



OHIO ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF, INC.

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## OAD's DEAF MILLIONAIRES BY IRENE TUNANIDAS



**Walter Krohngold**  
Akron History of the Deaf

Year	Organization	Amount
1976	1) Deafness Research	\$500.00
1977	2) National Ass'n of the Deaf	\$500.00
1978	3) Akron Community Service Center of The Deaf	\$500.00
1987	4) Columbus Colony (Unrestricted Fund)	\$10,000.00
1988	5) Columbus Colony	\$ 200.00
1989	6) Community Service for the Deaf	\$1,000.00
1990	7) Ohio Ass'n of the Deaf	\$1,000.00
1990	8) Akron Club of the Deaf	\$1,000.00
1990	9) Ohio Ass'n of the Deaf, Scholarship Fund	\$1,000.00

**Krohngold's list  
of contributions**



**Herman Cahen (seated)**  
photo credit: NTID / RIT

During my 1976-83 term as Recording Secretary of the Ohio Association of the Deaf, I was fortunate to have met two refined elderly Jewish deaf gentleman who were loyal OAD members. Their names are Walter Krohngold and Herman Cahen. They made annual monetary contributions to the Ohio Association of the Deaf as well as other deaf organizations before their passing. Part of their OAD contributions went to OAD investments and part for OAD projects such as Miss Deaf Ohio Pageant, TTYs, and VR / CCD workshops. These deaf gentlemen came from families that built their fortune in business ventures.

Herman Cahen's family owned the World Publishing Company based in Cleveland. It published the Holy Bible, dictionaries and children's books. Walter Krohngold inherited from his his family's liquor business on Howard Street in Akron.

Walter Krohngold, a graduate of the Ohio School for the Deaf, was a tall, quiet, unassuming life-long bachelor. He never flaunted his wealth. He preferred simple suits and a small circle of friends.

**Herman Cahen was the opposite. He was a people person and a driven leader who was not afraid to take risks as an entrepreneur. He was very well-dressed and made friends in high places. Cahen, a native of Akron, Ohio, grew up in Cleveland. He attended Alexander Graham Bell School and graduated cum laude from Case Institute of Technology. He held several positions with World Publishing Company, ending as its engineer; his many inventions were related to printing and binding. He made wise decisions when it came to choosing reputable charitable organizations to make donations for worthwhile projects. Cahen served as president of the Great Lakes Deaf Bowling Association in the 1930s.**

**Sources: Ohio School for the Deaf Archives; Gallaudet University Archives, NTID / RIT; Akron History of the Deaf**