



November 2024

The Village Crier

Preserving and Interpreting the history, Significance, and Traditions of the Strongsville Area

President's Message

It's hard to believe the holidays are already here! We wrapped up another successful Trick-or-Treat event in October where we had an estimated 400 children and their families come through our Historical Village, and we had a nice donation of food items and money for the Strongsville Food Bank as a result.

Our next event is the Historical Village Holiday Lighting Open House on November 24th from 6:00PM to 8:00PM to coincide with the city's Holiday Lighting Celebration on the Commons starting at 5:00PM. At the time of this writing, our Christmas Teas are already sold out! And, we have a full complement of activities for visitors to our Historical Village Christmas Open Houses from 1:00PM to 4:00PM on December 7, 8, 14, and 15.

2024 has been a productive year, here are just some of our accomplishments:

Finance—we upgraded QuickBooks to a web-based version for easier access; we now take credit cards in addition to cash as payment; rental income continues to grow and will exceed \$8,000 this year.

Collections—installed CatalogIt software to replace PastPerfect for easier access and enhanced collections management; partnered with the Ohio History Service Corps for best practices guidance on how to manage our collections; purchased new equipment to accelerate digitizing our photo and document archives; formally inventoried 25% of our 15,000 items in our collection; digitized 50% of our more than 4,700 archived photos.

Membership—installed CharityProud to manage memberships, it will support online membership fulfillment, provide the option to automate annual membership renewals, streamline membership communications, and has more sophisticated reporting; we added 26 new members, a 50% increase on a base of 50 annual memberships coming into 2024; we have 145 overall members.

School District Engagement—459 3rd graders participated in the May field trips for a tour of our Historical Village; Middle School students now have an annual tradition of helping with spring and fall cleanup in our Historical Village; invitations are now extended to High School students to volunteer for all of our events and we are engaging residents at a younger age to build awareness.

Community engagement—we hosted six presentations to the community this year on various history-related topics of interest with hundreds of attendees.

Maintenance—our volunteer force is growing (no pun intended) so we have more people to care for our garden spaces throughout the Historical Village; Eagle Scouts installed a new patio for the picnic table near the Chapman house; the Pomeroy House basement window openings were structurally repaired and glass block windows installed; Chapman house stair carpet was replaced; preventative maintenance was completed on the Baldwin, Chapman and Lathrop house roofs; a screen was fabricated for the cabin fireplace so we can resume having fires in the cabin.

I look forward to continuing our momentum into 2025, and seeing where new volunteers and relationships take us! Have a wonderful and safe 2024 holiday season and a Happy New Year.

Scott Maloney



OFFICERS

Scott Maloney, President
Jamie Miles, Vice President
Alison Braun, Treasurer
Jan Miller, Corresponding Secretary
Barb Krivos, Recording Secretary

DIRECTORS

Tom Drost 22-24 Mary Pultz 23-25
Gene Mark 22-24 Grace Hardison 24-26
Pam McConnell 22-24 Jane Ludwig 24-26
John Bedford 23-25 Marty Shaw 24-26
Debbie Miller 23-25

13305 Pearl Road, Strongsville, Ohio 44136 | strongsvillehistorical@gmail.com | strongsvillehistoricalsociety.org

2025 Officers and Directors

At the October General Meeting, the Nominating Committee presented their recommended slate of Officers and Directors for 2025. There were no nominations from the floor so, with no contested races, the following nominees will be approved by a vote of our Recording Secretary at the November General Meeting. We sincerely appreciate all of the time and energy devoted by Jamie Miles (outgoing Vice President), Alison Braun (outgoing Treasurer), Barb Krivos (outgoing Recording Secretary), Tom Drost (Director), Gene Mark (Director), and Pam McConnell (Director) for their years of service to the board, and we welcome our new board members:

OFFICERS

Scott Maloney, President
Grace Hardison, Vice President
Dan Sage, Treasurer
Jan Miller, Corresponding Secretary
Jim Southworth, Recording Secretary

DIRECTORS

Alison Braun 25-27
Jamie Miles 25-27
Sylvia Pakish 25-27

2025 Calendar

Mark your calendars, here are the dates for our annually recurring activities in 2025:

