

June, 2015



# The Village Crier

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

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

We have had a busy and wonderful start to 2015 at the Historical Society. Much behind the scenes work has been done, moving the Society forward. As you will read later in this newsletter, our By Laws have been reviewed and changes proposed, the barn display is being worked on for the opening later this summer, a sewing display has been put in the upstairs display area at the Baldwin House along with a book about the display which guests may view if they are unable or do not want to climb the stairs, and best of all the Parlor in the Lathrop House has a fresh new look. Please be sure to stop in and see the changes. Remember, as a member you are entitled to a free tour, so please stop in and take a look around.

On June 18th, 19th and 20th we will be having a sale. Our "Antiques, Collectibles and Stuff" Sale will be held from 10-3 on Thursday and Friday and from 10-1 on Saturday. Please stop in and be sure to tell your friends about the sale. The items being sold are items which were donated with permission to sell by the donor. We have many old books which are not relevant to Strongsville or which may be duplicates. We are cleaning out space for our other collection pieces and hope you will stop in and take a treasure home. Anyone interested in helping on the days of the sale should contact Ruth Brickley at 440-572-0535 or at [rrbrick@aol.com](mailto:rrbrick@aol.com).

We are still in need of a couple more people to help maintain our gardens. If you have just a little time and would be willing to help contact Ruth Brickley. More hands will make the work go

quickly and keep our Village grounds looking beautiful.

Please make note of the next general meeting dates and topics which are listed on the back cover of the newsletter. Why not invite a friend to attend a meeting with you and get to know more about our Society.

I hope to see you soon at the Village.

*Ruth Brickley*

## TAKE A STEP BACK IN TIME



You can see this authentic 1920's vintage Singer treadle sewing machine as well as other artifacts of the Dressmaker's trade at the village. See the article on page 3.

## **VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

We were so pleased to have about 45 participants in the program April 28th which highlighted the exciting events of the 1950's, especially 1954. We also enjoyed having a full house for the program on May 19th entitled "Through the Eyes of Jane Rich" presented by Jo Ann Bartsch, a trustee of the Brecksville Historical Association. Jo Ann shared the herbs of the Rich Family 1830's garden still preserved on their homestead in the City of Brecksville, and extended an invitation to tour the garden and the Rich estate.

The June program is our Annual Potluck Supper on June 23rd at 6:00 pm also in the Lathrop House. However, if weather permits picnic tables outside will be available to commune with the great outdoors in the early evening hours. Please bring a dish to share, as well as your own table service. We hope you will come and join us for this annual get together.

Jean Wittrock

## **THANK YOU**

A heartfelt thank you goes out to the following organizations and friends...

**Strongsville Rotary** - for their continued support and volunteer service. Once again they spent a Saturday morning spreading about 12 yards of mulch and helping with several small tasks.

**Key Bank** - For selecting the Historical Society as a work site for their "Neighbors Make a Difference Day" in May. Their enthusiasm and willingness to contribute time to help us in invaluable.

**Erie Landscaping** - For fixing the brick edging under the Coughlin bench.

**The many, many people** who helped make our Spring Luncheon and Fashion Show a huge success. The food was delicious, the fashions exquisite, and the raffle prizes were amazing. Thanks to the leadership of Pam Hughes and Gina Cathcart, once again we raised funds to help complete some more preservation projects at the Village.

## **THE OLDS GENERAL STORE**

Stock up on pottery, books, afghans, cards, and Degenhart glass collectables for Mother's Day, graduations, thank you gifts, bridal showers, Father's Day, or wedding gifts. Special pricing on some "Strongsville Pottery". Store hours are the same as the Village hours - open Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday from 1-4 pm, or call Marie Shaw 440-879-1092.

## **SUMMER HOLIDAY VILLAGE CLOSURES**

In order to allow our docents to spend the summer holiday weekends with their families, we will be closed July 4-5 for the 4th of July weekend and September 5-6 for Labor Day weekend. We apologize for any inconvenience. If you would like to schedule a special private tour for family or friends during any of these times, just call and we will help make arrangements.

## **HARVEST FESTIVAL**

Just the other side of summer is the Annual Harvest Festival which will be held this year on September 26th and 27th, 2015. Preparations are just underway. We are always looking for leaders and workers. If music or children's crafts appeal to you, or you'd love to be a docent that day, please call. We are also looking for artisans for demonstration. Please contact Jean Wittrock by emailing [jwittrock3@aol.com](mailto:jwittrock3@aol.com) or call 440-567-5152 to share your time and talents.

## MEMBERSHIP

We would like to thank all those individuals, families and businesses who have continually renewed their memberships; your support is greatly appreciated. Dues are always renewed in January and are good for a year, unless you are a LIFE-TIME MEMBER!

TIRED OF PAYING DUES???? Think about getting a LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP. A lifetime member is a person who contributes \$300 one time and does not pay dues again!!

Please help us increase our membership by sharing your experiences at 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 own a business or know someone who owns or runs a business and would like to join the Historical Society, please contact Dana Martin(440-572-1353) for more information,

We would like to welcome new members Doris Murphy, Edward and Sandra Gandolf, Ken Roth and Charles Pope to our Strongsville Historical family. WELCOME!

Welcome once again to a renewing business, Cleveland Tool & Cutter, and to the Strongsville Chamber of Commerce.

## ZOAR HISTORIC VILLAGE

Located just over an hour from Strongsville in Tuscarawas County is Zoar Village.

Zoar Village was founded in 1817 by a group of 200 German Separatists seeking escape from religious persecution in their homeland. These separatists thrived as a unique society for more than 80 years, making Zoar Village one of the most successful communal settlements in American history.

Today, Zoar Village is made up of approximately 75 families living in homes built from 1817 to the present.

## THE DRESSMAKER'S SHOP



Take a stroll back in time to a dressmaker's shop...

The dressmaker's display in the upstairs of the Baldwin House celebrates the importance of sewing in our Strongsville history. There are three sewing machines on display: an 1846 Wheeler and Wilson sewing machine donated by the Ehrbar family, a Golden Star brand treadle machine from the early 1900s, and a 1920s Singer treadle machine once owned by Ursula Wurm Geither. You will see an early dress form used by Minnie Lathrop, a sewing basket owned by Velda Chapman, and old patterns donated by Herb and Rose Hooker or Mrs. Brasse, who was a dressmaker and the aunt of Howard Chapman. Old buttons, snaps, needles, thread, lace, elastic, ric rac trim and material are some of the items on display that were once used by local sewers. There are a few surprises, too, such as a plug-in tie press or guessing how many buttons are in an old Mason canning jar.

The Village is open for tours Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 18, 19, 20    “Antiques, Collectibles and Stuff” Sale - Village grounds  
10-3 Thurs. & Fri., 10-1 Sat.
- June 23            Potluck Dinner, 6:00 pm Lathrop House  
Brief General Meeting to precede dinner, By Laws revision vote
- July 4, 5            VILLAGE CLOSED
- July 10             Strongsville Community Band Concert 7:30 pm  
Village grounds
- Sept. 5,6            VILLAGE CLOSED
- Sept. 26, 27        Harvest Festival

**For updates, visit our website or Like us on Facebook**

**[www.strongsvillehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.strongsvillehistoricalsociety.org)  
Facebook- Strongsville Historical Society**

Strongsville Historical Society  
13305 Pearl Road  
Strongsville, Ohio 44136