

September, 2015



The Village Crier

A publication of the Strongsville Historical Society
www.strongsvillehistoricalsociety.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Many thanks to everyone who has been busy working on so many projects for the good of the Society. Much has taken place over the summer months. The Roe-Chapman Barn is now open for tours. On August 2, 2015 we had a Grand Opening Ceremony which was followed by tours of the new barn display and refreshments. What a joy for us to be able to once again have the barn open with so many wonderful farm items for everyone to see and learn about.

The Baldwin House is currently being repaired. Many areas on the house have received new siding. Time had taken a toll on the old siding. Painting will happen very soon- maybe even by the time you get this newsletter. We are also replacing the roof, repairing the shutters, replacing the south door in the kitchen and rehangng the gutters. Be sure to stop in and see this project. We are pleased that we are able to keep this structure in good condition and are grateful for the talented people who worked on this project.

We are pleased to announce that the Chapman House will be open for Harvest Festival and for our Christmas events. Much work has taken place in this building also. We are by no means finished but it will be able to be open at these special times. Please excuse our dust as you walk through. More repairs and renovation will occur this winter.

Once again an Eagle Scout candidate has asked to work at the Village as he moves towards the rank of Eagle Scout. He plans to put new wood on 4 of our park benches, refinish our 2 teak

benches, paint the white fence in front of the Baldwin House, paint the farm rake which is sitting outside the barn and possibly add 2 more benches to the grounds. What a blessing to the Society that this young man sees the value in our Village and has asked if he may help by doing this work. Please stop in at Harvest Festival and check out his project.

Many thanks to our wonderful docents who have faithfully been at the Village on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays to conduct tours for our guests. We also have many docents who will come to the Village to conduct private group tours. We love to tell about the history of Strongsville and of course tell about all the wonderful things at the Village. **If you are a docent, THANK YOU!** If you see one of our docents, please thank them.

Be sure to check out the calendar for our upcoming events and plan to attend or volunteer your time. Much is happening and we would like for you to be a part of it.

Ruth Brickley



Ribbon cutting ceremony for the re-built Roe-Chapman Barn.

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The special event and program for September is the Harvest Festival. I'd like to invite all to attend and/or help out in some way. Look for the more detailed article in this newsletter.

October's program is scheduled after the General Meeting on October 27, 2015. Just a reminder, October is the month new officers are nominated. Cathie Clager and Rita Wolansky from C&R Productions will present, "Tales from Down Under (And We Ain't Talking Australia)". The presentation tells the stories of 10 unique individuals buried in Northeast Ohio Cemeteries. The program should be fun especially at this ghostly time of year.

Enjoy the rest of your summer. See you at Harvest Fest!!

MEMBERSHIP

We would like to thank all those individuals, families and businesses who have continually renewed their memberships; your support is greatly appreciated. Please help us increase our membership by sharing your experiences with the Strongsville Historical Society and Village with your family and friends. We are always looking for new members, organizations, and businesses that would like to join. If you know anyone who is interested in joining, please contact Dana Martin (440-572-1353) for information on membership.

NEW MEMBERS: Ken Roth, Charles Pope, Edward & Sandra Gandolf, David Popeck

CORPORATE MEMBERSHIPS: Miss Hickory Tea Room - Renewal, First Federal of Lakewood. Become a corporate member for \$100.00 and get your business name in our newsletter.

New members who join at the Harvest Festival will get \$5 off their membership! If you know anyone interested in joining the Historical Society who has just not gotten around to it yet, invite them to come see the Village and join our membership at a one time reduced rate. New members only - offer not good on renewals!

THE OLDS GENERAL STORE

Make sure to stop by and check out the new inventory of pottery at the store. New items include Strongsville beer steins. More flower pots have arrived too. The pottery is beautiful and unique and makes a great gift for any occasion.

Degenhart glass is on sale at 10% off any one item over \$20.00. Coming soon to the store will be a selection of collectibles.

Store hours are the same as the Village hours - open Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 - 4:00 pm or call Marie at 440-879-1092 for special orders.

TRICK OR TREAT AT THE VILLAGE

Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 24, 2015 and bring a preschooler or kindergarten student and join the fun. From 3-4:30 pm the Village will be open for preschoolers and kindergarten aged children to come trick or treat. Admission is one non-perishable food item which will be donated to the Strongsville Food Bank. If you would like to attend, help that day or donate candy for the event, please contact Ruth at 440-572-0535. RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED.

