the present Toledo Club building was constructed:

BIRTHS:

Arthur Miller

Saul Bellow

DEATHS:

Booker T. Washington

Lusitania: sunk by German submarine off Ireland

London: first Zeppelin attack on London

J. Pierpont Morgan: shot by Eric Munter

D. W. Griffith: released "Birth of a Nation"

Alexander Graham Bell: first transcontinental phone call

Thomas R. Marshall: said "what this country really needs is a good five-cent cigar"

Ty Cobb: stole 96 bases in one season

Margaret Sanger: arrested on obscenity charges

William Jennings Bryan: resigned as Secretary of State

Congress: established U.S. Coast Guard

Edgar Lee Masters: published "Spoon River Anthology"

Ring Lardner: wrote "Bib Ballads," his first book

Ralph DePalma: won Indianapolis 500, average speed 89.84 MPH

Congress: established Rocky Mountain National Park

New York City: telephone rate reduced to 5 cents

Panama Canal: first warships passed through

Robert Frost: published "A Boy's Will"

Marc Chagall: painted "The Birthday"

New Orleans: classic jazz in bloom

Albert Einstein: postulated his General Theory of Relativity

Henry Ford: developed the farm tractor

Henry Ford: produced the one millionth car

Jess Willard: defeated Jack Johnson to win the heavyweight title

Motorized taxis appeared

And in Toledo:

Tiedtkes: sold Arrow collars two for 25¢

Temple Theatre: needed sixty lady ushers

Moose: held grand masquerade ball

Valentine Theatre: comics Mutt and Jeff in "While the City Sleeps"

Gardner Building: Secor and Bell offered Italian Government gold notes at 6%



**CHAPTER XII**

**100th ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATION**



## 100th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

by

Edward (Ned) Coyle, entertainment chairman

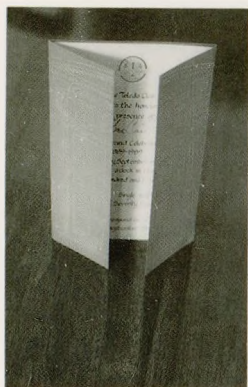


n early August, 1989, Toledo Club members opened their mail to find a reproduction of the brightly polished, uniquely designed Fourteenth Street entrance doors to the club. The doors opened and they were beckoned to attend the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the founding of The Toledo Club to be held September 8, 1989.

This black tie affair, eighteen months in the planning, was designed to be a salute not only to those distinguished and visionary gentlemen who chose to establish this haven of elegant pleasure and camaraderie, but to celebrate as well the current membership that continues to carry the baton of history and tradition. The grand reopening was also to showcase the newly redecorated and renovated interior of the club, and to invite all members to share an evening of gracious elegance, conviviality, and high spirited fun accented with fine dining, entertainment and a few tantalizing surprises.

Several ideas were considered by the party's executive committee as to the form of the gala, which finally took shape when Gretchen and David Shoop suggested that the evening be patterned after the 1931 Men's Annual Dinner, wherein all members were seated at very long, elaborately decorated dining tables. A photograph of this evening can be seen in the second floor hallway outside the Men's Grill. The committee was optimistic that three hundred of the membership would wish to participate in this very special event, but were sent to the far reaches of Toledo and Detroit to rent additional silver and formal serving pieces to accommodate the overwhelming response of the club membership, which eventually reached in excess of six hundred.

The evening began rather inauspiciously when a late summer thunderstorm rumbled through Toledo knocking out power to parts of downtown and the western suburbs. The beautifully festooned twelve thousand square foot white tent area erected in the parking lot for cocktails and after dinner dancing withstood the



downpour and soon became a refuge and safe harbor for the arriving guests. Spirits, however, were not dampened in the least by the inclement weather.

At 7:00, 8:00, and 9:00 PM the sound of trumpet fanfare from the bandstand announced each of the three seating times for the eight course dinner soon to commence. Upon entering the Club proper, members were cheered to see a Victorian song bird in the form of a young lady, suspended on a swing in the main lobby, and delighted to see a single dinner table stretching from the Centennial Room through the Lobby into the Red Room. Festooned with Della Robia garlands and dressed with the finest table service, linens, candelabra, and fruit and flowers, the tables became a focal point of the elegance and high spirit of the evening. Each of the more than six hundred place settings displayed a delicate five colored hand drawn and painted fan-shaped place card for the ladies, and a program for the men.

