



Inductees



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Dr. Irwin M. Abrams (1914-) organized the Department of History at Antioch College and taught there for over three decades, has been appointed Distinguished University Professor Emeritus at Antioch University, and is a world authority on the Nobel Peace Prize. His interest in the history of peace began with his doctoral dissertation at Harvard University on the 19th century peace movement, and continued during his tenure with the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) during World War II, work for which AFSC shared the 1947 Nobel Peace Prize. He was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters by the College in 1997 for his work, and he has also been recognized by the Peace History Society and the Peace History commission of the International Peace Research Association. Dr. Abrams was one of the people who successfully nominated President Jimmy Carter for the Nobel Prize. He has written extensively on the Nobel Prize and other peace issues, completing his latest scholarly work in 2005 at the age of 91. He is now actively involved in mentoring the new Dayton International Peace Museum. **–Inducted: 2007**



Lucinda W. Adams (1937-) is an athlete, coach, volunteer, and teacher. A member of the famed Tennessee State University Tigerbelles track and field team and a teammate of Wilma Rudolph, Adams is perhaps best known for winning a gold medal in the 4 X 100-meter relay in the 1960 Rome Olympics on the US Olympic Team. She also competed in the 1956 Melbourne Olympics, and won numerous gold medals in international track and field competitions. After moving to Dayton in 1960, Lucinda Adams was hired as a special education teacher in the Dayton school system. She spent many years as a physical education teacher at Roosevelt High School. In 1973 she became Supervisor and later Associate Director of Health, Physical Education, Drivers Education and Girls Athletics in the Dayton City Schools. She was a fierce proponent of equity in girls' athletics. Lucinda Adams is past president of the National Association for Physical Education and Sport, and has served on the Ohio Special Olympics Board of Governors, the Governor's Advisory Board for Sports and Physical Education, and in many volunteer capacities. **–Inducted: 2009**



David Albritton (1913-1994) was an Olympic medallist, state legislator, and longtime Dayton businessman. He won a silver medal in the high-jumping competition at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, competing alongside his lifelong friend and Ohio State University teammate Jesse Owens. He also established the world high jump record with a leap of 6 feet, 9 7/8 inches. He later became a teacher and coach at Dunbar High School, where he led the team to three state track championships and broke the segregation barrier, leading the way for Dunbar to compete in the Public High School League. In 1960, Mr. Albritton was elected to the Ohio House of Representatives. The Ohio Amateur Athlete of the Year award is named in Dave Albritton's honor. **–Inducted: 1996**



Vincent Groby Apple (1874-1932) was a prolific inventor and businessman. In 1895 he developed the first dynamo used for ignition on internal combustion engines. He went on to originate the lighting and ignition systems used in cars, planes and boats through the 1930s. He invented what some believe to be the first electric self-starter, and also designed the flywheel magneto eventually used in Henry Ford's Model T automobiles. In 1899 he was one of the original incorporators of the Dayton Electrical Manufacturing Company, which became a key supplier of engine parts for the Wright brothers. Vincent Apple continued to improve aspects of automobile starters, lighting and engines throughout his career: when he died in 1932 he owned 149 patents, had 42 patents pending, and was working on more than 250 inventions. He has more inventions to his



credit than anyone else in Dayton. He was one of the first 100 to join the Engineers Club of Dayton, and counted among his friends Thomas Edison and Henry Ford.–**Inducted: 2009**



Major General Harry G. Armstrong, MD (1899-1983) was a flight surgeon, teacher, writer and researcher who founded the Physiological Research Laboratory at Wright Field in 1935. There he conducted pioneering work leading to the development of equipment which permitted pilots to fly safely at supersonic speeds and high altitudes. His work in determining the physiological effects of abrupt deceleration, curvilinear flight and the problems associated with high altitude operations led to G-suits, oxygen systems, and pressure breathing equipment while helping define the human requirements for space flight. Dr. Armstrong conducted pioneering aviation medical research and authored a classic textbook on aviation medicine as well as over 100 papers on aerospace medicine. *The Armstrong Laboratory* at Wright Patterson Air Force Base is named for him.–**Inducted: 1996**



Marie S. Aull (1897-2002) has been called the godmother of the environmental movement in the Miami Valley. Along with her husband John, Ms. Aull nurtured their woodland bordering the Stillwater River into a beautiful, peaceful landscape of flowers, streams and natural growth. This land they named Aullwood became the Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm, and was later given to the public. It was one of the first nature centers in the Midwest and has served as a model and guiding force for the creation of other preserves across the country. It draws over 80,000 visitors a year. Marie Aull's vision for preserving green space and educating the public about the conservation movement also extended to playing key roles in the founding of Cox Arboretum, the Beaver Creek Wetlands Association and the Park District of Dayton and Montgomery County. She lived to be 105 years old.–**Inducted: 1997**



Eliam Barney (1807-1880) admired industry, order and thoughtfulness. He was principal of the Dayton Academy at Fourth and Wilkinson Streets, and taught nature studies, reading and botany. His unique method included asking his students to read chapters from horticultural journals and taking them into the woods to gather shrubs and trees to bring back and plant around the school building. In 1839 he resigned as principal of the Academy, and in 1844 he took charge of Cooper Seminary, a school for young women. In 1851 Mr. Barney became associated with Ebenezer Thresher, a maker of railroad cars, beginning the Barney and Smith Manufacturing Company. It soon became Dayton's first manufacturing business and at one time the nation's foremost producer of railroad cars. This multi-faceted man was also a noted philanthropist and was significant in promoting the planting and propagation of catalpa trees.–**Inducted: 1996**



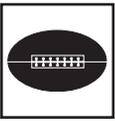
Reverend DeSoto Bass (1867-1928) was the warmhearted clergyman and teacher known as "Community Pastor" because of his devotion to anyone who needed him, especially children. After attending Wilberforce University and the United Theological Seminary in Dayton he became pastor of the First Wesleyan Methodist Church at the age of 28. A well known figure in the city, Reverend Bass often took walks with crowds of children just for the fun of being with them. He frequently visited members of his congregation and provided for them if they were in need, at times even borrowing coal from the church to give to parishioners. A contemporary claimed that in his 33 years as pastor Reverend Bass made more pastoral calls "than any man you'd meet in a year's travelling." On Sunday afternoons for 27 years he led singing parties, bringing groups to sing spiritu-



als on the stair landings of hospitals, the workhouse and the jail. In honor of his devotion to his church, race and people, the first public housing development in Dayton was named DeSoto Bass Courts.–**Inducted: 2009**



Suzanne M. Bassani (1940-) has been described as “a catalyst for building partnerships among artists, educators, business and community.” She is the founder of the Muse Machine, one of the most successful and widely emulated youth cultural arts organizations in the country. This non-profit is dedicated to providing opportunities for young people to view, experience and participate in artistic activities. The project began in 1982 with involvement from 20 schools: it now operates in more than 130 schools, includes over 1,500 teacher advisors and reaches 70,000 students. This program, invented by Suzy Bassani, has changed the lives of thousands of young people through their exposure to the arts. However, this is not her only contribution to the local arts scene: she was also a founder of the Human Race Theatre Company and helped form the *Dayton Visual Arts Center*. Suzy Bassani has won the *Ohio Arts Council Award for Excellence in Leadership* and the *Governor’s Award for Arts in Education*, among other honors. Although she now lives in Colorado Springs, the arts in Dayton continue to flourish through the organizations she nurtured.–**Inducted: 2005**



Harry C. Baujan (1894-1976) came to the University of Dayton (UD) in 1923 as head football coach, a position he held until 1946 when he became the school’s first fulltime athletic director. He built the program into a nationally respected one by accumulating a winning record of 124-64-8. He also coached UD basketball and baseball, and had a positive influence on the lives of the many young men he taught. Before coming to UD Harry Baujan played football at Notre Dame under the legendary Knute Rockne and then went on to play professional football. He is a highly respected member of the National Football Foundation Hall of Fame.–**Inducted: 1996**



Arthur Beerman (1908-1970) came to Dayton to take a job as a merchandiser on the ground floor of the Home Store at the corner of Third and Main Streets in 1930. Twenty-six years later, he bought the Home Store and named it after himself. In 1961 he bought the Elder-Johnson Company, and the Elder-Beerman chain was born. He had other business interests as well, including publishing, restaurants and nightclubs, the meat packing business, bowling alleys, motels, and real estate development. Arthur Beerman was known as a formidable litigant who sued mayors, governments and corporations while crusading vehemently against anti-Semitism. He was also known as a benefactor who gave hundreds of thousands of dollars to charities and began the Beerman Family free Thanksgiving dinners for the needy which continue to this day.–**Inducted: 1996**



Loren M. Berry (1888-1980) started from virtually nothing to create the L.M. Berry Company, producer of the Yellow Pages, the multi-national company that made him a millionaire. As he sold advertising to businesses in the early days he was sometimes paid in stock: he once owned stock in about 60 companies. He was a close friend to both Orville Wright and Charles Kettering, and in fact chose to move to Dayton because he thought the invention of flight, NCR’s electrified cash registers and other creations would make the city a center for industry. He was a generous donor to the local and national Republican Party and was friends with Presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford. L.M. Berry established a foundation that has channeled millions of dollars to local universities and charitable causes. He was especially supportive of youth activities.–**Inducted: 1996**





Jeraldyn Blunden (1940-1999) was the founder and artistic director of the esteemed *Dayton Contemporary Dance Company*, the world's largest repository of reconstructed dance works by African American choreographers. This Dayton based company tours the nation and the world, bringing the best of modern dance to new audiences. Ms. Blunden also founded *Jeraldyn's School of Dance*, which has given many Miami Valley young people the opportunity to learn about modern dance and even become professional dancers. She also won international acclaim for her work as a choreographer and teacher. Jeraldyn Blunden has received significant recognition for her work, including a *1998 Dance Magazine Award*, an *Individual Artist Fellowship* from the National Endowment for the Arts and a *MacArthur "Genius" Fellows Award*. In 1997 she was named one of five *Dance Women: Living Legends*, "for keeping dance alive."**Inducted: 1999**



Erma Bombeck (1927-1996) was a native Daytonian who made millions laugh with her down to earth humor. She worked as a copy girl at the local newspaper as a way to finance her education at the University of Dayton. She began her writing career as a columnist for the *Kettering-Oakwood Times* and then with the *Dayton Journal Herald*. Her column became nationally syndicated, at one time entertaining readers of more than 900 papers with her wry observations on family life. She wrote 12 books, some of which made it to the best-seller list. Erma Bombeck became well known as a radio and TV guest and sought-after lecturer and graduation speaker. The courage, humor and eternal optimism she displayed as she struggled with kidney-failure made her a national role model as well.**Inducted: 1997**



The Honorable Edward Grimes Breen (1908-1991) served as Mayor of Dayton, Montgomery County Commissioner and U.S. Congressman. This friendly public servant began his career as a manager of the Dayton Biltmore Hotel, where he worked hard to provide jobs for Daytonians during the Great Depression. Edward Breen was called to active duty in the army during World War II and participated in the invasions of North Africa, Sicily, and Italy. For over a year he was the highest ranking officer in Naples, and ran the city during its U.S. military occupation. After the war, he turned his administrative and business talents to serving first as Dayton's Mayor, and then as U.S. Congressman. In Congress, he worked to bring statehood to Alaska and supported the new country of Israel. After Congress he served as County Commissioner and manager of the Montgomery County Stillwater Hospital.**Inducted: 2000**



Katharine Kennedy Brown (1891-1986) was a prominent figure in national and local politics for over fifty years. She was the vice-chairman of the Republican National Committee from 1944-1952 and a member of the executive committee of the National Federation of Republican Women's Clubs. She helped found the Ohio Federation of Republican Women's Organizations and was a delegate-at-large for eight Republican national conventions. She served as an advisor to Ohio Governors Robert Taft and James Rhodes as well as to President Richard Nixon. Katharine Kennedy Brown organized the Junior League of Dayton and was a board member of the Dayton Art Institute and Wilberforce University. Local legend has it that the curve in Interstate 75 fondly termed "Malfunction Junction" came about when she successfully petitioned to have the highway routed around her large and elegant home.**Inducted: 1996**





Clayton John Bruckner (1889-1977) was the founder and president of the *WACO Aircraft Company* in Troy, which provided hundreds of jobs in the 1920s, 30s and 40s. During its operation, more than 5,000 WACOs were manufactured, with over 350 of them still flying today. During World War II the company manufactured gliders to support U.S. military operations. Clayton Bruckner was also active as an inventor and philanthropist. He designed, among other things, a hydraulically operated log splitter, a mechanical sod cutter and a submersible office used to study marine life in his family's pond. He was the founder of the Bruckner Nature Center, which offers over 90,000 visitors a year the opportunity to study the natural surroundings. The Center's Wildlife Rehab Unit cares for injured wildlife and has become nationally known for its accomplishments.—**Inducted: 1997**



