

November, 2017



# *The Village Crier*

A publication of the Strongsville Historical Society  
[www.strongsvillehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.strongsvillehistoricalsociety.org)

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## **President's Message**

Where did 2017 go? We have had another great year as a Society! Much has been accomplished and new friends gathered in.

We have 3 new display areas up and open on regular tour days. The upstairs of the Doll Museum has been cleaned out and on display are dolls (of course), doll furniture, and children's furniture. The basement of the Chapman House has 2 new display areas. Our tool room display is finally up and open. It holds many old tools including planes, saws, hammers and lots more. The area outside the tool room now houses many of our household items which did not fit into our displays in other areas. Here you will find irons, wringer washing machines, a mangle, old bathtub, vacuum cleaners and much more. Be sure to stop by in the spring and take a look. Maybe you have something to add to one of these displays!

With the end of another year we also have a change in some Board Officers and Directors. We would like to thank the following members for serving as Directors in recent years: Debbie Miller, Pat Crandall and Bob Russell. Please thank them for their service to the Society. We welcome our new Directors and Officers for 2018. They are listed in another article.

Dedicated volunteers are what enable us to keep going. Sharing a few hours here and there to help out makes the tasks at hand easier for everyone. Volunteers are the heart and soul of the Society. If you can find some extra time in 2018 to come help at the Village, please call 440-572-0057

and leave a message and we will find a way for you to help.

Enjoy the Holiday Season and we'll see you in 2018!

*Ruth Brickley*

## **Christmas in the Village**

Christmas is in the air! This year, Christmas in the Village will be on Dec. 2 and 3 and Dec. 9 and 10. The Village will be open all 4 days from 2 -5 PM. The first weekend, The Bristol Sisters will host children's crafts in the cabin, Mrs. Claus will have cookies in the Baldwin House, and Santa might be seen in the Chapman House. The Lathrop House will be closed to tours as the Christmas Teas will be taking place there.

The second weekend Santa and Mrs. Claus will return along with the Girl Scouts for their 18th year of Gingerbread House building at the Lathrop House. Houses can be built for a small donation of your choice. Girl Scout Youth Docents will help with tours in all buildings.

The General Store will be open all hours of this event for your holiday shopping.

There is a need for docents in all buildings to make this event possible and we are desperately seeking Santas. If you can give a few hours toward docent time or to listen to the sweet desires of our community children (as that special jolly old elf...), or if you can donate cookies or apple juice for the children, call Sonia Reber at 572-1940. Your help is greatly appreciated! Happy Holidays to all!

## Volunteer help- much appreciated

Once again this fall, our Strongsville Rotarians came to lend a hand at the Village on Saturday, October 14. Christmas trees and holiday decorations were moved from basements to their designated areas, Halloween and Christmas items were brought down from the second floor of the barn, and last but not least much work was done on the grounds removing underbrush, trimming trees and just general clean up. We filled a dumpster to overflowing! All this was done in less than 2 hours. These Rotarians truly exemplify their motto of "Service above Self!" Thank you, Rotarians,!!! We couldn't do it without you.

## Christmas Lighting at the Village

Mark your calendar for Sunday, November 19, 2017 for our 4th Annual Lighting of the Village from 5:30-8 PM. While the city throws the switch to light the Commons, we too will be celebrating the coming Holiday Season. Come visit with us and see the beautifully decorated buildings inside and out. We need lots of volunteers to staff our buildings that evening. If you would like to help, call Ruth at 440-572-0535 and we will find just the right spot for you!

## Soup's On!

The annual Soup Supper, which is the January General Meeting of the Society, will be held on January 23, 2018 at 6:00 PM at the Ehrnfelt Recreation Event Center. You can sample over 20 soups and eat until the crockpots are empty. A variety of breads and pies for dessert are also included. Tickets are once again \$10 each with payment due at the time of reservation. Reservations are required. Make your checks payable to the Strongsville Historical Society and attach a note indicating your name, phone number and the number of tickets requested. Send your check to: Strongsville Historical Society, 13305 Pearl Road,

Strongsville, Ohio 44136. The deadline to purchase tickets is January 18, 2018. A few tickets will be available at the door. Once again, we are looking for soup donations and volunteers to set up and clean up. Contact Jan Miller at jemiller@wowway.com or 440-567-7222.