The length of the third floor was similarly festooned with flowers and gaily decorated tables, as was the Versailles Room and to a lesser extent all of the private dining rooms which were pressed into service to accommodate all the well wishers.

A menu designed especially for the evening by the food committee, Therese Coyle, Rubena Schaffer and Marcy McMahon, included Creme Vichyssoise a la Libbey, Homard froid a la Levis, Chief Justice Waite sorbet de la rose, Carre de pose a la Nasby, Legumes au beurre noir, Pommes de terre rissollees, Salad vert a la Owens, and Willys gateau chocolat. Each course was complemented with fine wines chosen by the Club's resident connoisseur, Bernard Gaffney.

The dining areas were hosted by toastmasters who were former club presidents, and other notables, who offered a series of toasts written especially for the evening by Mary and Carl White, which saluted the glorious past, successful present and optimistic future of The Toledo Club. Many of the revelers responded in the same spirit and offered their own thoughts and pleasantries to their fellow diners. A very unusual and special toast was offered to the memory of Petroleum V. Nasby (David Ross Locke) whose portrait was reproduced and placed in each dining area. At the appropriate moment Nasby came to life by stepping through his portrait and offering a toast of his own to the membership.



The dinner was universally hailed as the Club's finest dining hour and much credit has to be given to the Club's staff and management for a job exceptionally well done.

The elegant dinner service was accomplished under the supervision of Peggy Ramsdale, the food and beverage director of The Toledo Club. The fine food was prepared by Chef Patrick Joyce and his capable staff. Chef Joyce has been the executive chef at The Toledo Club since 1984. He is president of the Maumee Valley Chef's Association and has studied at the Culinary Institute of America at Hyde Park, New York.

To achieve the high service level the tone of the evening was further enhanced by white gloved tuxedoed young gents serving as footmen, who were retained for the purpose of serving the fine wines and champagnes, cigars and cigarettes, as well as the pouring of a one hundred year old port for a special anniversary toast. Strolling violinists as well as three harpists and two pianists entertained with appropriate dinner music throughout the three hour meal.

The evening continued with outdoor dancing to a big band in the tent, and more celebratory champagne toasting from a festive champagne glass pyramid. Thus, a second century of Toledo Club hospitality was appropriately and most beautifully offered for an unforgettable evening. Friendship, laughter and congeniality were never more in abundance than at this joyous event.

As a senior member of the Club was heard to say as he departed, "... best damned evening the Club ever had!"

# APPENDIX





EXCERPTS FROM THE TRUSTEES MEETINGS OF THE  
TOLEDO CLUB:

January 12, 1910 - "There being no quorum present, the meeting was adjourned ..."

May 14, 1910 - "It was moved, seconded and carried that the rent for the billiard room be withheld until the lessors grant a reasonable allowance for loss of revenue due to inadequate heating."

July 12, 1910 - "... that in view of the contemplated repairs and improvements of the Club House being estimated at a cost of approximately twenty five thousand dollars, that the president appoint a committee of any number he thought best with himself as chairman to get offers on the present Club property and costs of other suitable locations."

October 10, 1910 - "It was moved and seconded and carried that a bill be sent to Doyle and Lewis for the loss sustained on account of their failure to keep the billiard room heated in accordance with the terms of the lease."

October 10, 1910 - "... at a special meeting of the members ... three plans should be submitted for their consideration and action: First: Shall we sell the present property and build a suitable Club House in another location? Second: Shall we replace the present Club House with a new one? Third: Shall we go to any expense necessary to put the present Club House in first class condition throughout?"

December 12, 1910 - "It was moved ... and seconded ... that the Hon. John Killits, Judge of the United States District Court be enrolled as an honorary member of The Toledo Club."

December 12, 1910 - "The Building Committee submitted for the approval of the Trustees, the plan of engaging Mr. G. S. Mills as the architect for the new Club House with the understanding that he associate himself with some first-class specialist in the Club architecture."

January 18, 1911 - " ... a proposed amendment to the By-Laws creating a junior membership .... The annual dues of each resident member shall be \$80; of each junior member \$40; and of each non-resident member \$25 ..."

December 11, 1911 - "It was moved and seconded that the entertainment committee be authorized to engage Buffalo Jones for one of his lectures at an expense not in excess of \$150."