Si Burick (1909-1986) was sports editor and feature columnist for the *Dayton Daily News* for 58 years, writing four to seven columns each week. He covered everything from the Kentucky Derby to heavyweight championship fights to the Olympic games to University of Dayton football and basketball. Legendary throughout the country as the personification of Ohio sports, Si Burick was respected and appreciated as a mentor by the writers he supervised. His ability to catch lapses in grammar was as renowned as his talent for making bad puns. He was inducted into the *Writer's Section of the Baseball Hall of Fame* in 1983 and was elected *Ohio Sports Writer of the year* by his peers eighteen times. Mr. Burick was known not only as a gifted writer but as a family man, devoted friend, community leader and strong supporter of Jewish causes.—**Inducted: 1996**



Celebration Dayton '96 (1796-1996). This *Walk of Fame* was established in 1996 in honor of the Bicentennial of Dayton Township. Its purpose is to celebrate the lives and accomplishments of individuals from this region.—**Inducted: 1996**



Milton Caniff (1907-1988) was a gifted adventure comic writer and artist. He studied with the Landon mail-order cartoon school and worked in the Columbus Dispatch art department while attending Ohio State University. He later worked for the *Associated Press*, doing both feature panels and cartoon strips. His first adventure cartoon, *Dickie Dare*, was picked up by the *New York Post* and then the *New York Sun*. Through a relationship he had formed with Sigma Chi fraternity brothers, Milton Caniff's work was brought to the attention of Captain Patterson of the *New York Daily News*, who encouraged him to invent Terry and the Pirates. This strip enjoyed great popularity as did Steve Canyon, about an Air Force officer returning home after the war. By the end of his career Milton Caniff was one of the few surviving writer-artists left in the field.—**Inducted: 1997**



Julia Shaw Carnell (1863-1944) promised to construct a new art museum for the city of Dayton if the community would pay for its operations. The challenge was met, and Mrs. Carnell donated nearly \$2 million, a very significant gift on the eve of the Great Depression. The Dayton Art Institute's new building was completed in 1930 reflecting the Italian Renaissance style. The structure of nearly 60,000 square feet was designed by architect Edward B. Green of Buffalo. Once it was finished the Dayton Art Institute on its prominent hilltop location became known as "Dayton's living room," and people of all kinds visited to admire the extensive collection, take art classes in the Art Institute school, or enjoy the gardens. Mrs. Carnell's architectural gift to the city as well as the many art works she donated to the museum continue to be enjoyed by present generations.—**Inducted: 1996**





Lula O. Carter (1926-) is a teacher, inventor and writer with a special passion for nurturing creativity in children. She taught in the school system of her native Dayton for over 20 years, and published two books. She is, however, perhaps best known as an inventor. In 1960 she received a U.S. patent for the “portable nursery chair,” and in 1990 she was authorized to establish a Dayton affiliate of the National Patent Law Association. This non-profit group fosters the development, training and education of minority business-persons in the patent, copyright and trademark areas; publishes and disseminates information about patents, copyrights and trademarks to minority groups, especially to young people; nurtures minority practitioners in the field; and promotes greater understanding of the fields of intellectual and industrial property. With her lifelong focus on nurturing creativity in the young, Lula Carter has had a key role in insuring that Dayton’s climate of invention continues into the next generation. **–Inducted: 2005**



Lester LeFevre Cecil (1893-1982) was an attorney, Dayton Municipal Judge, Judge of the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas, Judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio and Judge and Chief Judge of the United States Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. He served as a judge for 56 years, dealing with both small cases and larger ones involving complicated constitutional questions. He went farther in the judicial hierarchy than any lawyer who has ever practiced in the area. He has been described as a man of “uncompromising honesty and integrity that brooked no challenge” and as possessing the “sense of fairness and justice so necessary to the legal process.” A famous anecdote involved a defendant who appeared before him with a Bible under his arm. Judge Cecil asked him if he was represented by counsel. The man looked toward the ceiling and declared “Jesus Christ is my counselor and defender.” The Judge replied, “Do you have local counsel?” Judge Cecil was an active volunteer in a number of civic organizations. **–Inducted: 2003**



Charles Ritter Collett (1921-2001) has a career as a newspaper sports editor which has lasted for more than 50 years and through three newspapers: the morning *Dayton Journal*, the *Dayton Journal Herald*, and the *Dayton Daily News*. He began his career in journalism in 1946 when he was separated from the Air Force at Wright-Patterson AFB, and was soon named sports editor, a title he retained until he retired in 1990. A highlight of his career came on August 2, 1992 when he was inducted into the writer’s wing of the *National Baseball Hall of Fame* in Cooperstown as the 43rd winner of the *J.G. Taylor Spink Award*. He has been involved in many charitable and civic causes, including AIM for the Handicapped. Ritter Collett is the author of seven books, including a history of sports in Dayton put together for the city’s bicentennial celebration. **–Inducted: 2003**



Jeanne Comer (1923-) was the founder of the Dayton chapter of the *Friendship Force*, an international non-profit cultural organization working to promote world peace by creating friendships between individuals throughout the world. She has organized and led over 15 international goodwill exchanges. One trip was to Moscow in 1982, when the group was stalked by the KGB and had their hotel rooms bugged: subsequent trips to former Soviet Union countries have been under friendlier conditions. Jeanne Comer has made a number of trips to Bosnia with her group, and helped pave the way for the Sister City relationship Dayton enjoys with Sarajevo. She was the first recipient of the *Rosalynn Carter/Friendship Force Lifetime Achievement Award*, established to honor a volunteer who displays a commitment to the ideals and programs of the *Friendship Force*. **–Inducted: 2000**





Charlotte Reeve Conover (1855-1940) was a distinguished author, lecturer and historian, known for her pioneering studies of Dayton history and her generous support for others. A well-traveled and highly intelligent woman, Ms. Conover wrote articles for *Atlantic Monthly*, *Ladies Home Journal* and *Harper's*. For four years she served as *Woman's* page editor of the *Dayton Daily News* and wrote a weekly column for the newspaper called *Mrs. Conover's Corner*. Her several works on Dayton history, including the influential *Dayton, Ohio: An Intimate History*, introduced Daytonians to themselves. She was very interested in sharing the fruits of her learning: not only did she give many public lectures but she encouraged other authors, among them Paul Laurence Dunbar. Upon her death a contemporary said, "Here is a citizen whom we honor because she has labored to keep the mind of Dayton alive." Her key place in Dayton's cultural life was acknowledged in 1932 when her lecture, titled *The Ramblings of an Ancient Daytonian* and sponsored by such luminaries as Orville Wright, Frank M. Tait and Frederick Rike, was printed in its entirety in the *Dayton Daily News*.—**Inducted: 2007**



George C. Cooper (1916-2002) was a member of the "Golden Thirteen:" the first thirteen African American officers commissioned by the U.S. Navy. Throughout his career, he faced considerable prejudice because of his race, and yet maintained an unshakable commitment to treating everyone the way he wanted to be treated himself. Paul Stillwell's book called *The Golden Thirteen* chronicles some of the episodes of racism that these pioneering black officers faced, such as sailors crossing the street rather than offering the appropriate salute to an officer. During his time in the Navy and later when he worked for the city of Dayton as the first black department director he served as a valued mentor for other African Americans. Mr. Cooper believed in the responsibility to help others, and was able to use his interaction with others as an opportunity to lead them to judge him not by the color of his skin but as a human being.—**Inducted: 2004**



Governor James M. Cox (1870-1957) was a visionary and highly successful businessman who founded what is today Cox Enterprises, one of the largest communications companies in the world featuring newspapers, television and radio stations and cable television operations. He was also a major force in local, state and national politics. He represented Dayton in Congress for two terms and served as governor of Ohio for three terms. As governor he was responsible for creating the state's workers' compensation system which became a model for other states. He secured state aid for Dayton after the 1913 flood and helped create the Miami Conservancy District. In 1920 he was the Democratic nominee for President of the United States, running with vice presidential nominee Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Although the ticket lost to Warren Harding, James Cox remained an important advisor to President Roosevelt.—**Inducted: 1996**



Tom D. Crouch (1944-) is a renowned aviation author, museum curator and historian. His study of Dayton's Orville and Wilbur Wright called *The Bishop's Boys* is often cited as the definitive work on these aviation pioneers. Dr. Crouch has written 16 major books on various aspects of aviation history as well as approximately 100 articles in magazines and journals world wide. In addition to his work as an author and historian, he serves as *Senior Curator of the Division of Aeronautics* at the National Air and Space Museum at the Smithsonian where he has curated many important exhibitions including "*A More Perfect Union: Japanese Americans and the U.S. Constitution*," still in place at the National Museum of American History. His preeminence in his field has been recognized with numerous awards, including a presidential appointment as *Chairman of the First Flight Centennial Federal Advisory Board*. This prize winning author, respected





historian, and accomplished curator has helped focus the attention of the world on the whole history of aviation, but especially its roots in his native Dayton.—**Inducted: 2006**



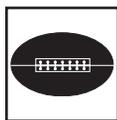
Levitt Luzern Custer (1888-1962) was an inventor and entrepreneur whose inventions ranged from the very practical to the amusing. He created the first electric invalid chair shortly after World War I, so that amputees could move independently, and he adapted electric motors to power dentist drills. The Custer Statisscope was a device that indicated to balloon pilots whether they were rising or descending, often difficult to determine in clouds and fog. He created the first flying training device at the Vandalia airport. His business, the *Custer Specialty Company*, regularly employed from 35 to 50 people, and its headquarters featured the first indoor miniature golf course. Mr. Custer designed a number of amusement park rides, including the Zoomer and the Bubble Bounce. The range of his accomplishments truly embodies the spirit of invention that makes the region great.—**Inducted: 1998**



Willis “Bing” Davis (1937-) is a renowned artist, educator, goodwill ambassador and creative spark. In the late 1950s he created the Dayton Living Arts Center, an experimental after school program for talented children who were interested in the arts. The project quickly gained a reputation as extremely innovative and became a national model. Although its funding dried up in 1971, the reputation of the Center and most especially its charismatic director is still very much alive today. Bing Davis’s reputation as a gifted educator who passionately believes there is creativity in every child led to his regular engagement as an ambassador of the arts: he has traveled to four continents as well as throughout the United States. Despite his demanding schedule as a teacher, workshop leader and guest lecturer, this Dayton treasure has found the time to create and exhibit a significant body of his own artwork.—**Inducted: 2001**



Carl Day (1938-) is an award winning radio and television broadcaster and humanitarian. His accomplishments are legion: he is a five time broadcast hall of famer, winner of seven Emmys, an award winning writer and narrator, actor, four time winner of the Best Anchor statue and record holding race car driver. He was the co-pilot of a jet flight from Kitty Hawk to Dayton in 1995 that set a new national and international speed record. He has spent more than 50 years in broadcasting, more than 30 of them in Dayton. His well known personable style on the Channel 2 news has enlivened many a story: listening to him report on something is to become interested in it. More than just a face on a screen, Carl Day also serves his community through quiet volunteerism. His top priorities, he says, are faith, family, and friends, and he certainly has many of those!—**Inducted: 2009**



The Dayton Triangles football team (1920-1929) played in the first game for what is now known as the National Football League (NFL). The Triangles beat the Columbus Panhandles 14-0 on October 3, 1920 in Dayton’s Triangle Park. During the course of the game, the Triangles’ Lou Partlow scored the first touchdown and George “Hobby” Kinderline kicked the point after, making NFL history. The Triangles were made up of weekend players, like most of the early NFL teams. Their manager Carl Storck participated in the formation of the NFL at Ralph Hays Hupmobile dealership in Canton in 1920; in 1921 he was named league secretary-treasurer; and in 1939 he became president of the NFL. In 1929 the Triangles franchise was sold and moved to Brooklyn, New York. The present-day Indianapolis Colts can trace their ancestry to the original Dayton Triangles. Although many relocations, name changes and thrilling NFL games have transpired since then, Dayton can be proud of the Triangle’s role in the start of it all.—**Inducted: 2008**





