



The Village Crier

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

President's Message

As we move into 2016 I am honored to serve again as the President of the Society. Last year was a very busy year for the Society as we were able to move forward and accomplish so much. This year is looking to be another great year of programs and progress. We are looking to make some changes in the displays in some of our buildings, so when the Village opens at the beginning of May be sure to stop in. In order to accomplish everything on our list we will need many volunteers to step forward to help. Just give a call at the village and we will get back to you and find just the right way for you to help.

Many thanks go to all of our current volunteers for a terrific fall and winter season full of open house holiday spirit. We have just completed our first event for 2016 as the Soup Supper had another great group of soup lovers eating until they could eat no more. It was wonderful to be able to visit with so many at such a relaxing event.

As we are going through our collection of donated items we do find that we have room for more items. If you have an item that you would like to have us consider for donation (especially if it has been a part of the Strongsville community for a long time), please call the Society at 440-572-0535 and we will get back with you to come take a look!

Watch for events which are being scheduled as we join in the celebration of the 200th Birthday of Strongsville. These can be found listed in the Upcoming Events on the back page of this newsletter, in the local papers, on Facebook - Strongsville

Historical Society, and of course on our website at www.strongsvillehistoricalsociety.org.

We look forward to another great year of celebrating the history of Strongsville with you and others.

Ruth Brickley

In Memoriam



We are saddened to share that we have lost a vital member of the Strongsville Historical Society, Lee Sprague. Lee passed away on Saturday, January 16, 2016. Lee was a lifelong Strongsville resident and was committed in every way to the city of Strongsville. During his membership years at the Historical Society, Lee served in many capacities - board of directors member, member of various committees, handyman when needed - and was always willing to lend a hand to anyone who needed help. He enjoyed sharing his love of Strongsville and its history and attended many Harvest Festivals, picnics, and other social events at the Village. Lee's passing is felt by all who came across his path and shared in his life. Our sincere sympathies to his family. Donations in his memory can be made to the Strongsville Historical Society (13305 Pearl Rd., Strongsville, Ohio 44136) as requested by Lee's family.

Vice President's Message

Happy 200th Birthday Strongsville! What a milestone our city has reached. Of course we need to celebrate. You will see a variety of events around the city and the Strongsville Historical Society will not be left out. Each program and many of our traditional events will enhance the 200th birthday celebration. The February 23rd meeting, our traditional Founder's Day program, will take place at Old Town Hall. Beginning at 7:00 pm or shortly after a brief meeting, Ted Larsen from the Strongsville Community Theater will present a one man show entitled "An Evening With John Strong". He will include information in his presentation on the Pomeroy's and the Underground Railroad. Please join us for this event.

The program for April 19th will take place at the Strongsville Branch of the Cuyahoga County Library, again at 7:00 pm. At this meeting, Carol Williams, one of our members, will recap the first 100 years from the eyes of Eliza Hilliard Scott. She was the two year old that came on foot with the first settlers in February 1816. Come to find out about key events in our history.

There's more to come so please plan on attending meetings and programs. I am in charge of Harvest Festival and want to do this event in grand celebration style but need more ideas and workers. If you'd like to be a part of it or have an idea, call me at 440-567-5152 or email jwittrock3@aol.com. I am especially in need of someone to lead the children's activities and crafts. Hope I hear from you soon.

Jean Wittrock

Membership News

A new and exciting year is upon us! We would like to thank all those individuals, families and businesses who have continually renewed their memberships. Your support is greatly appreciated. This is just a reminder that if you have not had a chance yet to renew, please do so. Dues are always due in January and memberships are good for one year, unless you are a LIFETIME MEMBER. A lifetime member is an individual who contributes \$300 one time and does not pay dues again.

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 and businesses that would like to join our membership. If you are associated with a business that would like to join the Historical Society, please contact Dana Martin at (440-572-1353) for more information.

DID YOU RENEW? Do you know if you are due or not? Please check the mailing label on this newsletter. If there is a colored round sticker on it that means your membership is due for renewal and this will be your last newsletter if you do not renew at this time. An envelope is attached to this newsletter for your renewal convenience. Please return it with your check made out to the Strongsville Historical Society. Thank you.