March 11, 1912 - "... the Treasurer was instructed to pay Mr. Henry Reinhardt \$550 for the picture by H. Rondel, hanging in the Parlor."

April 16, 1912 - "Mr. H. R. Thompson was authorized to close a lease for the Tavern and Heidelberg buildings for temporary quarters while the new Club House is in the course of construction. He was also instructed to examine the terms of all leases, the agreement with the Brand Brewing Co. ..."

May 1, 1912 - (Lease terms) " ... the Brand Brewing Co. agrees to surrender its lease on the property known as the Heidelberg Cafe to The Toledo Club, in consideration of which the Club agrees to use the aforesaid company's draught and bottled beer exclusively except beers manufactured outside of Toledo ..."

May 10, 1912 - "The plans as submitted by Mr. Mills, for improvement of the Tavern property, were approved and the secretary was authorized to proceed with the work of remodeling."

October 15, 1912 - "The Trustees have, therefore, secured an option on a piece of property at the corner of Madison Avenue and Fourteenth Street, having a frontage of 100 feet on Madison Avenue and extending westerly 250 feet on Fourteenth Street."

October 23, 1912 - "... motion ... carried, authorizing the Trustees to sell the present property at a price not less than \$200,000 and rescinding an action ... authorizing the Trustees to rebuild on the present site."

October 23, 1912 - "A motion ... requesting the Trustees to purchase the site at the corner of Fourteenth and Madison ... on being put to a vote, resulted in a tie, forty nine voting for and forty nine against."

October 30, 1912 - "In reply to the letter of the Trustees ... as to the purchase of the property at Fourteenth Street and Madison Avenue, 251 returns were received, 158 in favor and 93 against."

November 11, 1912 - "... the Committee be authorized to make the purchase as follows ... Lots 1559, 1558 and the Northerly 50 feet of Lot 1557 in the PORT LAWRENCE DIVISION (sic) ... a frontage of 100 feet on Madison Ave. and 250 feet on Fourteenth Street, in said City. The price of said property to be \$70,000 ..."

October 9, 1913 - "... the submission by Mr. Willys of his plan for the financing of the Club, and the acceptance of his very liberal offer ... the Building Committee be instructed to let the contract for the construction of the new club-house ..."

October 31, 1913 - "... the contract which has been made with the Secor Hotel Company for temporary quarters pending the completion of the new club house."

November 4, 1913 - "A special meeting was called ... to consider the following questions ... if more suitable quarters cannot be secured than those contemplated in the old drug store next to the alley of the Secor Hotel and the use of their back dining room from 11:30 to 2 o'clock, subject however, to the use of the room by the Hotel Company for banquets whenever it finds it necessary."

November 4, 1913 - "Mr. Kinsey presided: The Club history for the last eighteen months was recapitulated as follows - It was decided in the old club house to rebuild on the old site and the Club moved out for that purpose, it was then decided that this plan was not feasible and at a special meeting held for that purpose it was unanimously decided to obtain the present 14th Street site.

Plans were drawn and the bids were then discovered to be beyond our means.

Action was deferred until Mr. Willys returned from abroad, a meeting of Trustees was then held and the Club's predicament explained to him. Mr. Willys then agreed to take \$100,000 worth of second mortgage bonds. The Trustees then placed the contract for the new building."

April 30, 1915 - "... the rate for rooms in the new Club ... at a per diem rate of \$2.50 or \$60 by the month. ..."

May 6, 1915 - "It was decided to open the new Club House on the morning of May 15th at 8 AM in an informal way and to have a formal opening on May 18th at 7 PM and the manager was instructed to serve a banquet at that time at a charge of \$5.00 per plate."

June 1, 1915 - "Resolutions adopted ... for a formal opening of the new Club on June 18th were rescinded and ... the Club will be opened informally on Saturday, June 19th."

October 25, 1915 - "... resident dues be raised from \$80 to \$100 per year ... the limit of Club resident memberships to be raised from five to six hundred."

April 27, 1916 - "A proposition submitted by the chairman of the art committee for the purchase of Mr. Carlton Chapman's 'Battle of Lake Erie' was accepted."

August 28, 1916 - "Members of The Toledo Club who are temporarily in the service of the United States Army or Navy are hereby released from payment of dues during their absence from this city, on duty."

October 20, 1916 - "The Secretary was instructed to accept for the Club ... a pair of Moose Antlers. ..."