Colonel Edward A. Deeds (1874-1960) was an engineer, inventor, industrial organizer, leader in the fight for flood control of the Miami Valley, chief of aircraft procurement in a world war, and a civic force unto himself. Out of all of these activities, Deeds himself singled out the establishment of the Miami Conservancy District as key, claiming that the system of dams protected half a million people from the ravages of flooding. He served as the first President of the District, a position he held for 36 years. With Charles Kettering, he built, equipped and donated the Engineer's Club of Dayton and purchased land for a public aviation field. He gave Deeds Point to the city, and also contributed the Deeds Carillon, along with the Carillon Trust Fund which helped establish Carillon Park. Colonel Deeds helped Charles Kettering invent the self-starter for automobiles and form the Dayton Engineering Laboratories Company, later DELCO.—**Inducted: 1996**



Joseph R. Desch (1907-1987) led a team from National Cash Register that invented the Bombe, a World War II machine that supplemented the British Enigma machine in breaking Germany's encoded messages and helped save hundreds of Allied and American lives. After graduating from the University of Dayton with a degree in electrical engineering and teaching himself glass tube blowing, he was hired by Edward Deeds at "the Cash" to head up an electrical research library. Soon after, while operating under high levels of military security Joseph Desch designed a cipher analyzing machine that allowed the U. S. and British Navies to read encrypted radio messages transmitted by German submarines. The messages revealed the locations of the submarines, allowing them to be destroyed before they could attack Allied ships. For his work, Desch was awarded the Congressional Medal of Merit, the nation's highest war-time honor for civilians.—**Inducted: 2001**



Phil Donahue (1936-) nurtured a new format for television talk shows involving controversial guests and give-and-take with the audience. The program called the *Phil Donahue Show* began in Dayton in 1967 on what is now WDTN and ran for 29 years, eventually moving to Chicago in the 1970s. This pioneering version of talk show TV was a cutting-edge form of broadcasting that would eventually change news and talk show formats. Mr. Donahue credits his Dayton audiences with the intelligence, curiosity and patience to nurture the emerging prototype. Phil Donahue himself is known for his passionate opinions, liberal views and ability to hold the attention of his audience. He has won many awards, including an Emmy, a Peabody and honors from the *National Women's Political Caucus* and the *Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Discrimination*.—**Inducted: 1999**



Electra C. Doren (1861-1927) deserves credit for building the strong public library system that Montgomery County residents enjoy today. She began working for the library at the age of 18, and eventually became head librarian. She left Dayton in 1905 to serve as director of the Western Reserve University Library School, but returned to help rebuild Montgomery County's library services after the 1913 flood. She led library staff and volunteers in salvaging damaged items and helped the library reopen to the public just 3 months after the waters receded. She was responsible for several innovations in library services, including establishing a card catalog and opening the stacks to public browsing. Electra Doren was a member of the Women's Suffrage Movement, and donated her collection of primary sources to the library where it forms the basis for the largest collection of suffrage materials in the nation.—**Inducted: 1997**





Paul Laurence Dunbar (1872-1906) was the first internationally renowned African American poet and writer. Although both of Mr. Dunbar's parents were illiterate, his mother strongly encouraged him to get an education. He became the president of the literary society at Dayton Central High School and the editor of the school paper. After graduation, he collaborated with his schoolmate Orville Wright on the *Dayton Tattler*, a black neighborhood newspaper printed by the Wright brothers on their West Third Street presses. Over his tragically short lifetime, Paul Laurence Dunbar produced a body of work which included novels, plays, short stories, newspaper articles, essays, and over 600 poems. His work contributed to a growing social consciousness and cultural identity for African Americans of the period. He is associated with the early civil rights leaders W.E.B. Du Bois, Frederick Douglass and Booker T. Washington.—**Inducted: 1996**



Lieutenant Colonel Charity Edna Earley (1918-2002) was the first black officer in the Women's Army Corps and commanding officer of the only organization of black women to serve overseas during World War II. Her book, *One Woman's Army: a Black Officer Remembers the WAC* recounts her experiences as a pioneer coping with the difficulties of being an African American woman in the army while carrying out the enormous assignment of ensuring that the U.S. mail was delivered to every American sitting in the European theater throughout the war. Charity Earley served her community after the war as well, serving on numerous boards including Sinclair Community College, DP & L, Dayton Metropolitan Housing Authority, and the American Red Cross. She was one of the founding members of Leadership Dayton and Parity 2000.—**Inducted: 1997**



Gerard "Fuzzy" Faust (1907-1991) was a legendary Chaminade and Chaminade-Julienne High School teacher and coach for more than 50 years. His teams won 12 city football league championships, including one in 1956 after the coach came out of retirement for one last season to coach his son. Mr. Faust compiled an amazing win record (132-50-10), but was perhaps better known as a caring teacher and father figure to his student athletes. His ability to enforce high standards helped many of his students go on to become civic, business and political leaders, and many attributed their success to his guidance during this crucial phase in their lives. Fuzzy's love, enthusiasm, inspiration and example instilled in his students the moral, physical and intellectual discipline to achieve meaningful lives and realize their fullest potential.—**Inducted: 2000**



The Honorable Arthur O'Neil Fisher (1919-2002) was the son of a shoeshine man who rose to become the first African American to win election to a Montgomery County Common Pleas Court judgeship. His public career began during World War II when he served as a bombardier-navigator with the Tuskegee Airmen. After the war he completed his undergraduate degree and then obtained a law degree. He served as an Assistant City Prosecutor in Dayton, Assistant Montgomery County Prosecutor, Dayton Municipal Court Judge, Domestic Relations Judge and Juvenile Judge. He was known as an innovative and compassionate adjudicator who established such programs as the first in house drug treatment program in Juvenile Court. He was a quiet but effective leader in the Civil Rights movement, and won recognition often, including a *Martin Luther King Jr. Living Legend Award*.—**Inducted: 2000**





Dr. August F. Foerste (1862-1936) was an internationally respected geologist and paleontologist who was a pioneer in describing the geology of the Miami Valley. He was a highly productive scientist who published over 5,500 pages on geology and produced over 650 photographic plates of fossil material. His 1915 work entitled *Geology in the Vicinity of Dayton* is considered a classic in the field. August's Foerste understanding of the area's geology led to his direct involvement with the Miami Conservancy District, advising the group on such crucial issues as the location of dams. In addition to his career as an active scientist, he taught physics and science at Steele High School for 38 years, inspiring many to careers in the sciences. In 1926 he was presented with a lifetime membership to the Engineers Club of Dayton.—**Inducted: 2004**



Ermal C. Frazee (1913-1989) invented the easy-open “pop-top” can, resulting in the creation of over 500,000 skilled jobs the world over. This invention prompted an investment of about \$7 billion with new aluminum rolling mills and an expansion of the can industry worldwide. For the 400 local employees at Dayton Reliable Tool, Ermal Frazee's invention provided good, dependable jobs. He was one of the early pioneers of the developing tool and die industry: his inventions helped put Dayton on the map for both its prolific inventors and world leadership in the tooling and machining industry. In his memory his family contributed generously to the Lincoln Park Amphitheater in Kettering, known as the *Frazee Pavilion*, which provides countless opportunities for citizens to enrich their lives through the arts.—**Inducted: 1997**



Major Dominic Salvatore Gentile (1920-1951) was a World War II fighter pilot dubbed a “one man air force” by General Eisenhower and called “Captain Courageous” by President Roosevelt. He volunteered in the Royal Canadian Air Force at the outset of the war, and by war's end had flown 188 combat missions with 20 confirmed kills and one of the most outstanding records in the annals of aerial warfare. Major Gentile won two Distinguished Flying Crosses, a British Distinguished flying Cross, the Belgian Croix de Guerre and the French Croix de Guerre, the Military Order of Italy and numerous other awards. In 1995 he was inducted into the National Aviation Hall of Fame. This Piqua native's reputation for integrity and exceptionally high moral standards made him a national role model. After the war, Major Gentile was assigned to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base as a test pilot. He was killed in the crash of a jet fighter. The former Gentile Air Station in Kettering was named in his honor.—**Inducted: 2003**



Lillian Gish (1896-1993) and **Dorothy Gish** (1898 - 1968) were stars of stage, silent pictures and the silver screen. These Ohio sisters acted during their entire lives: Lillian began at age 5 and worked in her last motion picture at 91, and Dorothy's career began in 1902 and ended in 1964. They were witnesses to the amazing inception, development, growth and evolution of motion pictures, an entirely new communications medium that was to forever change the world. They participated in almost every phase of it, from sewing their own costumes and doing their own hair and make-up to managing the construction of movie sets and, in the case of Lillian, becoming the first woman director of a major Hollywood feature film. From their early work as stage actresses traveling on the road to working in silent films, talking pictures, color films, Broadway plays and television, the Gish sisters experienced extraordinary careers as American actresses.—**Inducted: 1999**





William G. Goodwin (1892-1983) was an inventor and chemist. As head chemist for Dayton Rubber, he worked on many inventions for tires and with wider applications. For instance, he created rubber rollers used to shuck corn, rollers to print money for the U.S. Mint, and compartments for rubber life rafts used during World War II to make them less sinkable when fired upon. He also perfected a rubber handle for tennis rackets and invented an airplane tire that would not flatten upon landing. Perhaps his most wide reaching invention was the V-Belt. Before Goodwin's invention, all the belts that drove machines were flat and often slipped off, stopping work. With the v-shaped belt, parts for machines from automobiles to machine shop equipment could move more quickly and for longer periods of time without repair. These belts are still used today. **Inducted: 2008**



Barrett K. Green (1906-1997) is known as the father of microencapsulation. A research scientist at NCR, Barry Green had been assigned to work on reducing the cost and improving the quality of the carbon paper sold by the company. After years of research, he developed the principle of enclosing a color-reactive liquid in thin capsules, which were then made into an emulsion. Once the material was coated on the back of paper, pressure on the front side would break the tiny capsules, releasing the liquid onto the page below. This carbonless paper technology gave NCR its nickname of "No Carbon Required" and was responsible for much of the company's growth and acquisitions. Eventually the microencapsulation principle was used in other products as well, such as pharmaceuticals (time release capsules), perfumes, thermometers (liquid crystals) and anti-corrosive coatings on bolts and rivets. **Inducted: 2004**



Anne S. Greene (1920-2003) was a remarkable woman who gave her time, energy, wisdom, leadership, friendship, support—both personal and financial—to a variety of organizations. Her passionate commitment to volunteerism served as an incomparable model for the community. She had a leading role in instituting the Human Relations Council, the Performing Arts Fund (now Culture Works) and in merging the old Community Chest and Community Welfare Council into the United Way. She served on boards of numerous organizations and was the first woman appointed to the Board of Directors for the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce. One of her proudest accomplishments was serving as President of the Victoria Theatre Association and as Managing Director during the crucial two year period when the building was saved from demolition and restored. Anne Greene received many honors, including a 1987 *Governor's Award for the Arts*. **Inducted: 2002**



Lewis B. Gunckel (1826-1903) was an attorney, state Senator, federal Congressman, and community advocate who was responsible for making Dayton the site of one of the first *National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers (NHDVS)*. While serving in the state Senate, Gunckel pushed for a *State Soldiers' Home* in Ohio. This experience caused President Lincoln to name him to the Board for the new NHDVS, where Gunckel secured Dayton as the location for the Central branch and the national headquarters. By 1884 the Dayton Soldiers' Home was caring for more than 7,000 Civil War veterans and was the largest complex of its kind in the world. The facility included greenhouses and gardens complete with alligators, deer and bears; a nightly band concert; workshops were residents were taught a trade; and the Home Chapel, made of limestone quarried by Civil War veterans. In the 1880s the Central Home was the most popular travelers' resort west of the Alleghenies, visited by hundreds of thousands annually. In addition to his essential role in the formation of the NHDVS (now the Veterans Administration), this community-minded man helped create many local charitable organizations. **Inducted: 2006**





Clark J. Haines (1913-2001) was a musician and indefatigable volunteer who believed in the power of music to change lives. He was a distinguished educator, serving as music director and assistant superintendent of personnel and community relations for Kettering City Schools. He started the Dayton Philharmonic Band, resurrected the Dayton Philharmonic Chorus, and began the National Cash Register Company Band, which was made up of young musicians from all over the area who auditioned for the honor to play each Sunday afternoon. He directed the Grace United Methodist Church Choir for over 40 years. After 5 years of full time volunteer effort, he founded WDPR, the city's classical radio station, and served on the Board until the year he died. He was a gifted musician himself, playing piano, saxophone and clarinet. Known as Dayton's Music Man, Clark Haines was a talented musician but his greatest gift was the inspiration he gave so freely to others.—**Inducted: 2004**