May 1 Historic Village tour season begins
May 26 Historic Village Memorial Day Open House, 11:30am-2:00pm
June 19 Historical Society Yard Sale, 12:00pm-7:00pm
June 20 Historical Society Yard Sale, 10:00am-2:00pm
June 21 Historical Society Yard Sale, 9:00am-12:00pm
Sep 27 Historic Village Harvest Festival, 11:00am-4:00pm
Oct 18 Historic Village Trick or Treat, Preschool to Kindergarten, 1:30pm-3:30pm
Nov 23 Holiday Lighting Open House, Historical Village, 6:00pm-8:00pm
Dec 6 & 7 Historical Society Christmas Teas, 2:00pm-4:00 pm
Dec 6 & 7 Historical Village Christmas, 1:00pm-4:00pm
Dec 13 & 14 Historical Village Christmas, 1:00pm-4:00pm

November 19th General Meeting

The votes for 2025 Officers and Directors and the budget will be done in a matter of minutes, then we will turn our attention to a fun ice breaker activity, socializing, and having a potluck where we share appetizers and desserts. We hope you join us for the festivities!

Harvest Festival—Grace Hardison



Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who made our annual Harvest Festival such a great event. There will be a meeting in early 2025 to get a start on next year's festival. If you are interested in being on the committee, please let Grace Hardison know. Happy Thanksgiving!

Mystery Solved—Jane Ludwig

Soon after the Baldwin House was moved to the Historical Village, a prosthetic leg was found in the attic. Many have wondered about the history of this leg. The leg belonged to Joseph Herman Szentpetery, a previous resident of the Baldwin House. Mr. Szentpetery moved to Strongsville around 1932, and was a farmer. He later went on to become the owner of the General Store, located on the corner of Westwood Drive and Pearl Road. Mr. Szentpetery lost his leg due to diabetes and used the prosthetic leg while he lived in the Baldwin House. Mr. Szentpetery lived in the Baldwin House until his death in 1949, and is buried in the Strongsville Cemetery. It is no longer a mystery!

Happy Holidays from the Olds General Store—Marty Shaw

Santa is waiting to dance with you and your family to holiday music in the Olds General Store. Be sure to bring your phone to take photos.

While in the store, get this year's gifts of Strongsville pottery, afghans, polos, and collectibles. Everyone enjoys a great coffee mug or decorative piece from Westerwald Pottery, or cuddling up in a woven Strongsville afghan, or being stylish in a Strongsville polo.

All Strongsville pottery is 10% off for the holidays and Strongsville afghans are \$30. Strongsville polo shirts are \$36.00 while supplies last.

Make sure to shop the large collection of vintage tea pots and tea cups for that special tea drinker in your life.

The Olds General Store has something to impress the pickiest of Secret Santas, too. And don't forget to look at the stocking stuffers this year.

All proceeds from the store are used to support and maintain the Strongsville Historical Society. Call Marty (440-409-2595) to book a tour or book a time to shop.



Holiday Lighting Open House—Grace Hardison

After you have enjoyed the Holiday lighting celebration on the Strongsville Commons that starts at 5:00 pm on Sunday November 24th, take a short walk over to the Historic Village to enjoy a tour of our decorated buildings inside and out from 6pm-8pm

Are you interested in volunteering? Please feel free to call Grace Hardison at 440-862-1129.

We thank Debbie Miller, Sandy Kepke, Terry Harper, and her talented daughter Christine Teodecai for their help in decorating the houses for Christmas.

Victorian Christmas Tea—Debbie Miller

High Tea is being served featuring new and old recipes in the Lathrop House December 7 and 8, 2024, from 2 to 4 pm. Enjoy Tantalizing Teas, Sumptuous Sandwiches, Designer Desserts, Boutique Baskets to complete this year's Holiday Theme. Tickets are \$38 per person. Peruse the Historic Village that is all decked out in vintage Christmas décor. Parking is free. Tickets go fast so call Debbie Miller at (440) 572-4967 for reservations. We can always use helpers. So also tell Debbie you will help. It is a fun time and gets you in the Holiday Spirit. **SOLD OUT**



Historical Village Christmas—Grace Hardison

It's the time of year when the Strongsville Historic Village puts on its holiday best and invites one and all to visit the many different historic buildings. Visit with Santa in the Chapman House, take a special picture in front of the tree in the Lathrop House, shop in the Olds General Store, and step back in time in the Log Cabin. Free admission! December 7, 8, 14, 15 1pm-4pm Please call Grace Hardison at 440-862-1129 if you want to help staff the buildings for this event.