December 4, 1916 - "The Resolution was adopted that Junior Membership in the Club be discontinued. ..."

December 4, 1916 - "... installation of an electric victrola at the Club was reported. ..."

February 11, 1917 - "... the resignation of Edwin Osthaus was accepted."

May 6, 1917 - "That the Secretary communicate with the Army and Navy Club extending to its members and all commissioned officers the privileges of The Toledo Club."

November 24, 1917 - "... engaged Charles R. Murphy as Manager of the Club. ..."

January 29, 1918 - "... recommending the purchase from Thomas Parkhurst of his oil painting (Evening Glow) now hanging in the Lounging Room, for the sum of \$400 cash and \$400 credit to apply on initiation fee and dues on a membership to be taken out by him. ..."

July 23, 1918 - "That the Ladies' Dining Room ... be closed for the duration of the War, except on very special occasions ... the Ladies entrance be kept locked and the ladies use the Main entrance. ..."

January 30, 1919 - "... this deficit will in all probability be increased during the year 1919, principally on account of the loss of profit from the sale of drinks, owing to the prohibition of their sales during a portion of the year; ... each Resident Member shall be assessed \$50. ..."

March 8, 1919 - "Members to be notified that all liquor on storage at the Club must be removed by May 26, 1919."

May 23, 1919 - "Suggestion comes from an old member that in order to popularize the lower floor of the Club that the drink room be converted into a grill and that the grill supply the little odds and delicacies of the different seasons so that the members can sit about the little tables and order this or that that may please their fancy. Sort of a social eating place, that is, Bohemian and sort of free and easy. He also suggested the locker system for the members. Small lockers in the basement where they can keep whatever they wish in the way of eatables and drinkables under lock and key and be their own individual property."

October 31, 1919 - "Membership committee to be asked to start a campaign quietly to build up resident membership to 800."

December 30, 1920 - "... Resident Membership dues be increased from \$100 to \$200 a year, payable quarterly ... and the assessment of \$50 a year be discontinued."

February 4, 1921 - "ART COMMITTEE, Carl Spitzer, Chairman, Mr. E.D. Libbey, Mr. Geo. W. Stevens."

April 28, 1921 - "It was decided to make the price of the luncheon \$.75 plus \$.15 service charge and notice of the reduction in price will be mailed to all members."

January 6, 1922 - "... purchase the painting "Winter Rigors" by John L. Carlson for \$3,500. ..."

January 20, 1922 - "A motion to purchase a projection lantern for the Club was unanimously carried."

October 19, 1923 - "Mr. Murphy reported that in order to better maintain a competent force of waiters he had increased their wages from \$75 to \$85 per month.

The matter of the purchase of the W. R. Leigh painting 'The Renegade' was brought up and a motion was made to purchase the same for \$565 ... unanimously carried."

January 11, 1924 - "... option be given the City of Toledo to purchase seven feet of land along the entire front of the Club property facing Madison Ave. for the purpose of widening Madison Ave."

January 31, 1924 - "Annual drawing for the retiring of the 10 first mortgage bonds took place ... Mr. Carl Sandberg, poet, gave an informal talk on poetry."

December 19, 1925 - "By unanimous vote it was decided to extend the privileges of the Club to Mrs. E.D. Libbey as the widow of a deceased member. ..."

January 28, 1926 - "The following resolution was made by Geo. S. Mills: The Toledo Club has recently lost one of its members, whose outstanding citizenship and importance to the community will not soon be forgotten.

This Club already has hung upon its walls the portraits of several men identified with the important activities of the community and it has been suggested that it is not fitting that the passage of this man go unnoticed by us and I therefore, offer the following to the members assembled: Be it resolved that with the consent first obtained from Mrs. Libbey, that the Trustees of the Club be authorized and directed to have a portrait painted of the late

Edward Drummond Libbey to be hung in the Club House and paid for out of the funds of the Club.

... Members adjourned to New Athletic Wing for formal opening."

December 31, 1926 - "... reported that Edward Drummond Libbey by his last will had bequeathed to The Toledo Club all Toledo Club First Mortgage Bonds held by him ... 44 bonds of the value of \$500 each."

January 26, 1928 - "... members were then entertained by an illustrated lecture given by Captain Bob Bartlett of the Peary Expedition to the North Pole."