Jesse "Pop" Haines (1893-1978) achieved almost every distinction that a pitcher can achieve in professional baseball. In his 18 years with the St. Louis Cardinals, he amassed a record of 210- 158, with three 20-victory seasons. In 1924 he threw a 5-0 no-hitter against the Boston Braves, and in 1926 defeated the Yankees twice in the World Series. In 1927 he led the National League in complete games with 25 and in shutouts with 6 while posting a 24-10 record. In the 1930 World Series he pitched against the great Lefty Grove, and beat him. In 1970 he was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame. This fierce competitor known as "Old Reliable" also served as Montgomery County auditor for nearly 27 years.—**Inducted: 1996**



Virginia Hamilton (1936-2002) is credited with introducing ordinary yet memorable black characters to children's literature, becoming one of the nation's most honored writers of contemporary children's books. Her works including *Zeely*; *M.C.Higgins*, *The Great*; and *The People Could Fly* are poetic in their use of language and complex in the way they deal with important issues like love, death, courage, fear and self-discovery. She authored more than 35 books, including 22 novels, three biographies, several collections of folk tales and two picture books. She received the *Boston Globe/Horn Book Award*, *the National Book Award*, *the John Newbery Medal* and the *Hans Christian Andersen Medal*, the most prestigious international prize in children's literature. In 1995 she was chosen to receive a *MacArthur Fellowship*, often called a "genius grant." Her books have been translated into dozens of languages and have sold millions of copies around the world.—**Inducted: 2002**



Colonel Dean E. Hess (1917-) is a military leader who used his posting to Korea to provide a profound humanitarian service to his host country. After serving as a fighter pilot in World War II, he was recalled to active duty for the Korean War. He was given the assignment of training the Korean Air Force, and flew 250 missions himself. Colonel Hess became aware of the plight of the many Korean children orphaned by the war. He organized an orphanage at the air base he commanded, and soon his men were providing for over a thousand children. When his base was about to be overrun by enemy forces, Col. Hess determined to evacuate the children. In what became known as "Operation Kiddy Car," all of the children were airlifted to safety. He published his story in a book titled *Battle Hymn*, which became a movie starring Rock Hudson. The royalties from the book and movie were used to build a new orphanage near Seoul, Korea. This modest hero's exploits have been recognized by numerous awards and an exhibit at the Air Force Museum.—**Inducted: 2005**





Charles C. Hobart (1854-1932) was the founder of the three Troy companies that bear his name: Hobart Electric Manufacturing Company (now P.M.I.), Hobart Brothers Company (now I.T.W.) and Hobart Cabinet Company. He was an engineering and industrial pioneer whose companies have provided products around the world and whose creative entrepreneurial genius inspired numerous engineers. The Hobart companies continue to be major employers in the region. Close ties with Wright Patterson Air Force Base have given these companies a major strategic importance in war and peace and allowed them to become leaders in patented technology for the product areas they encompass: welding technology and products; ground power; and kitchen, restaurant and food equipment. The C.C. Hobart Foundation continues to be an area benefactor in community activities. **-Inducted: 2002**



Dr. John Hole (1755-1813) was a patriot, soldier, woodsman, Indian fighter, hunter, surveyor, home builder, farmer, business leader and the first physician to practice medicine in the Miami Valley. He often received payment in kind or promises to pay later, which led him to undertake other activities to support his family. He was one of the surveyors of Mad River Road, the first to connect Cincinnati and Dayton, and also surveyed River Road, later State Route 25. As settlement grew in the area, Dr. Hole built two sawmills, one of them marking the beginning of an industrial settlement that grew into the town of Woodbourne. He served as an army surgeon under Brigadier General Richard Montgomery during the Revolutionary War. He was on the committee to name the county and refused the proposal to name it Hole, suggesting that it be named after Montgomery instead. **-Inducted: 1996**



Dale Huffman (1936-) is a well-known columnist, humanitarian, and man-about-town. His heartwarming stories about ordinary people in extraordinary circumstances have made reading the *Dayton Daily News* a pleasure for over 30 years. A man with a knack for making friends, he is loved for his unabashed booster-ism of his town. And can he tell a story! Human interest, interesting socks, raising interest in worthwhile causes, interesting others in volunteering...Dale Huffman does it all. He's never at a loss for something to write about: at one point he wrote a column a day for over 2,500 days without a break. In addition to his skill as a writer, he is an enthusiastic and dedicated volunteer. It is hard to attend a community event without seeing him there, often as Master of Ceremonies. His honors are legion: he has been awarded over 300 plaques. One of the most memorable is the recognition by President Bush senior in 1993 as the nation's 1,001st *Point of Light*. He believes it is important to touch other lives in a positive way, and clearly practices what he preaches. **-Inducted: 2008**



Horace M. Huffman, Jr. (1914-1996) biked to work in the late 1930s from Oakwood to his father's bicycle factory on the east side of Dayton. But the man who eventually became the Huffman Manufacturing Company's chairman and CEO inherited from the family business more than an appreciation for bicycling: he developed a talent for organization building and the willingness to use that skill for philanthropic purposes. He was co-founder and first president of the Dayton Cycling Club in 1961, and in 1965 formed and led the Greater Dayton Bikeway Committee, now the Miami Valley Regional Bicycle Council. He was instrumental in the founding of the Horace M. Huffman River Corridor Bikeway, part of a network of over 100 miles of trails used by community residents. Horace Huffman's visionary community service philosophy has enriched life for generations of Daytonians. **-Inducted: 1998**



Dr. Lewis Albert Jackson (1912-1994) was an aviation pioneer and educator. He won pilot's certification in 1932, and paid for college by barnstorming through Indiana and Ohio. He earned an education degree at Indiana Wesleyan University, and thereafter combined his two passions, aviation and education. He continued to pursue aviation training, including precision acrobatic flying, and served as Director of Training at the Tuskegee Primary Flying School, which prepared pilots to fly in World War II. After the war, Dr. Jackson moved to Dayton where he became a Federal Aviation Administration Flight Examiner. He worked to develop new airplane prototypes, including a machine that would serve as both airplane and car in pursuit of his ideal, "an airplane in every garage." He obtained a Ph.D. in higher education and served in many capacities, including President of Central State University and Vice President for Administration at Sinclair Community College.—**Inducted: 1996**



John L. Janning (1928-) is a multi-disciplined scientist holding more than 45 U.S. patents in various fields of science and engineering. Several of his patented processes were crucial in the development of liquid crystal displays (L.C.D.s). His contributions led to the use of L.C.D.s in such diverse devices as wristwatches and calculators, medical equipment, TV screens, portable computers and other electronic displays. During his 30 year career at National Cash Register his inventions were recognized with such honors as the company's very first President's Award as well as countless others. John Janning is very much a part of Dayton's proud history as an invention capital. He is an instructor on inventions and motivation for the University of Dayton's Women in Engineering Program, which encourages young women to enter the field.—**Inducted: 2001**



Edward "Al" Johnson (1885-1949) was an aviation pioneer, an early Air Mail pilot, a McCook Field test pilot and personally selected the site for the Dayton International Airport. He was a prime mover in promoting the growth of commercial aviation in Dayton, which started in 1921 with a small, 70 acre flying field that was moved to a 320 acre site in Vandalia in 1928 that has grown into the 4500 acre James M. Cox Dayton International Airport. Al Johnson operated the Wilmington Pike flying field for 7 years, carrying over 15,000 passengers without a single injury. In addition to the flying service he operated the Johnson Airplane and Supply Company and a flying school. This important early Dayton aviator also designed the Johnson Airspeed Indicator and the AVIGO compass.—**Inducted: 2000**



Jacob O. Joyce (1823-1905) was a Dayton inventor and businessman who held nearly as many patents as Thomas Edison. One of his most useful inventions was the hydraulic lifting jack. In 1873 Joyce, a Dayton native, started the Joyce-Cridland Company to design, patent and manufacture all types of jacks. These devices were initially focused on the mining and railroad industry, where they made possible the easy movement of heavy equipment: today the company founded by Joyce moves nearly every kind of heavy equipment imaginable. Joyce also made his mark upon the local landscape when he purchased the rooming house at Number 6 Josie Street now called the Steamboat House and "Victorianized" it by adding rooms, stairways, dormers, bays, and the wrap around porches visible from Keowee Street. Joyce also modified this home with a higher roof which was put up using the hydraulic jack he invented. Imagine the spectacle!—**Inducted: 2003**





Paul Katz (1907-1989) was a gifted musician and founding music director of the *Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra*, which he conducted for 42 years. He began violin lessons at the age of 5, and in 1916 was the youngest student ever accepted at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. He was a member of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra and the Cleveland Orchestra, but his dream was to establish a symphony orchestra in Dayton. In 1933 he got together a group of musicians to perform two concerts at the Dayton Art Institute, and from these humble beginnings the Dayton Philharmonic was born. Katz was responsible for bringing many world renowned artists to Dayton, including Isaac Stern, Arthur Rubenstein, Yehudi Menuhin, Marion Anderson, Roberta Peters and YoYo Ma as well as pops artists Ella Fitzgerald, Lionel Hampton, and Dave Brubeck. He established all of the groundbreaking programs for which the Philharmonic is known: *the Young People's Concerts*, *the Dayton Philharmonic Chorus*, *the Dayton Philharmonic Youth Orchestra*, and the *Pops concerts series*, all of which continue to flourish. **-Inducted: 2006**



Charles F. Kettering (1876-1958) was an inventor, entrepreneur, visionary and humanitarian. He came to Dayton in 1904 to join NCR, where his first task was to electrify the cash register. He partnered with Edward Deeds to organize the Dayton Engineering Laboratories Company, later known as DELCO. He spearheaded the development of an auto ignition system and self-starter, revolutionizing the auto industry. He later became head of General Motors Central Research Laboratories. "Boss" Kettering also developed a portable electrical generator, the first synthetic aviation gasoline, pilotless aircraft, baby incubators, and air conditioning. With Deeds he established the Engineers Club of Dayton, envisioned as a place where thinkers could get together to solve practical problems. He was a noted philanthropist, establishing the Kettering Foundation, co-founding the Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research and giving to many local institutions, including Antioch College. At his death he held more than 140 patents. **-Inducted: 1996**



Virginia Kettering (1907-2003) changed the face of the region through her philanthropy. She was the single largest contributor to the Kettering Medical Center, which was established as a gift to the community from the Kettering Family and other donors. She was the first individual contributor to the Frazee Pavilion project, and donated \$7 million to the Victoria Theatre in downtown Dayton with specific instructions that the historic architecture be preserved, that it remain on a bus line and be financially self-supporting. Other institutions which benefited from her vision and generosity include the Air Force Museum, the Dayton Art Institute, Dayton Philharmonic, the Dayton Performing Arts Fund, the Dayton Ballet and the Miriam Rosenthal Memorial fund. It was Virginia Kettering's idea to organize the Holiday Festival in downtown Dayton. A cultural leader in the community, she has helped the arts reach thousands. **-Inducted: 1997**



William P. Lear (1902-1978) was the founder of Lear Avia, Inc., a radio and airplane instruments company, and the inventor of the Learjet, the world's first executive airplane. His interest in flying dated back to witnessing an exhibition he attended put on by barnstormers. Later he quit his job as a Multigraph operator to work as a mechanic in exchange for free airplane rides. Before coming to Dayton, William Lear had been responsible for several major radio inventions, including a speaker, a car radio and a tuner. The car radio led to the establishment of the Motorola Company, and the tuner became part of the development of RCA, giving Mr. Lear the proceeds to establish Lear Avia. While he was in Dayton, he invented a number of aircraft instruments, including navigators, compasses, and an automatic pilot. After World War II Lear moved his company to Kansas, where he invented the Learjet. **-Inducted: 1996**





Lloyd E. Lewis, Jr. (1926-2001) was a civic leader and lifelong advocate for citizen participation in government. In a career that spanned radio, retailing, government and the private sector, he always maintained a focus on the human side of every issue, whether it was customer service at DP&L or constituent service during his terms in the Ohio Legislature and Dayton City Commission. From 1965-69 Lloyd Lewis chaired Dayton's Special Committee on Urban Renewal and wrote a proposal which was one of the first to receive federal funding through the Model Cities program. The project resulted in Dayton's award-winning Priority Board system. He served on the City Plan Board, and helped spearhead the development of Courthouse Square. While Assistant City Manager for the City, he founded paramedic and park ranger programs. While working as a General Manager and then Assistant Vice President at D P & L, he initiated the Volunteer Insulation Program, which forged a partnership between the utility company and volunteer organizations to insulate the attics of needy families. His civic activities were legion, and always focused on innovative ways to improve life in his community. **-Inducted: 2005**