BETTY RIZZARDI



We are saddened to share that longtime Historical Society member Betty Rizzardi passed away this past July, 2015. Betty was an active Society member, volunteering her time and efforts as the longtime keeper and organizer of the Olds General Store, as well as being an active and valuable member of the Spring Tea and Christmas Tea committees. Betty was always willing to help, and her smile and pleasant disposition added much to the Historical Society. We will miss her. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and friends.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

You are invited to attend the Harvest Festival on September 26 & 27! There will be craftsmen and artisans who demonstrate early pioneer arts and living skills on the Historical Village grounds. There is a nominal admission fee but the fun far exceeds the costs. A variety of foods are available including a yummy Pig Roast on the Village grounds on Saturday to be served about 2PM and a mouthwatering Chicken Dinner on Sunday at the Strongsville Methodist Church from 4:30-6:30 PM.

Admission cost is \$5 for adults, \$4 for Seniors and Children up to the age of 15 are Free.

There will be an Art Show and Sale, Cow Pie Lottery, Classic Car Display (Sunday), Quilt Raffle, Music, Farmer's Market, Children's Crafts 1-4 PM, Entertainment, Food, Craft Demonstrators, Model Railroad display and much much more!

Special food events include the Saturday - Pig Roast - after 2 PM, and the Old Fashioned Chicken Dinner 4:30-6:30 PM on Sunday at the Strongsville United Methodist Church

New events this year include a Boy Scout Troop cooking demonstration and a Girl Scout Bake Sale. There will also be a Salt and Pepper Shaker collection on display as well as an antique Telephone Switchboard (Sunday)

Tickets for the various events can be had by calling- Janet Noss 759-8789 (Chicken Dinner), Dana Martin 572-1353 (Cow Pie Lottery), or Ginny Rios 238-7617 or Debbie Miller 572-4967 (Quilt Raffle Tickets).

We need individuals to be present in each of the houses in three hour shifts. This is an easy way for any member or potential member to help out. Please call Ginny Rios at 238-7617 to donate your time. Do you have a skill that would work well with this event? We are always open to new ideas for demonstrations or entertainment. Call Jean Wittrock at 440-567-5152 or email at jwittrock3@aol.com with any other questions or suggestions.

"CHILD'S TOY" ENDS UP IN MILKER DISPLAY



By Carole Maatz

When I volunteered to recreate the 1922 electric milker used on the Maatz Dairy Farm in Strongsville, I thought I had all the parts. I never thought I'd be spending a month looking for one small part - the pulsator. In the 1920's and for many years later, the Empire Milker was considered the fastest and best in the dairy business. Today, Empire is no longer available. My pulsator search continued on the computer, dairy supply stores and large dairy farms - none proved successful. Without a pulsator, it is impossible to connect the teats, shells and inflations and complete the milker project.

One evening, I called my nephew, Don Maatz, Jr. in Grosse Ile, Michigan to wish him "Happy Birthday". We discussed my project and the search for the pulsator. To my surprise, he mentioned something his father, Don Sr., my late brother had given to him when he was only five years old. He has had it ever since - 45 years!

After a quick trip to his basement and identification, we realized his "childhood toy" was the MISSING PULSATOR - the original from our farm. My search had ended! What a lucky phone call! Don graciously sent me "his toy" the next day, and it is back home in Strongsville. Interesting note: Don, Jr. never saw the Maatz Dairy Farm in operation - he was born after the cows were sold.

The Maatz farm was the last large dairy farm in the city. The farmhouse, milk house and two barns still stand today at 21703 Albion Road.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sept. 26 - 27 Harvest Festival 11AM - 5PM Historical Village
- Sept. 27 Old Fashioned Chicken Dinner 4:30-6:30PM
Strongsville United Methodist Church
- Oct. 25 7th Annual "Old Fashioned" Trick or Treat 3-4:30PM Historical Village
Reservations: Contact Ruth at 440-572-0535
- Oct. 27 General Meeting 7:00PM Lathrop House
Program: "Tales From Down Under (And We Ain't Talking Australia)"
- Nov. 17 General Meeting 7:00PM Lathrop House
Program: "A Conversation with Eleanor & Lucretia"
- Nov. 22 Annual Tree Lighting - Strongsville
Village will be open 5-8PM – watch for details
- Dec. 5 & 6 Christmas in the Village 2-5PM Gingerbread Houses not available this
Weekend
- Dec. 5 & 6 Christmas Teas 2-4PM Reservations: Contact Eve at 440-238-7289
- Dec. 12 & 13 Christmas in the Village 2-7PM Gingerbread Houses **will** be available

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