## Upcoming Programs

The next General Meeting will be held on November 21 at 7 PM at the Lathrop House. **Note - there will be no program at this meeting.** The Christmas program will be held on December 12 at 7 PM at the United Methodist Church on Royalton Road. The program will be entitled "The History of Christmas Hymns and Carols". The Christmas hymns and carols that we have grown accustomed to date back hundreds of years ago leading up to the present day. The background information on these songs is fascinating and will be revealed during this program. Don Shearer and Carl Fernstrum, music staff at Strongsville UMC, will be the presenters. We hope you will join us for this special program!

## Gifts for the Holidays

Your purchase of an item from the General Store is a gift of support for the Historical Society! Come visit the Old's General Store for a special Christmas Sale. Available for the perfect gift(s) you will find:

- Beautiful Strongsville Pottery (only sold here)
- Degenhart glass has been reduced, except for our wonderful pooches
- Colonial Glass Ladies in a variety of colors only \$15 with a John Alden mate
- Christmas Red Strongsville Afghans only \$20
- 50% off all remaining collectibles
- Books, notecards, wonderful Chapman prints (a beautiful print of the old high school)

The store will be open November 19th (5-8 PM) and both Christmas in the Village weekends in December. **Call Marty or Marie Shaw for private shopping at 440-879-1092. Christmas items will be wrapped!**

## Membership

The year is very close to ending, so it's time to renew your membership! Thanks to all who have continually renewed their memberships, your support is greatly appreciated. Remember that every January memberships are due. Membership opportunities are as follows: Individual (Annual) - \$25, Senior 65 & older (Annual) - \$15, Student 22 & under (Annual) - \$10, Family including children under 18 (Annual) - \$40, Life Membership - \$300, Corporate (Annual) - \$100.

Included in this newsletter is a membership envelope. Please fill it out and send it in. Beat the Christmas rush and end of the year confusion and send in your renewal now! Your membership will begin January 2018. Please make sure you fill out the section on committees if you do want to join one, this does not carry over from last year. Also check the email or hardcopy of newsletter and include your email address. Always think about getting a LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP. A Lifetime Member contributes \$300 once 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 organizations that would like to join us. Please contact Dana Martin (440-572-1353) for more information on membership.

Strongsville has a lot of great history. New members, 'young and old', can make new history!

## Christmas Tea at the Lathrop House

Join us at the beautifully decorated Lathrop House for this year's Christmas Tea! The Christmas Teas will be held on Saturday, Dec. 2 and Sunday, Dec. 3 from 2-4 PM. This is a very popular event at the Village - don't get shut out! For reservations contact Debbie Miller at

440-572-4967. The cost of the Christmas Tea is \$20 per person.

## Collections

We have been very blessed again this year by some very generous donors. Among the items received in 2017 are a Victorian rocker, many dolls including 5 large Wizard of Oz characters, numerous porcelain dolls, a Tiny Tears doll circa 1964, several cameras, lady's purses and gloves, vintage telephones, and a beautiful bassinet.

This is only a sampling of what we received. If you are cleaning house, please remember the Society before throwing items away or donating elsewhere. We can't accept everything, but you may have just the right item for our collection. Thank you one and all for your donations.

## Lathrop House

The time is now approaching if you wish to reserve the Lathrop House Multipurpose Room for your holiday brunch/lunch, dinner, or just a friend and family gathering. This past year, several businesses held their office holiday party at the Lathrop House. There are still a few open dates so contact us soon if you would like to set something up.

You may have read this before but it is worth repeating: 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 and click on the rental tab to be in touch with the Rental Coordinator.

And remember, it's never too early to book for 2018 - already dates for a wedding, a shower and a luncheon have been reserved.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov. 19 4th Annual Lighting of the Village 5:30-8 PM
- Nov. 21 General Meeting 7 PM Lathrop House  
Business meeting only - NO PROGRAM
- Dec. 2,3 Christmas Teas 2-4 PM Reservations - contact Debbie 440-572-4967
- Dec. 2,3 Christmas in the Village 2-5 PM Gingerbread House building not available  
this weekend, Children's Crafts will be offered in the Cabin
- Dec. 9, 10 Christmas in the Village 2-5 PM Gingerbread House building will take place  
in the Lathrop House
- Dec. 12 Christmas Program 7 PM United Methodist Church  
Program presented by Don Shearer and Carl Fernstrum, UMC musical staff  
Program: "The History of Christmas Hymns and Carols"
- Jan. 23 Soup Supper 6 PM Ehrnfelt Recreation Center Cost: \$10  
Ticket information in newsletter
- Feb. 27 General Meeting - Founder's Day Program  
7 PM Old Town Hall
- March 10 Spring Fashion Show and Luncheon - Don's Pomeroy House

**Strongsville Historical Society**  
13305 Pearl Road  
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