January 28, 1929 - "The membership ... on January 1, 1928, was composed of 644 Resident, 262 Non-Resident, 69 Juniors, 4 Honorary who with 6 Ladies made a total of 1005 ... Our membership including all classifications now stands at 1009."

June 11, 1929 - "... recipient of a beautiful painting by the artist, Louis Betts, and presented by Mr. Arthur J. Secor. ..."

September 26, 1929 - "... Chairman of the Athletic Committee ... requested permission that they be granted permission ... to conduct boxing exhibitions ... for the entertainment of members and their families. ..."

January 28, 1931 - "Our membership, including all classifications, now stands at 879."

November 4, 1931 - "... a temporary merger of The Toledo Club and the University Club might be of mutual benefit."

January 26, 1933 - "50 members in attendance...reported that during the year...lost 336 members, 70 new resident members were added, leaving total membership at 664. ..."

January 25, 1934 - "150 members present. Financial statement for 1933 showing total net revenue from operation of \$64,000 and administration and general expense of \$60,000..."



1931 MEN'S ANNUAL DINNER



## SPEECH GIVEN IN 1944

*The following is a major excerpt from a speech given for the full membership of the Club in January, 1944. The identity of the speaker is unknown, but it was not the president, as the president is referred to in the speech.*



The Toledo Club was incorporated in 1889 for amusement, literary and social culture, and mutual improvement. Its original club house was, as you know, the red stone and brick building at the corner of Madison and Huron Streets, where the Home Bank Building now stands. It was the home of the Club from the time it was built in 1891 to 1914. From 1914 to 1915 the Club was housed in the Old Tavern Hotel on St. Clair Street and in 1915 the Club had rooms in the Hotel Secor. In June 1915 the Club moved into its present quarters.

During all these years from 1889 to the present time, the Club has been the mart where men of business, industry, law, science and letters have foregathered for the exchange of views on politics, industry, social problems, and I assume at times even on matters spiritual.

During the years of its organization, practically every citizen who has made a substantial contribution to the development of Toledo has been a member of this Club. Of the leaders of industry there come to mind Edward Libbey; Edward Ford; M. J. Owens; John Willys; James Secor and his son, Jay; William Hardee; Frank Collins; Colonel Reynolds; the Bakers, Herbert and Arthur; Thomas DeVilbiss; George M. Jones; and Thomas Bentley, the contractor. Of the bankers, George W. Davis; the Robinsons, David and his two sons, James and Willard; the Spitzers, the General and his cousin, A.L.; and Henry L. Thompson. Of the lawyers, Barton Smith, Thomas Tracy, Judge Doyle, Charles Lewis, Alexander Smith, George Beckwith, Clarence Brown, and Fred Geddes. Of the men of letters, Dr. Cyrus Townsend Brady and Brand Whitlock. Of the physicians and doctors, Dr. Will Fisher and Dr. Reece, and may I mention our beloved Dr. Warren Brand, long house physician of this Club, who is now so near the other shore. Of the architects, Stine, Fallis and Mills. Of the mayors of Toledo, there were Kent Hamilton, Guy Major, Samuel M. Jones, Brand Whitlock, and Judge Brough. What an array of competent men! Small wonder that the City grew under such leaders.

During the period of the Club's existence most of the presidents of the United States have been guests of the Club at some time. Major McKinley was an honorary member. Others who have passed over its threshold are Theodore Roosevelt, Taft, Harding, Hoover and Franklin Roosevelt.

During its existence, the Club has been the scene of great public dinners. May I mention but two of them. You may recall the dinner given when John Masefield, the English poet, was here during the darkest days of World War I. It was in April of 1918 when the soldiers of France and England were fighting with their backs against the wall and before America had entered the war. In speaking of the life and death struggle that the French were making for the preservation of civilization, he described the spirit of France that night in these words: "If the men of France are all killed, the women will step into the ranks to take their places; if the women are killed, the children will form the array; and if the children are killed, then the dead will rise and fight the enemy."

Then there was the other dinner, given in October of 1919 in honor of Cardinal Mercier. He was welcomed in a brilliant and stirring address by a fellow member, Theodore F. McManus. Turning to the great Cardinal, he said: "In approaching you, we walk upon holy ground. You have sought first the Kingdom of God and His justice; and, thanks be to God, all else has been added unto you. Great and good man, man of God and man among men, lion heart and gentle spirit, father, brother, friend of humanity, a thousand thanks and a thousand welcomes."