Evangeline Lindsey (1896-2002) was a teacher who loved learning. She taught history to students at Roosevelt High School for 46 years, never losing her passion for her job. When she was 100 years old she published an autobiography called *My Century: An Outspoken Memoir*. The book gives testimony to her intelligence, strong sense of values and fervor for justice, traits which kept her active in politics and made her an advocate for teachers and women. Her indomitable will led her to celebrate her centennial with a cruise to the Caribbean and a submarine ride in the Bahamas. Evangeline Lindsey was a co-founder of the Daybreak facility for runaway and homeless youth. She never married—her fiancé died in World War I - but once claimed that, through her teaching she had 12,000 children. **-Inducted: 1998**



Neal V. Loving (1916-1998) was one of this country's foremost aviators who let nothing stop him in achieving in his chosen field. As a black student growing up in segregated Detroit, he was advised by his high school teachers to stop studying Aero Tech, at the time an exclusively white field. He persevered, and became the first African American to teach at Aero Mechanics High School. When flying a routine training mission for the Civil Air Patrol in 1944, Neal Loving's glider crashed and injuries made it necessary to amputate both legs below the knee. He was told he would never fly again, but once again proved his critics wrong. Within two years he was back to designing, building and flying planes. In 1950 he built the midget racer Loving's Love and became qualified as a racing pilot. He went back to school to get a degree in Aeronautical Engineering, and worked at Wright-Patterson AFB for the next 20 years. After retirement, he continued an active career in professional societies and authored his autobiography, *Loving's Love: A Black American's Experience in Aviation*. **-Inducted: 2003**



William Preston Mayfield (1896-1974) was the personal photographer of the Wright Brothers. He recorded Dayton's history as a news cameraman for the Dayton Daily News. His commercial work showed the development of the Midwest through photographs of buildings, street scenes, traction cars, etc. He was the first American aerial photographer, and his aerial cameras recorded the rise of industry, the expansion of cities, the construction of the interstate highway system and many aviation firsts. He produced over 100,000 images in a 65 year career, chronicling his times. Many of Mayfield's photographs still serve as invaluable historical records as well as elegant artistic images. **-Inducted: 1999**





C.J. McLin, Jr., (1921-1989) represented Dayton in the Ohio State legislature for 22 years. He was widely regarded as the chief spokesperson for the African American community at the local, regional and state level. He was known for his unparalleled ability to work with people and build powerful coalitions, including the Democratic Voters League in Dayton and the Black Elected Officials of Ohio. He worked hard to advance legislation in several critical areas, including aid to low-income and elderly people, anti-crime and correctional institution issues, campaign reform, minority affairs and higher education. One of his proudest accomplishments was the creation of the minority “set-aside” program. His social conscience and sustained commitment to the community propelled both private and public mainstream institutions to change attitudes and practices toward minorities.–**Inducted: 1996**



John A. McMahon (1833-1923) has been called “the greatest lawyer in Dayton’s history.” He served in the US congress from 1874 until 1881, and during that time was chosen by his peers to conduct the prosecution in the first impeachment proceeding brought against a sitting Cabinet member, Secretary of War Belknap. After the cataclysmic 1913 Flood in Dayton, McMahon was called upon to draft the Conservancy Act of Ohio, America’s first regional flood control legislation and the forerunner of the Tennessee Valley Authority as well as much of the law of regional governance which followed. McMahon responded to the constitutional challenges provoked by his innovative legislation, culminating in an appearance before the Ohio Supreme Court at the age of 81. He was founder and later president of the Ohio State Bar Association. In a career spanning over 60 years, John A. McMahon was a strong advocate of improvement of the legal system and the judiciary through education and through measures enhancing public confidence in the bar.–**Inducted: 2003**



George Mead (1877-1963) belonged to a small group of Dayton business empire builders who changed the city. He took over the nearly bankrupt family business, the Mead Paper Company, and carefully nursed it back to health and then strength. He was interested in the operations of the federal government, believing that government and businesses are interdependent. He held many federal posts, including membership on the Business Advisory Council and the Industrial Advisory Council of the National Recovery Administration. During World War II he served on the War Labor Board, the War Mobilization and Reconversion Advisory Board and the Office of Defense Mobilization. After the war, President Truman named him to the Hoover Commission, formed to streamline the executive branch of the federal government. He also served as an advisor to the agency that administered the Marshall Plan and helped found the Dayton Council on World Affairs.–**Inducted: 1996**



Reverend Leo Meyer, S.M. (1800-1868) was one of the founders and the first President of the University of Dayton. In 1850 Reverend Meyer opened St. Mary’s School for Boys with only fourteen students. The school underwent several name changes until it was incorporated as the University of Dayton (UD) in 1920. Reverend Meyer’s vision of the need for higher education in the Miami Valley remains true today, as UD is a community oriented institution with the goal of teaching its graduates to learn, lead and serve. Approximately one fourth of its graduates live in the Miami Valley, where they practice the service-leadership they have learned. The University of Dayton Research Institute contributes to the region’s reputation as an area rich in inventions, and its Marian Library serves as a research center for Catholic intellectual thought.–**Inducted: 2000**





Thomas Midgley Jr. (1889-1944) is regarded as one of the nation's greatest chemists. He is best known for two major achievements in industrial chemistry: the development of tetraethyl lead as an antiknock gasoline additive and the use of chlorofluorocarbons (Freon) as refrigerants. The gasoline additive enormously increased the performance and efficiency of gas engines and allowed for more powerful cars and high performance airplanes. The discovery of Freon made widespread refrigeration and air conditioning possible, revolutionizing 20th century life. Thomas Midgley came to Dayton to work in the "Inventions Department" at National Cash Register and later worked for Charles F. Kettering at DELCO. Kettering referred to Thomas Midgley as his "greatest discovery." He was a member of the Dayton Engineer's Club and one of the many scientists and engineers that made Dayton the Silicon Valley of the early 1900s. **-Inducted: 1998**



John E. Moore Sr. (1923-), a World War II veteran and former chief of civilian personnel at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, has given more than 40 years of volunteer leadership to Montgomery County's corporate, non-profit, local government, faith-based and grassroots organizations. He says he focuses on the "Three Fs" of community volunteering: Focus on what you want to do, Function, and Finish. Clearly he is a master of all three stages, and many local and regional groups have taken advantage of his expertise and devotion to working for his community. He has served on a number of organizations devoted to education, job training, self-sufficiency, health and human services including the Board of Sinclair Community College, Parity Inc., which he founded and co-chairs, and the Montgomery County Family and Children First Council. He has received countless honors and awards. John Moore Sr. is the embodiment of volunteerism, community involvement and integrity. **-Inducted: 2003**



Arthur E. Morgan (1878-1975) was the designer and first Chief Engineer of the Miami Conservancy District. His knowledge of flood control engineering also contributed to the development of the Ohio Conservancy Act of 1914 and established many conservancy districts throughout Ohio. The dry dam system he put in place eventually led to the preservation of large tracts of green space, used by millions for year-round recreation. Early in his career Arthur Morgan deliberately adopted a policy he called conclusive engineering analysis, meaning that it was not enough to find a feasible answer. Every possibility must be explored to find the best solution. His expertise was recognized when President Franklin Roosevelt appointed him to be the first chairman of the Tennessee Valley Authority. Later in life, Morgan served as the President of Antioch College. **-Inducted: 1996**



Edwin C. Moses (1955-) was a graduate of the Dayton Public Schools system and Morehouse College, where he participated in an obscure track program with no equipment or facilities. He has become known throughout the world for his accomplishments in track and field. He is the holder of two Olympic gold medals (1976 and 1984) and several world records in hurdling. Edwin Moses is a member of the Olympic Hall of Fame, and was chosen to represent all Olympic athletes by reciting the oath at the opening ceremonies in the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics. He dominated the 400-meter hurdle competitions in the 1970s and 1980s, and at one point won a record-setting 107 straight races. The City of Dayton honored Mr. Moses by naming a major boulevard in his honor. **-Inducted: 1997**





Ervin J. Nutter (1914-2000) was an entrepreneur who, with a \$360 investment, started an engineering and manufacturing company that grew from a single employee to one of the world's leading manufacturers of sophisticated tubular assemblies for private, commercial and military jet engines.

He founded several businesses, including Elano Corporation, Acme Screw Products, and Enlo Incorporated. He was a Registered Professional Engineer and licensed as an instrument rated commercial multi-engine aircraft pilot. Mr. Nutter was known for his interest in conservation as well as business and made generous contributions of time and money to many area organizations. Wright State University's E.J. Nutter Center was made possible through his donation, and has enhanced the area by bringing more sports, entertainment and culture to the student body and the region. **-Inducted: 2000**



The Ohio Players were the trailblazers of a virtual Rhythm & Blues empire with its roots in Dayton. This band popularized a specific genre of R & B music known as "Street Funk." They were the first American band from the Dayton area to go gold with an album earning over a million dollars and the first to go platinum with an album selling a million copies. They

have been called the premiere R & B band in the nation during the 1970s, popularizing a distinctive Midwestern sound and reaching an international following with European and Japanese tours. The Ohio Players' music continues to energize artists of subsequent generations, and many young hip-hop musicians cite the influence of their sound. Members of The Ohio Players continue to be involved in the community through donations of time and money to local parks, schools, churches and other worthy charities. **-Inducted: 1999**



James A. Parsons, Jr. (1900-1989) was an engineer, inventor and educator. He graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute with a degree in electrical engineering, and became a chemist at the Duriron Company, working on the development of aluminum, bronze and high silicon iron castings. He became director of the research laboratory at Duriron, and

was awarded numerous patents for processes used in making stainless steel. After more than 30 years at Duriron, Mr. Parsons left to become a professor at the Engineering School at Tennessee State University, where he organized the first curriculum in metallurgy at any predominantly black institution in the country. He later taught at the Ohio State University and at Garfield Skills Center in Dayton. He always emphasized mastering the basics, including clear communication, and encouraged his students to strive for excellence. Mr. Parson's record of pioneering work in the fields of engineering and education and the training of black engineers had a positive impact on the city and the industry. **-Inducted: 2008**



John H. Patterson (1844-1922) was the President and principal owner of the National Cash Register Company (NCR) and himself was a civic force to be reckoned with. He was highly skilled at adapting good ideas from any source and making them better. He pioneered such now-standard practices as the employee newspaper, an employee suggestion box, a

sales force reward system, sales conventions, service contracts, direct mail advertising and the introduction of a healthful and humane working environment for factory employees. He could be dictatorial, and fired an impressive array of NCR employees who took his methods and started their own successful businesses. Yet he also created model factories and social programs for employees and the citizens of Dayton that were studied and emulated by others. It was John Patterson who donated Hills and Dales Park to the City of Dayton. **-Inducted: 1996**





Margaret E. Peters (1936-) a high school teacher of English and history, became concerned about the lack of adequate, accurate information on African American history and culture. She worked to enrich the curriculum through service as the district's Black History Resource Teacher, promotion of an African American history course, and writing publications including *The Ebony Book of Black Achievement*, used in many schools to supplement American history courses. She conducted a radio program on black culture and wrote *Dayton's African American Heritage*. She continues to write and speak about black history. Her volunteer activities include charter advisor of the Muse Machine, coordinator of the after-school tutorial program at Zion Baptist Church, chair of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School Program, and board member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. She is the recipient of numerous local, state and national honors.—**Inducted: 2002**



Mike Peters (1943-) is a Pulitzer Prize winning editorial cartoonist for the *Dayton Daily News* as well as the author of the comic strip *Mother Goose & Grimm*. His work is syndicated in newspapers worldwide, and frequently appears in national publications. He appears regularly on television shows and is a popular lecturer. Mike Peters is the author of numerous books of his syndicated political cartoons as well as multiple volumes of collected comic strips. His popular *Mother Goose & Grimm* characters have been brought to television with a weekly Saturday morning animated series. Peters Postscripts aired on *NBC's Nightly News* in 1981, marking the first time animated editorial cartoons appeared regularly on a primetime network news program. He has also done a 14 part interview series, *The World of Cartooning with Mike Peters*, for PBS. What a hoot!—**Inducted: 1999**