When renewing, please make sure you check the section about receiving newsletters by email or mail. If you choose to receive by email, PLEASE PRINT email address. Also indicate which, if any, committees you would like to join.

Thanks to the following new members who have recently joined us: Kate Slogar, Karen Devrik, Charlene Bedford, Donette Iosoko, Judy Ockuly, Neil & Annette Sika, and Dorothy Scagalione. Thanks to the following businesses who have joined or renewed their membership: Miss Hickory's Tea Room (440-668-3053), Kalinich Fence (440-238-6127) and Cleveland Tool & Cutter (440-238-5770).

Spring Fashion Show

The Strongsville Historical Society will host its Spring Fashion Show and Luncheon at Don's Pomeroy House on Saturday, March 12, 2016. Doors will open and seating of guests will begin at 11:30 am, with the Luncheon and Fashion Show beginning at 12 noon.

Fashions will once again be presented by Chico's at Southpark Mall. Hair and make-up will be done by Today's Headlines Salon. A raffle will take place at the event. Raffle tickets are included in this newsletter and will also be sold at the luncheon for \$1.00 each. You do not need to be present at the luncheon to win. If you wish to purchase tickets and are not attending the luncheon, please fill tickets out with name and phone number, include a check made out to the Strongsville Historical Society, and return tickets and money to us at 13305 Pearl Road, Strongsville, Ohio 44136. Feel free to duplicate this sheet if you wish to purchase more tickets. Tickets and money must be received by March 11 in order to be placed in the raffle.

Tickets for the event are \$38 each. If you wish to purchase tickets and make a reservation for the luncheon, please contact Pam Hughes at 440-773-6605 or Gina Cathcart at 216-403-9226. Tickets are selling fast - don't delay! Get your tickets to this popular spring event before it sells out!

Change in Village Opening

The Strongsville Historical Village will reopen for tours this year on May 1 and will remain open through September 30. The Village will be open for tours on Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday between 1 and 4 pm. The Village will be closed on major holiday weekends throughout the summer.

Soup Supper

This year's Soup Supper took place on January 26 at the Ehrnfelt Senior Center. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. A big THANK YOU to all who attended, and to all of our members who supplied soup and helped with set-up and clean up. Thanks also to our business donors: Applebee's, Don's Pomeroy House, Jaworski's Meats, J Bella, Market District (Giant Eagle), Molly McGhee's, Zoup!, Starbucks, Heinen's and Panera.

A special thanks to Bill and Jan Miller for coordinating this event!

Lathrop House Rental

Are you looking for the perfect place for a wedding or baby shower? Or maybe a family gathering or a central location for a meeting? If so, you should consider renting the multipurpose room in the Lathrop House.

The multipurpose room is one of the Society's "hidden gems." Due to the setting of the room, the easy access and the low rental rate, it is perfect for a variety of celebrations or meetings. Even though the Village is not open year round for tours, the multipurpose room is available for rent year round, seven days a week.

The available seating of up to 44, flexible room arrangements, wheelchair accessibility, and close-up parking all combine to make this a perfect meeting place for many gatherings.

And, best of all, the rental rate is only \$25 per hour for Strongsville Historical Society members.

For rental information and availability call 440-572-0057 or go to our website at www.strongvillehistoricalsociety.org and click on the rental tab to be in touch with the Rental Coordinator.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Feb. 23 Founder's Day & General Meeting 7:00 pm Old Town Hall
Program: An Evening With John Strong
Presented by Ted Larsen - Strongsville Community Theater
- March 12 Spring Fashion Show and Luncheon, Don's Pomeroy House
Contact: Pam (440-773-6605) or Gina (216-403-9226)
- April 19 General Meeting 7:00 pm Strongsville Branch, Cuyahoga County Library
Program: The First 100 Years From the Eyes of Eliza Hilliard Scott
Presented by: Carol Williams, Historical Society member
- May 1 Historical Village opens for tours

Strongsville Historical Society
13305 Pearl Road
Strongsville, Ohio 44136