Noteworthy, too, were the closing words of this holy man: "And why did the American soldier and the American sailor have such admirable courage? They had no temporal interest whatever. They came into the war only to save Christian civilization, only because they had understood that Belgium, my native land, had made a great sacrifice. America understood the meaning of Belgian sacrifice and pledged its full strength, saying 'We are to give help to little Belgium. We are to help her because she symbolizes right, honor, truth and liberty.' My fellow citizens (Toledo citizenship had been conferred upon the Cardinal that date) I recognize that the American Constitution is based on those same eternal principles of right, truth, justice and liberty."

That we are here tonight in these splendid surroundings is due in large measure to the foresight, driving force, intelligence and generosity of John Willys, who at the time was the president of the Club. This great dining hall bespeaks his vision. The living room below reflects in even greater degree the spirit and purpose of this Club.

Do you recall the inscription from Ovid over the stone fireplace? I suppose a free translation may be this: "A little leisure refreshes mind and body, while excessive work plays havoc with both."

I have mentioned these former members of this Club, who have gone to that other home, resolute men, all of them, who by their achievements have made this a worthy city, and I have referred to the historic dinners for the purpose of confirming your conviction that this Club has, in truth, carried out the purpose for which it was organized. The history of the City of Toledo during the last sixty years is in a very real sense the life history of these men. We have reason to take pride in this institution. Ours is the task of preserving its traditions.

Now a little closer to our financial situation. In the course of the investigation of the corporate history of the Club, it was necessary to pore over the early records. ...

At an early meeting, this resolution appears: "Moved and carried not to put in weather strips and that the manager be instructed to suggest to any member complaining of the cold that a drink of whiskey might help." It's an old saw, "When better whiskey is to be had, The Toledo Club will have it."

In 1907, the following resolution was passed: "Moved that the president be instructed to sign a lease with Doyle & Lewis for the three upper floors of their building for five years from December 1, 1907, for \$1,500 a year, if Doyle & Lewis will make certain improvements there and allow us \$100 on the decorations and if the president can get \$65 toward refinishing the woodwork. ..."

As a last word, may I felicitate with you that happy days are here again. When you come into the entrance hall, I am sure you will detect a major benignant smile of welcome in "sweet Sylvia." There may have, at one time, been doubts as to her fidelity; but now she is yours forevermore.



## **THE TOLEDO CLUB**

### **Board of Trustees**

Thomas I. Webb, Jr.

**President**

David A. Snavely

**Vice President**

James B. Findley

**Treasurer**

Alonzo H. Poll

**Secretary**

John A. Fedderke

John C. Kelleher, M.D.

William J. Kennelly

## COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

|  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| <b>ART:</b>                                | Spencer D. Stone      |
| <b>ATHLETIC:</b>                           | Frank Manning         |
| <b>Squash:</b>                             | Gregory C. Kopan      |
| <b>Swimming:</b>                           | F. Joseph Bires, Jr.  |
| <b>Track:</b>                              | William J. Davis      |
| <b>COMMUNICATIONS &amp;<br/>MARKETING:</b> | Michael Travis        |
| <b>ENTERTAINMENT:</b>                      | Carl N. White         |
| <b>Internal:</b>                           | Mark C. Schaffer      |
| <b>External:</b>                           | John N. Scott         |
| <b>Music:</b>                              | Wm. R. Lindsley, Jr.  |
| <b>FINANCE:</b>                            | Barry P. Walsh        |
| <b>FOOD, BEVERAGE, &amp;<br/>SERVICE:</b>  | Royce C. Haddad       |
| <b>HOUSE &amp; GROUNDS:</b>                | Donald J. Yark        |
| <b>JUNIOR &amp;<br/>INTERMEDIATE:</b>      | Charles J. Mira       |
| <b>LABOR RELATIONS:</b>                    | Richard H. Stoll, Sr. |
| <b>LECTURE:</b>                            | Newell E. Kaufman     |
| <b>LONG RANGE<br/>PLANNING:</b>            | Paul E. Johnson       |
| <b>MEMBERSHIP:</b>                         | Gene R. Wos           |
| <b>NOMINATING:</b>                         | Donal Hummer          |
| <b>RECIPROCAL CLUBS:</b>                   | James E. Kline        |



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