

HILLMANN ELECTRIC INC.  
133 E. RIDGEWOOD AVE.  
RIDGEWOOD, NJ 07450-3818  
201-652-1045 201-652-1719 FAX

100th. Anniversary Bio. 1910-2010

## Ridgewood's oldest retail family business in 100th year.

- 1910: **Charles A. Burnett** retires from PSE&G and starts *C. A. Burnett and Co.* electrical contracting on North Broad Street and converts much of Ridgewood over from gas lighting.  
Was a supporter of the first Ridgewood July 4th parade in 1910.
- 1920: **Edward Hillmann** hired by Charles A. Burnett. (Hillmann Ave., Glen Rock is the family home.)  
Business relocated to the Wilsey building on North Broad St. (2nd Location in town).
- 1923: Edward Hillmann marries owner's daughter, Alice Burnett.
- 1929: Major Appliances added to line.
- 1933: Firm moves to 17-19 Oak St. (3rd location in town).
- 1934: Firm name changed to *Burnett & Hillmann, Inc.*
- 1939: Villagers view the first TV broadcast at Burnett & Hillmann showroom.
- 1942: Founder Charles A. Burnett passes away.
- 1944: Firm moves to 133 E. Ridgewood Ave. (current and 4th location in town).
- 1947: **Bernard B. Hillmann** (3rd generation) joins firm after serving in the Navy during WWII and graduating from the University of South Carolina.
- 1957: Edward Hillmann (2nd generation) killed in airplane crash.
- 1961: Firm name changed to *Hillmann Electric, Inc.* Business continues with electrical contracting, but drops major appliances to specialize in lighting.
- 1966: Lighting Showroom expanded.  
Bernard B. Hillmann elected President of the Ridgewood Chamber of Commerce.
- 1974: **Thomas A. Hillmann** (4th generation) joins firm after graduating from Bradley University.
- 1990: Bernard B. Hillmann (3rd generation) retires.
- 1997: Internet division developed.
- 1998: Lighting Showroom expanded again.  
Thomas Hillmann elected President of the Ridgewood Chamber of Commerce, having served Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and twenty two years on the board.
- 2000: Electrical contracting division dropped after 90 years.
- 2007: Bernard B. Hillmann (3rd generation) passes away.
- 2010: 100 year anniversary.