Membership Committee—Vicki Maloney

Become a member or renew your membership to the Strongsville Historical Society!

Heading into 2025 a new online membership tool will allow you to join, renew your membership, or make a donation using a credit card. More information to come as we get the new tool set up and rolled out!

We are again offering multiple membership levels with some including Strongsville Historical Society merchandise if you join or renew by February 28, 2025.

You can go to StrongsvilleHistoricalSociety.org to print a copy of the Membership Form, complete and return for your 2025 membership.





STRONGSVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Invites you to become a member, renew your membership or contribute.

2025 Annual Membership Levels

Please mark your desired level:

\$25	Cabin	Newsletter
\$50	Baldwin House	Newsletter & Historical Society merchandise*
\$125	Pomeroy House	Newsletter & Historical Society merchandise*
\$250	Roe-Chapman House	Newsletter & Historical Society merchandise*
\$500	Lathrop House	Newsletter & Historical Society merchandise*
\$1000	Lifetime Membership	Newsletter & Historical Society merchandise*

*All membership levels are for the household.

*Historical Society Merchandise given to members who join by February 28, 2025. Membership renewal is due every January.

_____ I don't want the Historical Society merchandise.

Membership Information:

Member Name(s): _____

Business Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Secondary Email Address: _____

All memberships include a subscription to Strongsville Historical Society newsletters. Each newsletter costs us about \$3 to print and mail, so please consider receiving it via email going forward. Indicate how you would like to receive the newsletter:

_____ Email _____ U.S. Mail

I will be volunteering at the Strongsville Historical Village and would like a name tag:

_____ Yes _____ No

Volunteers are the lifeblood of our organization. Please indicate which activities you are interested in helping with:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ___ Buildings & Grounds | ___ Finance | ___ Membership |
| ___ Christmas Events | ___ Fundraising | ___ Publicity |
| ___ Christmas Teas | ___ Gardening | ___ Restoration Projects |
| ___ Collections | ___ Halloween/Trick or Treat | ___ Strategic Planning |
| ___ Docent/Tours | ___ Harvest Festival | ___ Yard Sale |
| ___ Education | ___ Hospitality | Other: _____ |

Optional Donation:

Donation Amount: _____

In Memory of: _____ or In Honor of: _____

Strongsville Historical Society is a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

Please make checks payable to Strongsville Historical Society. Return this form to:

Strongsville Historical Society, 13305 Pearl Rd., Strongsville, OH 44136

Questions? Please contact our Membership Chair at StrongsvilleHistoricalMembers@gmail.com

November 19 (Tuesday) 7pm – Strongsville Historical Society General Meeting

- Vote on 2025 slate of Officers and Directors, and 2025 budget

November 24 (Sunday) 6pm-8pm – Holiday Lighting Open House

December 7 & 8 (Saturday & Sunday) 2pm-4pm – Christmas Teas

December 7, 8, 14, 15 1pm-4pm – Historical Village Christmas

Welcome New Members Who Joined in 2024!!!

Amish Guys Company -

Dave Blasko

Richard Blech

Jillian Cameron

Leo Ciccotosto

Debbie Crabtree

Marilyn Forester

Lynn Herhuth

Jeff Huffman

Maria Kahle

Katie Kempton

Caroline Kennat

David Maloney

John O'Boyle

Deborah Pflieger

Price Rite Roofing & Siding

Susan Robertson

Katlin Romick

Dan Sage

Kathy Schiffman

Darlene Scholtz

Lynne Selzer

Denise Selzer Rieth

James Southworth

Darlene Wilke

Don Williams

Your Ohio Home Care Co -

Dave Blasko

Remember to renew your membership for 2025 - new membership form is attached

Strongsville Historical Society

13305 Pearl Road

Strongsville, Ohio 44136

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and Instagram at instagram.com/strongsvillehistorical/**