

# HELP US SOLVE WHEELING'S HISTORY MYSTERIES!



Do you recognize any of the people in this flyer? Help us by taking a look inside!

The Ohio County Public Library Archives is teaming

up with Weelunk & Archiving Wheeling to reach out to Wheeling area residents—or people that have lived in the Wheeling area at any time—to help identify people, places, dates, and other unknowns in historic photographs of Wheeling from the Library's Archives.



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# Help Us Solve Wheeling's History Mysteries!

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This is the second installment in what will be an ongoing crowdsourcing project to connect the collective memory of today's Wheeling community to its historical resources and stories. A picture is worth a thousand words, and the more we know about the photos that tell Wheeling's stories, the better we are able to uncover important and sometimes forgotten histories of our community.

## WHAT IS "CROWDSOURCING"?

Crowdsourcing history is reaching out to the wider community to solicit help and knowledge in preserving, discovering, diversifying, and communicating history. History is not just created by or for trained historians—it is made up of stories, secrets, documents, memories, and more that are preserved by everyday people. Historians verify, analyze, and interpret history, but the entire community is responsible for maintaining and expanding the histories, stories, and narratives that create the foundations of their society. Sometimes history's mysteries just need someone with the right key.

- Read more about how crowdsourcing has been used to solve previous Wheeling history mysteries in the Ohio County Public Library Archives at Archiving Wheeling: <http://tiny.cc/AW-Crowdsourcing>
- Help us identify the people in the following photos. Submit known names online at <http://weelunk.com/help-us-solve-historys-mysteries-womens-history-month-edition/> or identify known people in this flyer and return the flyer to the Ohio County Public Library, 52-16th Street, Wheeling, WV 26003.

## MARCH 2021 WHEELING HISTORY MYSTERIES:

For Women's History Month, we're featuring unidentified photos of Wheeling Women. Please let us know if you can identify any of them!

## Photo 2: Wheeling Business and Professional Women's Club, 1927 National Convention



Organized in 1918, the Wheeling Chapter of the BPWC was founded by nurses, teachers, principals, telephone operators, pastors, and librarians. Providing a space for Wheeling's professionals to advance the role of women in the workplace, the organization was also involved in many philanthropic endeavors. Past BPWC chairwoman Mattie L. Miner is believed to be the woman labeled #5. According to the *Wheeling Intelligencer*, several other Wheeling women attended the convention including (spellings may be incorrect): Miss Stella Shary, Miss Mary Alexander, Miss Striff, Miss Marion Llewellyn, and Miss Glendora Johnson. Can you match any names to women in the photo?

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## Photo 2: Hazel Atlas Glass Company Employees in front of the Wheeling Factory, 19th and Jacob St., 1935



In addition to its iconic home canning jars, Hazel Atlas was a major producer of inexpensive "Depression Glass" table sets of pink, green, blue, colorless, and black glass. From 1930 to the 1950s, Hazel Atlas was the largest glass company in the United States. The company's headquarters were located at 87 15th Street in Wheeling. Did any of your relatives work for Hazel-Atlas? Do you see them in this photograph?

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## Photo 3: Girl Scout Camp Staff at Camp Giscowheco, 1976



  
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Located in Triadelphia and still in operation to this day, Camp Giscowheco hosts campers, meetings, trainings, and other outdoor activities. Were you or one of your relatives involved in Girl Scouts? Ask them if they recognize any of these women.

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## Photo 4: Works Progress Administration Workers