Esther Price (1904-1994), founder of Esther Price Candies of Dayton, started making candy in 1926 to help make ends meet during the Depression. She began by selling fudge to her co-workers at Rikes, and then expanded to nearby businesses. She moved on to selling the candy from her porch on Fauver Avenue. Eventually she purchased two Victorian homes on Wayne Avenue and moved the business there. In the early days she tasted and adjusted every batch herself, frequently working 18 hour days to ensure quality. At times she struggled with the challenges of being a woman in a man's world: for instance, a number of banks refused to loan her money. However, she persevered and became one of Dayton's first successful businesswomen. Today her name is synonymous with candy and her business has celebrated its 75th anniversary. At the age of 87 she wrote her autobiography entitled *Chocolate Covered Cherries: Esther Price's Memories*.—**Inducted: 2001**



Louis F. Polk (1904-1991) was an internationally recognized leader in the field of measurement science or metrology. His early career was with City Machine & Tool Works in Dayton, where he began as a messenger and following college graduation had become a designer and manager. When City Machine merged with Sheffield Machine and Tool he became president of the new company. Sheffield gauges and measuring systems were critical in creating standardized machine parts during World War II. Mass production of machine parts and replacement parts would have been impossible without exact measurements, and Polk's many inventions in this field helped move the nation from hand-tooled, unique machine parts into the world of interchangeable parts and quick repairs. His work in standards development led to being named a delegate to the 1960 conference that replaced the meter bar with an isotopic wavelength of light. He served on





many standards boards and committees, and was named Chairman of the U.S. Metric Board by President Carter in 1978.–**Inducted: 2008**



Rev. Edward A. Puff (1914-2006) for 40 years pastor of Memorial United Church of Christ, continues a legacy of caring, action, and service to the community that has caused him to be called “the pastor of the entire community.” He embraced a broad concept of the mission of the church, and was instrumental in establishing such organizations as the Trinity Retirement Home, the East Dayton Health Center, the Burkhardt Center, and the East Dayton Food Pantry. While other churches moved to the suburbs, his stayed in the city: as he once said, “If the Lord was coming, he would come to Fifth Street!” He has received numerous awards and honors, including the Montgomery County First Peace Bridge Award. Because of his association with the Wright family, Reverend Puff was asked to speak at the ceremony marking the end of the Centennial of Flight Celebration. At that time, he said the Wrights “set up a dream that hardened into a deed.” In his ministry, Reverend Puff has done the same thing.–**Inducted: 2005**



Jane Reece (1868-1961) was known for her leadership in establishing photography as a fine art form, fostering innovative uses of paper and printing techniques, and exploring creative uses of the camera. She worked in the Pictorialist style, and frequently exhibited her haunting and lyrical photographs at the Dayton Art Institute as well as nationally and internationally. She was largely self-taught, but incorporated techniques used by Alfred Stieglitz and Edward Weston. Jane Reece won many awards for her work, including becoming the first woman portraitist to be admitted to the Photographers Association of America. Her portrait work chronicles the important figures of her time, both native Daytonians and important visitors, among them Helen Keller, Robert Frost, Leopold Stokowski and the daughters of President Woodrow Wilson. Besides her own prominence as a photographer, Reece fostered all the arts including dance, music, poetry and the visual arts in general by allowing her home studio to be used as an artists’ meeting place.–**Inducted: 1996**



The Honorable Walter Herbert Rice (1937-) is a jurist, humanitarian and community leader. Since 1980 he has been a member of the federal bench, serving as Judge and then Chief Judge of the United States District court. His decisions are well written, carefully researched, and compassionate. His contributions to the legal profession include being a founding and current board member of the Montgomery County Volunteer Lawyers Project and serving on the University of Dayton Law School Board of Advisors. However, Judge Rice’s community engagement is not limited to legal projects. His leadership made possible the creation of the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park. Judge Rice chaired the 2003 Committee which secured the designation of the National Park and then the Dayton Aviation Heritage Commission which was congressionally chartered to maximize the potential of the new park site. He was a founding trustee of the Aviation Heritage Foundation. Known as an engaging public speaker, he manages to find time to serve on many community boards, including important roles in the redevelopment of the Wright-Dunbar neighborhood.–**Inducted: 2007**



Frederick Rike (1867-1947) was President of Dayton’s Rike-Kumler department store company and a civic leader. Mr. Rike had only one employer, beginning at Rike’s as a salesman and a buyer of notions, handkerchiefs, hosiery and gloves. He eventually worked his way up to the post of President, which he held for 40 years, seldom missing a day at work in





the store. It was Frederick Rike who moved the store to the corner of Second and Main Streets that it anchored for so long. He was active during the recovery efforts from the 1913 flood, and served on the charter commission which reorganized Dayton's government under the city manager format. He was worked for the establishment of the Miami Valley Conservancy District, and served as president of the Dayton Boy Scouts and Community Chest. Nationally, his leadership positions included President of the National Retail Dry Goods Association. **–Inducted: 1996**



Miriam Rosenthal (1901-1965) had a significant and lasting impact on the performing arts in the Dayton area. She provided leadership and generated financial support to underwrite the Dayton Philharmonic and other important arts organizations. She was instrumental in bringing other cultural activities to Dayton as well. Upon her death a group of business and civic leaders, among them Robert Oelman, David Rike and Eugene Kettering, organized a memorial trust fund that would enrich the artistic life of the community for years to come. *The Miriam Rosenthal Fund* continues to perpetuate the performing arts while setting the community's sights on ever higher levels of cultural activity. **–Inducted: 1996**



Mac Ross (1912-1944) was one of the original five Tuskegee Airmen. The Airmen were America's first black military pilots and flew in segregated squadrons while defending their county during World War II. Mac Ross was selected for the elite group after being passed over for pilot training several times. Although the family was skeptical of his desire to become a pilot because of the lack of any black role models, his determination to succeed and his desire to fly eventually resulted in his selection. Mr. Ross excelled during his training at the Army Air Corps fighter pilot training school at Tuskegee, being described by one of his instructors as "a pilot's pilot." He died in a fighter plane crash during a training mission in Italy at the age of 32. His strong ideals about his family, community and the military make him a positive national role model. **–Inducted: 1996**



Fritz Russ (1920-2004) and **Dolores Russ** (1921-2008) have dedicated their lives to engineering, and in the process had a profound impact on the profession at the local, state and national levels. Fritz Russ graduated from Ohio University with an electrical engineering degree in 1942, and began his career at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington. His work helped lead to breakthroughs in atomic weapons testing systems, engine controls, aircraft weaponry, space flight, television and medical technology. By the mid 1950s, the Russes had converted their basement into a part time repair, research and development business, which became *Systems Research Laboratories*. This company soon became a leader in the industry, designing and assembling a complex digital computer system to analyze spacecraft signals and assisting the Air Force with testing procedures for astronaut selection. Developments in lasers, chemical warfare shelters, and artificial intelligence soon followed. But more than simply furthering their own careers, the Russes are dedicated to engineering education, building programs at Ohio University, Wright State and other Ohio institutions. They have established professorships and prizes to award and foster outstanding work, thus assuring the future of extraordinary engineering achievements like theirs. **–Inducted: 2006**





Mike Schmidt (1949-) was already a standout athlete during his college career at Ohio University. He moved on to play professional baseball for 18 years as a third baseman for the Philadelphia Phillies. He has been called by some the finest all-around third baseman in the history of baseball. Known for his hitting power (548 home runs, 1,595 RBI) and his fielding ability (10 gold glove awards), Schmidt was named the World Series Most Valuable Player in 1980 and three times was named National League MVP. In 1995 Mike Schmidt was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame. **–Inducted: 1998**



Major Rudolph Schroeder (1886-1952) served as U.S. Army test pilot and Chief of all Army test flying at McCook Field. He set numerous world records, including a flight of 33, 114 feet in an open-cockpit Packard-LePere LUSAC-11 with only heavy clothing and a regulation oxygen mask for protection from the 67 degrees below zero temperature. At the height of his flight he began to feel dizzy from oxygen deficiency and raised his goggles momentarily to locate the emergency oxygen supply. The extreme cold froze the moisture in his eyes, blinding him. His attempt to descend resulted in an extreme vertical drop that caused Schroeder to pass out, but he regained consciousness in time to pull out of the six mile dive at 2000 feet. He landed the plane safely, still with his vision partially obstructed. In 1945 the six foot four inches tall “Shorty” Schroeder was honored with the Distinguished Flying Cross. **–Inducted: 1996**



Josephine L. Schwarz (1909-2004) and **Hermene Schwarz** (1902-1986) are dancers, choreographers and ballet teachers who together founded the *Experimental Group for Young Dancers*, the forerunner of the Dayton Ballet and the nation’s second-oldest regional dance company. They taught generations how to dance, and many of their students have gone on to careers in professional dance, choreography, or to found their own ballet companies. Their high standards were legendary, as was their willingness to take risks in such areas as presenting racially integrated performances in the 1940s. The sisters began by teaching dance classes for neighborhood children and dancing themselves after studying in Europe. Josephine moved to New York for study at the School of American Ballet and performed on Broadway. When a knee injury forced her to give up performing “Miss Jo” returned to Dayton to begin her career in teaching and choreography with her sister. **–Inducted: 1998**



LaVerne Kenon Sci (1940-) is a world expert on the life and work of Paul Laurence Dunbar and chiefly responsible for the growth of Dunbar’s reputation in the city and beyond. The long time site manager for the Paul Laurence Dunbar House State Memorial, she took over a building in a state of disrepair and shepherded it through a renovation and expansion project. Her care of the legacy of Dunbar led to engagement in the revitalization of the neighborhood surrounding the Memorial. Visitors to the Dunbar House were often greeted by Sci in the character of Hallie Quinn Brown, one of Dunbar’s teachers and a world renowned elocutionist (person skilled at public speaking). The use of this character is just one example of LaVerne Sci’s unparalleled ability to bring Dunbar and his period to life in a direct and impacting way. She has received many awards, including the Dayton Daily News Top Ten Women award, induction into the Greene County Women’s Hall of Fame, and the Paul Laurence Dunbar Humanitarian of the Year Award. **–Inducted: 2009**





Martin Sheen (1940-) is an actor, director, producer and playwright. He was born Ramon Estevez in Dayton and graduated from Chaminade High School. He went on to achieve critical acclaim and major success as a film and television actor, winning numerous award nominations. His film credits include roles in *The Subject Was Roses*, *Apocalypse Now*, *Wall Street*, and *Gettysburg*; and television movie roles in, among many others, *The Execution of Private Slovik*, *The Missiles of October*, *Kennedy* and *Taxi*. He presently stars in the television series *The West Wing*, playing the role of President Josiah Bartlett. Martin Sheen is also known as an outspoken advocate for important social causes and a regular contributor of his time to Dayton charitable efforts and Catholic causes.—**Inducted: 1998**



John Q. Sherman (1882-1939) and **William C. Sherman** (1884-1944) were the founders of The Standard Register Company and generous donors to area causes. Although neither brother was responsible for the invention of the first pinfeed forms and pinfeed register which led to the founding of Standard Register, the Shermans were initial investors and the businessmen responsible for bringing the fledgling company out of receivership after the 1913 flood. Under their leadership Standard Register grew into the second largest business forms manufacturer in America—a distinction it still holds today. But the Sherman brothers were not simply good corporate leaders. John Sherman was also a prolific inventor, with over 190 patents to his credit, including patents for early air conditioning systems, compact umbrellas, and keyhole guards for hotel doors. He led the fundraising campaign which raised \$1 million for the construction of Good Samaritan Hospital in 1928, and supported the University of Dayton. William Sherman was a generous supporter of the Dayton Community Chest, Good Samaritan Hospital, and Miami Valley Hospital.—**Inducted: 2004**



David A. Sinclair (1850-1902) was an early supporter of the YMCA movement. He came to Dayton in 1874 to represent the Hamilton, Ontario YMCA at a conference, and was so impressed with the leadership of the Dayton branch that he accepted a position here. He could not understand why Dayton had so many jobless men, and so asked men local employers what was causing the problem. When told men lacked the necessary skills and training he became determined to do something about it. Under his leadership, the YMCA began to offer vocational training classes which eventually grew into Sinclair Community College. Sadly, David Sinclair did not live long enough to see it: exhausted from efforts to build the first YMCA building at Third and Ludlow Streets (now Dayton City Hall), he died six years before the first college building opened.—**Inducted: 1996**



Frederick C. Smith (1916-) was the CEO of Huffy Corporation and a civic activist. He served a chief executive of the bicycle manufacturing company from 1962 until 1976, presiding over the first public offering of stock on the American Stock Exchange. Once he retired, his civic activities began to accelerate. He was the chief architect of The Job Center, Montgomery County's welfare reform/job training program, helped guide the Dayton Foundation to enormous growth in the 1980s, co-founded the local branch of Planned Parenthood, and sat on boards for Miami Valley Hospital and Sinclair Community College, among others. He chaired the Ohio Governor's Job-Training Coordinating Council, and has worked on a project to keep chronically absent youth in school. Frederick Smith's career is marked by his quiet, persistent, behind the scenes activities that always seem to result in enormous accomplishment.—**Inducted: 2002**





