

The Allegheny City Society

REPORTER

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North Side Historian and Lecturer Honored

By Ruth McCartan



Photo by the Author

Mary Wohleber (l) and Allegheny City Society president Lois Yoedt. Mary Wohleber was awarded the William Rimmel Award for her work in preserving the history of the City of Allegheny

On November 10, at the Riverview Presbyterian Church, the Allegheny City Society presented the last lecture of their fall series on Allegheny City history. This event capped off a year of varied events including tours and lectures the Society has offered to the public.

The photographic slides of William Rimmel, former Pittsburgh Post

Gazette newspaperman and one of the original incorporators of the Society were featured. The co-moderators of the lecture were Dr. Craig Bennett and the Society president Lois Yoedt.

After the lecture, the Society presented its William Rimmel Award to a resident of the

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North Side who has worked all her life as an advocate and historian of the area, Troy Hill resident Mary Wohleber.

Mr. Rimmel's articles for the newspaper frequently spoke of the uniqueness of its people and the grandeur of the locality. Mary Wohleber has kept up this tradition. From the heights of her Troy Hill home she has seen and experienced the changes that have affected her cherished Allegheny City. She has lived and preserved the local history and brings those experiences to life for the current generations so the past is not lost to them.

The Society felt it could not have honored a more deserving person who exemplifies the ideals of the Rimmel award.

During her acceptance of the award Ms Wohleber graciously honored the society by saying, "this has great meaning to me, to be honored by my people, fellow North Siders who are dedicated to presenting a positive image of our beloved North Side".

Mary if you meet Mr. Rimmel on the bus today and he asked you "what you are about" you would have a lot of great things to tell him. Congratulations Mary Wohleber

Board of Directors Holds Planning Retreat.

Early in November, 1996 the board of directors meet for a day-long strategic planning session. They discussed long-range goals for the Society. At the meeting the following tour and events were planned for 1997:

Allegheny City Breweries <i>Learn about the breweries that made old Allegheny famous.</i>	March 20, 1997
Annual meeting	April 24, 1997 (Site to be announced)
Tour - <i>Discover the "Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous" of Allegheny City as we explore the mansions of Ridge Avenue</i>	June (Date to be announced)
Show and tell talk and get-together	September - TBA
Lecture and presentation of Rimmel Award	November - TBA

Watch for announcements about these activities through the mail.

Also discussed were ways the Society can serve and assist members. Look for more details in the next newsletter or attend the annual meeting on April 24, 1997.

Spring Lecture

Circle your calender for March 20th when the Allegheny City Society will present a special lecture and dinner at Max's Allegheny Tavern. The lecture will discuss Allegheny City's historic breweries. The festivities get underway with an open cash bar at 6:30 followed by dinner at 7:00 from the Grand Bavarian Buffet.

The cost for members is \$20 and non members \$25.

R.S.V.P with Check to:
2107 Perrysville AVE
Pittsburgh PA 15214
or call (412) 321-4632

Looking back at last year

Walking Tour of East and West Commons The Society sponsored a walking tour of the East and West Commons in September. Despite a definite chill in the air, 40 members and others walked the paths of West Park.

Pictured below is the group posed with the Iron Deer statue along W. Ohio Street.



Lecture Series. This Fall The Allegheny City Society sponsored a series of lectures on the heritage and history of the City of Allegheny.

On October 6th Scott R. Becker from the PA Trolley Museum discussed "Horse Cars, Trolleys and Inclines" recalling the sometimes perilous history of the early transportation lines: Allegheny and Manchester, Pleasant Valley and Federal Street, and the inclines of Troy Hill, Nunnery Hill, Ridgewood and Clifton.

On October 20th Marilyn Everett, author of *Discovering Pittsburgh's Sculpture* talked about the history, intrigue and controversy of the famous, lost, prevailing and altered monuments, fountains and sculpture of Allegheny City and Pittsburgh's North Side.

Ruth McCartan spoke about the rich, famous, and infamous sisters, mothers, daughters, and wives of Allegheny City on October 27th.

The story of Old Allegheny City and tribute to William Rimmel was offered by Dr. Craig Bennett on November 10th. Also at this lecture the 1996 William R. Rimmel Award was presented.

Allegheny West Victorian House Tour. Allegheny City Society Board Members were active this past holiday season: Mike Coleman, John Lyon, Ruth McCartan and Steve Pietzak all lead tours during the Allegheny West Victorian Christmas House Tour. Lois Yoedt talked at Calvary United Methodist Church before each tour. C. A. Eubanks and John Canning's homes were both featured on the tour. Terry Mowrey and Craig Bennett, John Lyon and Steve Pietzak spent time at our display booth in the Christmas Shop.

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SPECIAL NOTICE

The Allegheny City Society is devoted to preserving the memory and history of Allegheny City. This newsletter, *The Allegheny City Reporter* will be sent free of charge to those people on our mailing list. In addition, each year the Society will publish two issues of *The Allegheny City Reporter Dispatch* that will feature articles of historic interest about the people and places of Allegheny City.

This newsletter will be mailed to members only.

Don't miss your opportunity to read about Allegheny City's history and receive other membership benefits: A 15% discount on all tours, lectures and Allegheny City Society merchandise as well as free admission to the annual meeting - **Join Today.**

For More information call the Society at 322-8807