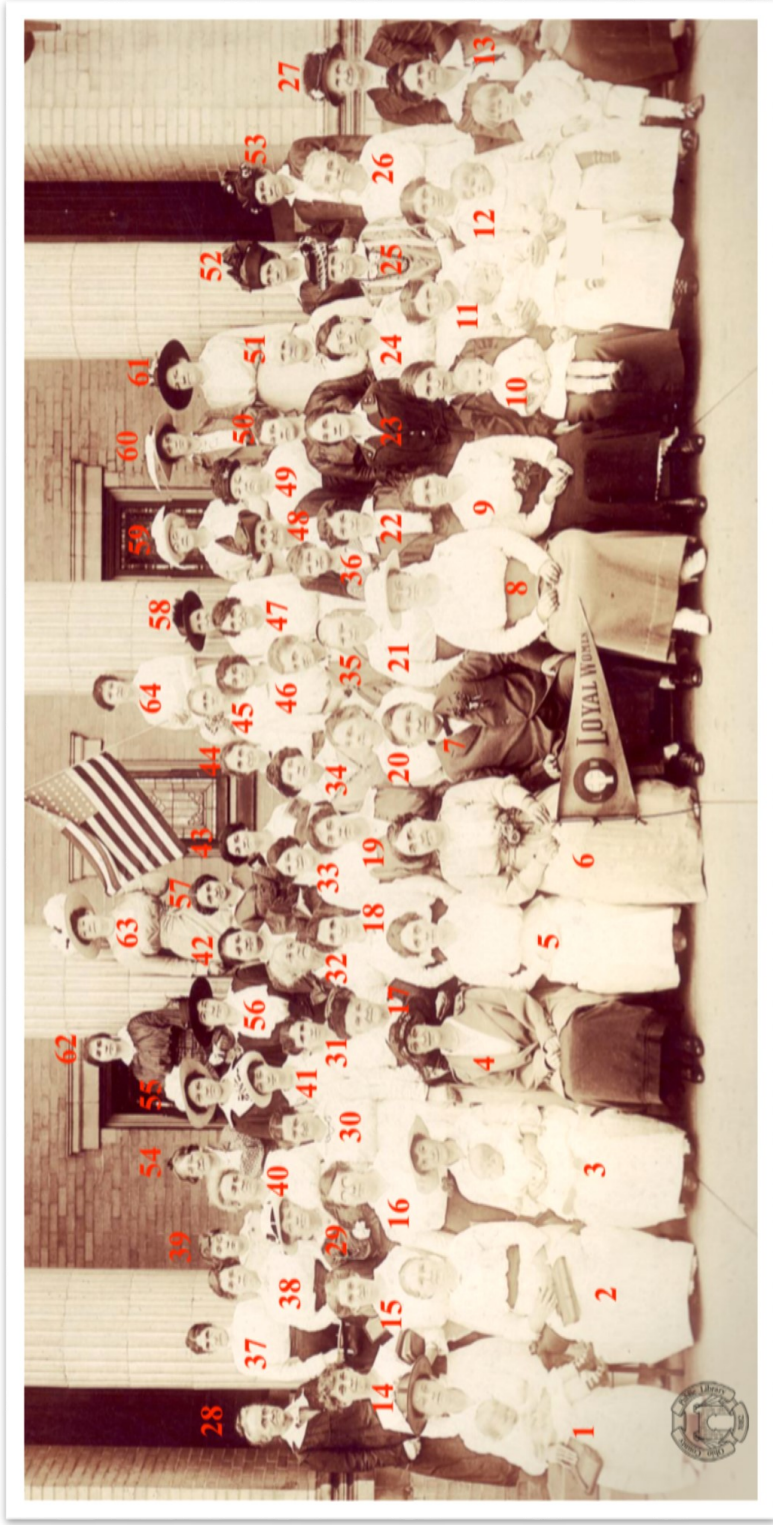
One of the New Deal programs, the objective of Works Progress Administration (1935-1943) projects was to reduce the mass unemployment of the Great Depression. This photo depicts the many women who worked on Project No. 65 413395. Part of WPA District No. 2, the Wheeling WPA headquarters was located along Centre Market Square at 2217 Market St. The man seated in front of the women is identified as “Mr. Rittenhouse.” Can you identify any of the women?

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**Photo 4: Loyal Women, First Christian Church, Circa 1919**



Built with funds raised following evangelist Billy Sunday's visit to Wheeling in 1912, First Christian Church at 2112 Market Street in Center Wheeling was dedicated in 1913. The *Wheeling Intelligencer* mentions that a gathering of "Loyal Women of the First Christian Church" would enjoy an evening of "needlework and conversation" the night of March 10, 1919. Did any of your relatives attend First Christian? Perhaps they would recognize someone in this photograph.

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All photos in this edition of "Help Us Solve Wheeling's History" are from the collection of the Ohio County Public Library Archives, Wheeling, WV.

**Photo 1:** Wheeling Business & Professional Women's Club, 1927 National Convention, Oakland, California.

- from the OCPL Archives *WB&PWC Collection*

**Photo 2:** Hazel Atlas Glass Company Employees, 1935.

- from the OCPL Archives *Margaret Brennan Collection*

**Photo 3:** Girl Scout Camp Staff at Camp Giscowheco, 1976.

- from the OCPL Archives *YWCA Collection*

**Photo 4:** Works Progress Administration Workers.

- from the OCPL Archives *Kathryn Snead Collection Of African American Photographs*

**Photo 5:** Loyal Women Group, First Christian Church, Circa 1919.

- from the *First Christian Church Archives Vertical File, OCPL Archives*

To view these and the more than 3,000 historic photos of Wheeling currently available online from the collections of the OCPL Archives, visit the Library's Flickr page at <http://flickr.com/ohiocountypubliclibrary/>.

## Help Us Solve Wheeling's History Mysteries!

Visit [Weelunk.com](http://Weelunk.com) to help us identify history mystery photographs online and head to [ArchivingWheeling.org](http://ArchivingWheeling.org) to learn more about helping us crowd-source history. Please help us to fortify and diversify Wheeling's historical record by checking out these and future photos to see if you can solve Wheeling's history mysteries one face and one place at a time.

Tune in next month for another set of unidentified photographs and history mysteries to be solved!

This project is a partnership between Weelunk, *Archiving Wheeling*, and the Ohio County Public Library with additional support from Preserve WV AmeriCorps.



For more information or questions about this project, please email [ewiley9@gmail.com](mailto:ewiley9@gmail.com).

For questions about these photos, contact [archives@ohiocountylibrary.org](mailto:archives@ohiocountylibrary.org).