Sister Dorothy Stang (1931-2005), dedicated her life as a missionary to the fight for the rights of rural workers and peasants in the Amazon region of Brazil. Sister Dorothy, a Dayton native and member of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, went to Brazil as a missionary to do adult faith formation with landless peasants. When these poor families were granted small plots of land in the rain forest, she understood that the farmers needed to understand the principles of sustainable farming and rain forest preservation, and so taught them. She worked with communities to become self supporting, starting 39 schools, working to develop health care and basic first aid facilities, and creating a series of seminars and conferences to teach sustainable farming. She believed passionately that the rain forest plays a critical role in the earth's health. Although beloved by the people she served, while working to improve the lives of the poor and protect the rain forest, Sister Dorothy ran afoul of illegal logging operations, land speculators, and cattle ranchers. She was murdered by hired killers in 2005. **-Inducted: 2007**



Frank Stanton (1908-2006) was a distinguished broadcast executive who brought leadership to the Columbia Broadcasting System during his 25 year presidency from 1946 to 1971. Stanton acquired a reputation as the unofficial spokesperson for the broadcasting industry. His opinions were routinely sought, his speeches repeatedly quoted, and his testimony before Congress recognized as a major part of any debate about the broadcasting field. Frank Stanton was instrumental in bringing about the 1960 Kennedy-Nixon debates. He was known as a staunch defender of broadcast's First Amendment rights: in fact, he was cited three times for Contempt of Congress by the House of Representatives for refusing to turn over materials related to his 1971 documentary *The Selling of the Pentagon*. For his courageous protection of the concept of the freedom of the press, Stanton is called by some the patron saint of broadcast journalism. **-Inducted: 2001**



Dr. Rembert E. Stokes (1917-1993) was the Dean of the Payne Theological Seminary and then President of Wilberforce University from 1956 to 1976. Wilberforce was founded by blacks in 1856, well before the Emancipation Proclamation, and is the country's oldest institution of higher education founded and operated by African Americans. Under the leadership of Rembert Stokes, Wilberforce saw an unprecedented expansion of the University's physical plant, enrollment, and prestige. During his tenure several new academic initiatives were introduced, including the creation of a four year mandatory cooperative education program; a dual degree program in Engineering with the University of Dayton; and a student exchange program with the University of Hull in England, birthplace of William Wilberforce. Dr. Stokes dedicated his life to helping others increase their success in college. He was a staunch humanitarian committed to providing academically excellent and relevant higher education. **-Inducted: 1997**



Frank M. Tait (1874-1962) was a pioneer industrialist and a contemporary of Orville and Wilbur Wright, Colonel Edward Deeds, James M. Cox and Charles Kettering, part of the generation that made Dayton a center for invention and manufacturing. He was inspired by an early close association with Thomas Edison, and went on to found Tait Manufacturing Company. He was President of the Dayton Power & Light Company and director of the U.S. Pipe and Foundry Company, and at one time was active in 35 major corporations. In 1955 Mr. Tait created the *Frank M. Tait Foundation* for charitable, scientific, educational and religious purposes out of his personal financial holdings. The Foundation continues to give grants to regional organizations, benefiting many and fulfilling Mr. Tait's wishes. **-Inducted: 1996**





Charlie Taylor (1868-1956) built the engines that were used on the early Wright airplanes. He began working with the Wrights by serving as the bicycle shop repairman while the brothers were off on their flight experiments. When the experiments had progressed sufficiently so that the specifications for the airplane engine could be determined, it was decided that a motor having 8 horsepower and weighting 180 pounds was needed. After attempts to find such an engine failed, Wilbur, Orville and Charlie decided to build their own. Much of the machine work was done by Charlie Taylor, who between Christmas 1902 and June 1903 built a 13 horsepower engine weighting a mere 130 pounds at a time when internal combustion engine technology was in its infancy. Obviously, the engine worked as planned, the experiment was a success and Charlie Taylor earned a spot in the honor role of aviation pioneers.—**Inducted: 2000**



Charles A. Thomas (1900-1982) was a leader in Dayton's segment of the Manhattan Project, a highly-classified U.S. government program to design and construct a working atomic weapon. Trained as a chemist, Thomas moved to Dayton at the behest of Charles Kettering to become a research chemist for General Motors Research Corporation. Thomas and chemist Carroll Hochwalt established Thomas and Hochwalt Laboratories in Dayton. Eventually this company was bought out by Monsanto Chemical Company, and Thomas became Monsanto's director of central research. During the war Thomas was recruited to the Manhattan Project, where he worked on the refinement and production of polonium, an essential component of triggers of early atomic bombs. By 1948 when the Mound Laboratory in Miamisburg assumed responsibility for polonium research, the Dayton Project begun by Thomas employed several hundred scientists at four locations within the area. He was awarded one of 14 medals for merit distributed to leaders of the Manhattan Project by President Harry Truman. In 1945 Thomas moved away from Dayton to continue his distinguished career with Monsanto, culminating in his service as chairman of the board.—**Inducted: 2006**



Louise Troy (1860-1941) was the daughter of a Civil War veteran who taught in Dayton from 1878 until 1920. She began teaching in the "colored school," and after the schools were integrated in 1887 she was the only African American teacher who was retained. She remained the only black teacher in the public school system for many years, so all young black women seeking teacher training in the early 1900s were sent to her for practice teaching. Her pupils included Paul Laurence Dunbar, who she described as "the dreamy type" and William O. Stokes, as well as many future black educators. Louise Troy was a charter member of the YWCA and was instrumental in the drive which resulted in their purchase of the building at West Fifth and Horace streets. She served as the first treasurer and a founding member of the Dayton branch of the NAACP.—**Inducted: 1996**



Dr. Hans J. P. von Ohain (1911-1998) was an engineer and physicist who invented the gas turbine (jet) engine in the 1930s while still in his native Germany. This invention opened a new era in transportation and warfare. He came to the United States after the war and became a research scientist at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, where he continued to work on issues surrounding jet propulsion. In time he was appointed Chief Scientist of the Aerospace Research Laboratories, and in 1973 he became Chief Scientist of the Aero Propulsion laboratory, assuming responsibility for maintaining the technical quality of U.S. Air Force research in air-breathing propulsion, power and petrochemicals. His accomplishments in those areas won him national and international recognition. During his 32 years of government service Hans van Ohain published more than 30 technical papers, registered more than 19 U.S. patents and won numerous honors.—**Inducted: 1999**





Don Wayne (1922-1997) was an award winning television news anchor, reporter and correspondent who brought the news home to the Miami Valley. He served as a foreign correspondent in Vietnam, conducting interviews and broadcasting them back home. He also covered the Iran hostage situation, and interviewed many Dayton notables, including “Boss” Kettering and John Glenn. He provided voiceover narration for films used by Wright Patterson Air Force Base, narrated a documentary about the Dayton flood and often served as Master of Ceremonies for the Aviation Hall of Fame ceremonies. Don Wayne is remembered as the voice of Dayton, a fine news journalist and a genuinely nice guy.–

Inducted: 1998



Calvin J. Werner (1907-1996) was an engineer, inventor, corporate and community leader and lifelong Daytonian. A product of Dayton schools, he joined the Dayton Engineering Laboratories (Delco) as a co-op student. After graduation from the University of Cincinnati he began work as a design engineer for General Motor’s Delco Products Division. He quickly

moved up the corporate ladder, becoming Chief Engineer, Manager of Manufacturing, General Manager at Moraine Products, Vice President and General Manager of GMC Truck and Coach Division, and Vice President and General Manager of the Cadillac Motor Car Division. He was an able manager with a gift for problem solving. His ability to improve the function of motors led to 64 patents in the field of electric motors and controls. He received a certificate of commendation for his engineering work on generators and landing crafts used by the U.S. Navy during World War II. Mr. Werner was also active in professional organizations and local charities.–**Inducted: 2008**



Dr. Charles H. Wesley (1891-1987) was a noted African American educator, author and historian, President of Wilberforce University and founder of Central State University. He attended several prestigious institutions of higher learning, receiving a Masters degree from Yale in history and economics and a Ph.D. from Harvard in history. He taught at Howard University, beginning as an instructor and rising through the ranks to Professor and head

of the History department. In 1942 he became President of Wilberforce University and in 1947 he established Central State University, where he was President until he moved back to Washington in 1965. While in Washington he was Executive Director of the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History, founded by his friend and colleague Carter Woodson. He was the first director of the Afro-American Historical and Cultural Museum in Philadelphia. Charles Wesley authored more than 12 books and over 125 articles.–**Inducted: 1996**



Jonathan Winters (1925-) is known as an actor, improvisational comedian, and writer. He got his start as a radio disk jockey in Dayton and went on to become a television announcer and comedian in Columbus, Ohio before beginning a career largely connected to television comedy. He appeared regularly on The Steve Allen Show and The Garry Moore Show

before several stints as the star of The Jonathan Winters Show. He has starred in a number of specials, served as executive producer and writer for several programs and recorded a series of Grammy nominated comedy albums. He is cited as major influence by such comedy stars as Robin Williams, and has appeared in numerous night-clubs, cabarets and concert halls. In addition to his side-splitting comedy, Mr. Winters has a serious side as a talented visual artist.–**Inducted: 1997**





Mitchell “Booty” Wood (1919-1987) studied trombone at Dunbar High School. After graduation he joined the Lionel Hampton Band, and later played with Duke Ellington and Count Basie. By his count he traveled more than 2 million miles on the road, playing jazz in Sweden, Japan, South America, Mexico and France. In each band he held the position of first trombone and won high praise from the band leaders and their enraptured audiences. After his travels Booty Wood returned home to Dunbar High School and Central State University to teach jazz, using it as a vehicle to promote the benefits of constant practice, discipline, and the joy of music.—**Inducted: 2000**



Jean V. Woodhull (1920-) is a community treasure who has been sowing the seeds of good ideas for many years. She was a founding member of Cox Arboretum and of Metro Parks, and participated in the growth of Wegerzyn Garden Center, RiverScape, and the National City Market. On a national level, she served on the boards of the American Horticultural Society and as Director of the Garden Club of America. But Jean Woodhull is more than just a dedicated naturalist who has worked to green the Dayton region. She is a creative thinker who understands the difficult, delicate process of promoting change and building teams, and she does this without any attempt to claim credit. Once quoted as recommending “... *always do a good job and then tell others that someone else did it,*” this visionary and volunteer has changed the face of her community.—**Inducted: 2004**



Alice Woodward (1915-2000) was the dean of Dayton’s historic preservationists. Not only did she save more than 40 buildings, including the Steamboat House, now on the National Register of Historic Places, but she advised and aided other preservationists as well. All of her work was done to the highest standards. Alice Woodward was a guide and inspiration to the historic preservation movement in Dayton, a movement which has resulted in some of the city’s most successfully revitalized and marketable neighborhoods. For her efforts to save historic buildings she was given an award by the Governor and House of Representatives, with particular recognition given to her instrumental role in saving College Hill Hospital, the Dayton Mental Health Center and the Jacob O. Joyce home. In a very real sense, we owe much of the preservation of Dayton’s historic architecture to Alice Woodward and the preservation movement she initiated and nourished.—**Inducted: 1998**



Orville Wright (1871-1948) was one of a pair of Dayton brothers who taught the world to fly. After dropping out of school in 1889 he started a printing business by building a press with his brother Wilbur. The Wrights became intrigued with the bicycle, and eventually opened a bicycle repair shop and showroom. Soon they began working on an improved bicycle design. In 1896 Orville Wright came down with typhoid and while reading to pass the time during Orville’s recuperation, the brothers became interested in gliders and flight. They quickly read all the information available. Of the three components required for human flight; lift, locomotion and control, Orville Wright’s interests focused on the development of the engine that would power the aircraft. Working with Charlie Taylor, he built an engine in their shop. On December 17, 1903 Orville Wright was the first man to fly with a flight of 120 feet in 12 seconds.—**Inducted: 1995**





Wilbur Wright (1867-1912) focused his attentions on the theory and mechanics of controlling the airplane during flight. He developed the theory of wing warping. Practical experimentation revealed that the standard tables of lift and drag were incorrect, so the Wright Brothers built a wind tunnel in their shop to recalculate them. This enabled them to design new wings and build gliders that were capable of long, controlled flights. The data from the glider flights allowed them to perfect the airplane design, and the first powered flight occurred in the morning of December 17, 1903. By the end of the day Wilbur Wright had flown 852 feet in 59 seconds. The brothers then set out to build a practical aircraft, and by 1905 had succeeded. The combination of scientific experimentation, theoretical knowledge and mechanical skills demonstrated by Orville and Wilbur Wright made them uniquely qualified to open the era of aviation.—**Inducted: 1995**



Colonel Charles Young (1864-1922) developed a program that for decades made Wilberforce University the nation's principal training ground for African American officer candidates. He brought the prestige of being the third African American to graduate from West Point and later the highest ranking black officer in the country to the university and community he called home. While active in the military, Colonel Young served as an officer with the Buffalo Soldiers in the 9th and 10th Cavalries on the Plains and in the Southwest. He served in the "punitive expedition" against Pancho Villa in Mexico and also in the Philippines. Charles Young was the first African American to be appointed a military attaché, a post that required diplomacy, linguistic aptitude, and extensive military experience. Through his unparalleled success as an Army officer, Charles Young provided an example of what could be accomplished despite the obstacle of racial bigotry.—**Inducted: 1998**



Rosamond M. Young (1912-2005) has led us to a fuller perception of ourselves and our community during her career as a Dayton educator, journalist, and author. Roz Young was born in Dayton and graduated from Steele High School. She earned a B.A. and M.A. degree from Oberlin College, and served as an educator for 30 years. For over 25 years she has worked as a journalist at the *Dayton Journal Herald* and *Dayton Daily News*, writing at first daily and now weekly columns on a variety of subjects from history, culture and everyday events in Dayton to the exploits of her beloved cat Edith. She has also written biographies of some of the area's most prominent citizens, including Boss Kettering and the Wright Brothers. In her series of careers spanning more than 50 years, Roz Young has emphasized the effective uses of language and called attention to the importance of clear communication. She has educated, amused and touched our lives in innumerable ways and is truly a community treasure.—**Inducted: 2003**

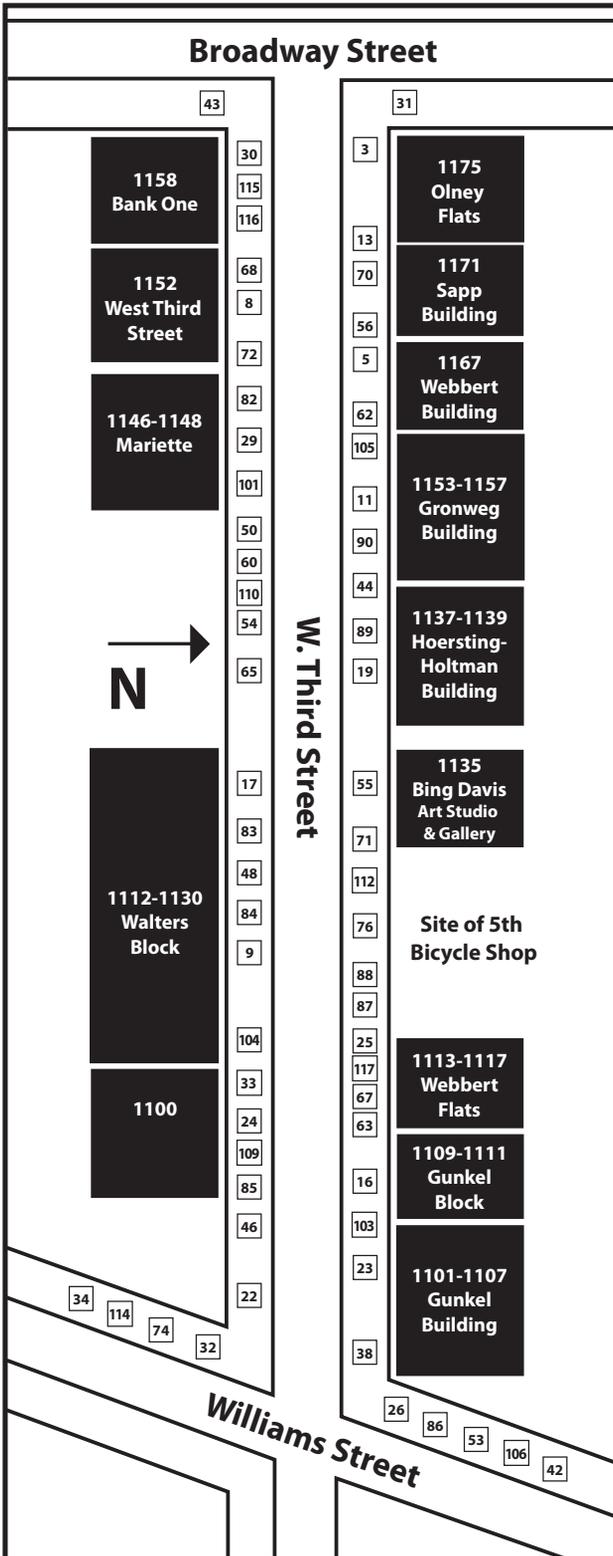




Legend: West Third Street between Broadway and Williams Streets

43	Armstrong, Harry G. (Major General)	31	Fraze, Ermal C.
30	Doren, Electra	3	Troy, Louise
115	Bombeck, Erma	13	Berry, Loren
116	Adams, Lucinda W.	70	Ohio Players, The
68	Meyer, Leo (Rev.)	56	Desch, Joseph R.
8	Huffman, Jr., Horace M.	5	Lear, William P.
72	Peters, Mike	62	Greene, Anne S.
82	Gentile, Dominic Salvatore (Major)	105	Abrams, Irwin M. (Dr.)
29	Cox, James M. (Governor)	11	Sheen, Martin
101	Katz, Paul	90	Haines, Clark J.
50	Brown, Katherine Kennedy	44	Sinclair, David A.
60	Foerste, August G. (Dr.)	89	Loving, Neil V.
110	Dayton Triangles	19	Wesley, Charles H. (Dr.)
54	Comer, Jeanne	55	Davis, Willis "Bing"
65	Janning, John L.	71	Peters, Margaret
17	Aull, Marie S.	112	Huffman, Dale
83	Bassani, Suzanne M.	76	Taylor, Charlie
48	Ross, Mac	88	Lewis Jr., Lloyd
84	Cooper, George C.	87	Moore Sr., John E.
9	Wayne, Don	25	Rike, Frederick
104	Thomas, Charles A.	117	Day, Carl
33	Breen, Edward Grimes (Honorable)	67	Mayfield, William Preston
24	Beerman, Arthur	63	Hamilton, Virginia
109	Stang, Dorothy (Sister)	16	Hole, John (Dr.)
85	Joyce, Jacob O.	103	Russ, Fritz & Dolores
46	Jackson, Lewis Albert (Dr.)	23	Albritton, David
22	Kettering, Charles F.	38	Tait, Frank M.
32	Kettering, Virginia	26	Deeds, Edward A. (Colonel)
74	Smith, Frederick	86	Carter, Iula O.
114	Werner, Calvin J.	53	Winters, Jonathan
34	Young, Charles (Colonel)	106	Conover, Charlotte Reeve
		42	Earley, Charity Edna



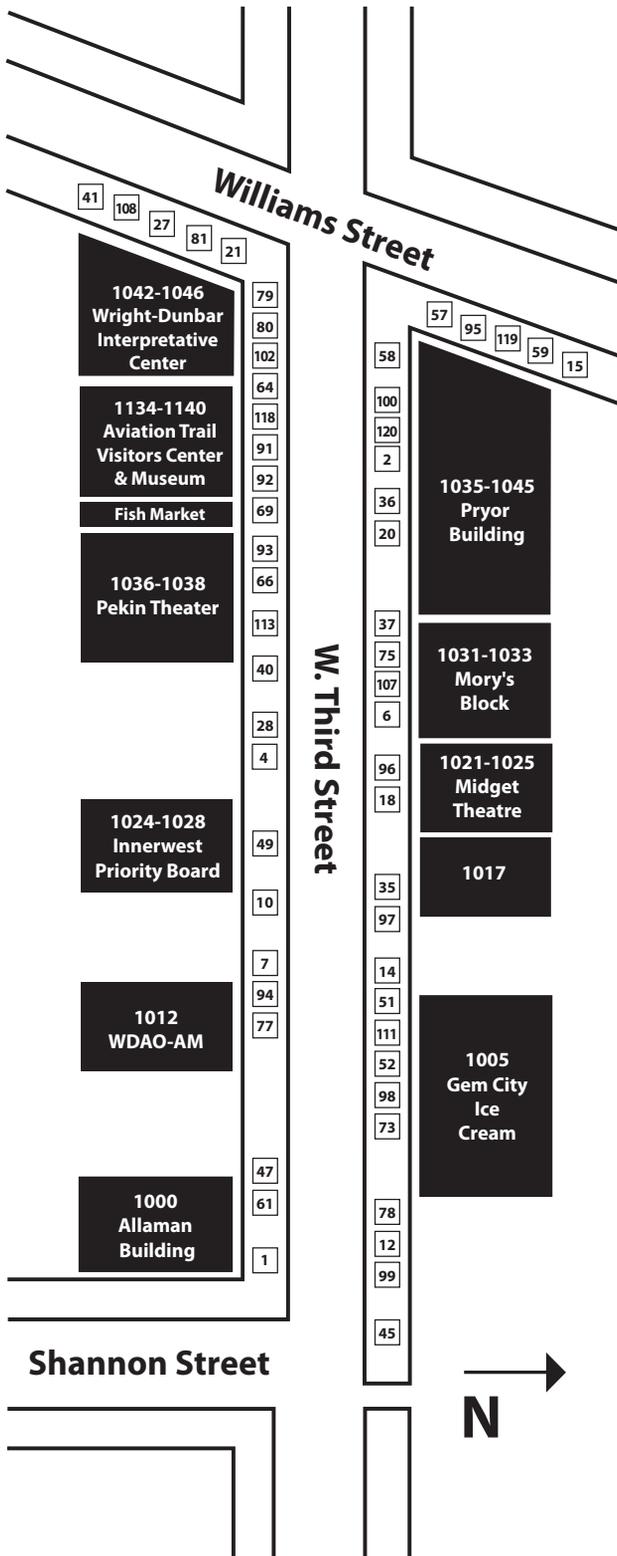




Legend: West Third Street between Williams and Shannon Streets

41	Carnell, Julia Shaw	15	McLin Jr., C.J.
108	Rice, Walter Herbert (Honorable)	59	Fisher, Authur O'Neill (Honorable)
27	Patterson, John H.	119	Apple, Vincent G.
81	CD '96	95	Woodhull, Jean V
21	Dunbar, Paul Laurence	57	Donahue, Phil
79	Wright, Orville	58	Faust, Gerard "Fuzzy"
80	Wright, Wilbur	100	Gunckel, Lewis B.
102	Crouch, Tom D.	120	Bass, DeSoto (Rev.)
64	Hobart, Charles C.	2	Barney, Eliam
118	Sci, LaVerne Kenon	36	Reece, Jane
91	Cecil, Lester Lefevre	20	Burick, Si
92	Sherman, John Q. & William C.	37	Schroeder, Rudolph (Major)
69	Nutter, Ervin J.	75	Stanton, Frank
93	Puff, Edward A. (Rev.)	107	Parsons Jr., James A.
66	Johnson, Edward "Al"	6	Morgan, Arthur E.
113	Polk, Louis F.	96	Young, Rosamond M.
40	Caniff, Milton	18	Brunkner, Clayton John
28	Rosenthal, Mariam	35	Midgley, Jr., Thomas
4	Baujan, Harry C.	97	Green, Barrett K.
49	Woodward, Alice G.	14	Haines, Jesse "Pop"
10	Custer, Levitt Luzern	51	Schwarz, Josephine L. & Hermene L.
7	Schmidt, Mike	111	Goodwin, William G.
94	Collett, Charles Ritter	52	Blunden, Jeraldnye
77	Von Ohain, Hans J.P. (Dr.)	98	McMahon, John A.
47	Stokes, Rembert E. (Dr.)	73	Price, Esther
61	Gish, Lillian & Dorothy	78	Wood, Mitchell "Booty"
1	Mead, George	12	Lindsey, Evangeline
		99	Hess, Dean E. (Colonel)
		45	Moses, Edwin C.







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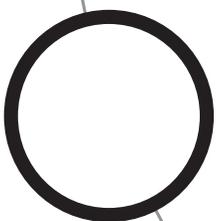
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Notes





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