



November, 2023

The Village Crier

A publication of the Strongsville Historical Society

www.strongsvillehistoricalsociety.org

President's Message

By the time you read this, the beautiful Fall foliage will likely be mostly behind us. I know there are different factors that contribute to the intensity of the color change of the leaves, they seemed more brilliant this year! We had another successful Harvest Festival this year with good attendance, a nice mix of demonstrators and live performers, the return of the food tent, and bringing back crafts for the kids was a big hit. Next year, we're coordinating efforts with the Strongsville Rotary Club and plan to hold Harvest Festival in coordination with StrongFest so people can go from our event right over to live entertainment, beer tasting and food trucks in the evening. It will be a great event to celebrate Strongsville's new Town Center which should be complete by then.

In October, we wrapped up another successful Trick-or-Treat event with an estimated 250 children walking through the Village to collect their treats. Along with accompanying adults, it was likely 500 people who got to see the Village that day, and the weather cooperated making it a terrific day for everyone. We thank our sponsors and those who donated candy or their time. We can't do it without you!

In November, we celebrated our new military exhibit with an open house on Veteran's Day where the Mayor, Representative Tom Patton, and other dignitaries joined us to celebrate those who have served our country to protect our liberties and our freedom. The entire Village was open to visitors and we're excited to see what the future holds as we rotate the contents of this exhibit to keep it fresh and interesting for repeat visitors to the Village. We extend our sincere appreciation to Dennis Dimengo and David Maloney who spearheaded this project, and to Jane Ludwig's Library and Collections Committee which invested considerable hours to make this a reality.

On December 2nd and 3rd we have our annual Christmas Teas taking place at the Lathrop House from 2:00 to 4:00 pm and our Christmas in the Village for visitors to tour all of our buildings on the first two weekends of December from 1:00 to 5:00 pm to see how they have been decorated inside and out for the holidays. It's always a very festive time of year! Volunteers have been working for weeks on all of the decorations, both inside the buildings and on the grounds.

I want to give a shout-out to Judy Gleason, she has coordinated the annual Trick-or-Treat and annual outdoor holiday decorating for a number of years and has announced she is retiring from these posts at the end of this year. Judy has been awesome in this role and will be missed!

We extend a sincere thank you to the following outgoing Directors whose terms are expiring this year for their valuable contribution - Judy Gleason, Butch Krivos, and Matt Surak.

Please have a safe and healthy holiday season, and I wish you a prosperous New Year!

Scott Maloney

Nominating Committee Report

The 2023 Nominating Committee consisting of Bruce Keenen, Dennis Dimengo, Alison Braun, Jan Jameyson and Sonia Reber have presented a slate of Officers and Directors for 2024. Their recommendation is as follows:

President - Scott Maloney

Vice President - Jamie Miles

Treasurer-Alison Braun

Assistant Treasurer - TBD

Recording Secretary -Barb Krivos

Corresponding Secretary - Jan Miller

Directors - Marty Shaw

Grace Hardison

Jane Ludwig

The proposed slate of Officers and Directors was presented to the current Board in October and to the general membership at the October General Meeting. Our formal election, according to the By-Laws, will take place at the Nov. 21 General Meeting. As this is an uncontested election, the Recording Secretary will cast the vote to accept this slate as presented.

Christmas in the Village

It is the time of the year when the Strongsville Historical Society 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 Lathrop Tree. Shop in the General Store and step back in time in the Log Cabin. Enjoy the buildings which have been beautifully decorated for your enjoyment! We look forward to welcoming you!

November 19th: Tree Lighting on the Square

Village open 5-7 pm

December 2/3 and 9/19: Christmas in the Village

Village open 1-5 pm

Christmas Teas

Recapture the old favorites at our 2023 Christmas in the Village Tea. Tickets are available for Saturday, December 2 and Sunday, December 3 at 2:00 pm. Call Debbie Miller at 440-572-4967 for reservations and tickets.

Happy Holidays from the Olds General Store

Dancing 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 Strongsville afghan, or being stylish in a Strongsville polo.

All Strongsville pottery is 10% off for the holidays and all Strongsville afghans are reduced to \$25.00 for December. Strongsville polo shirts are \$36.00.

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 Santa's also. And don't forget to look at the stocking stuffers this year.

Your purchases will be wrapped and carried home in our special gift bags. All proceeds from the store are used to support and maintain the Strongsville Historical Society.

Trick or Treat

Once again our Trick or Treat event was a huge success! 235 children participated. We raised \$423 for the Food Bank and \$125 for the Village. Strongsville Police sent a car again this year. That is the main attraction! Thanks to all of the volunteers that make this event possible. I will no longer be chairing this event, but Michelle Lynch, one of the newest members has volunteered to continue this beloved tradition. Thanks, Michelle. It has been my honor and privilege to chair this special event for the last 3 years. Nothing is successful without dedicated volunteers. Thank you all so much, Judy Gleason.



Progressive Dinner Update

The Historical Society will be hosting a new event on December 17. This will be a progressive dinner. Watch for the details on our website and Facebook.

Outdoor Christmas Lights and Decorations

Once again, thanks to all of the volunteers for taking down Halloween and putting up our Christmas displays. This takes a lot of people and time. Please take an opportunity to drive by when we are lit, beginning the Sunday before Thanksgiving. I think you will find it quite festive. I will be resigning this position also. It has been my pleasure to participate in lighting up the Village , Judy Gleason.

Lathrop House Rentals

When you are booking your next family gathering, birthday party, bridal shower, baby shower or other important life events, please consider booking the Strongsville Historical Society Lathrop House. 100% of the nominal fee collected for the rental goes to the Historical Society. Our fees are \$25 per hour for members and \$35 per hour for non-members. Share this information with family members and friends to make them aware of this wonderful space right here in our community. If you are looking for a way to give back and volunteer, consider volunteering as a House Sitter or House Manager during a rental. As a volunteer House Manager, you would unlock the Lathrop House for a rental and stay during the rental time. The House Manager assures that the renters follow the cleanup procedures at the end of the rental as well as act as a go to for any needs during the rental. While functioning as a House Manager you can read a book or scroll your phone during the rental event! Again, the key is that there is a Historical Society member present to handle questions as well as unlock for the rental and lock up at the end of the rental. If you are interested in helping out in this important role we would be happy to provide you with training. You may be called upon to assist once every few months for a few hours. I will be providing training for new House Managers in the Winter of 2024. I look forward to onboarding a new group of House Managers. Any interest in rentals or house management please call Diann Jurcago, Volunteer Rental Coordinator at 440-554-1886.

Membership Committee– We Want You!



Become a member or renew your membership to the Strongsville Historical Society! Heading into 2024, we have revamped the membership levels and are now offering gifts for those who join at certain levels by March 31, 2024. There are now three membership levels that are at a household level.

If you're already a Lifetime Member, you will maintain that status moving forward at no additional cost. Thank you for your dedication to Strongsville Historical Society!

Please refer to the Strongsville Historical Society Membership Form included in this newsletter, complete it and return it as soon as possible.

You can also join online by using Cheddar Up (our online membership tool). If you would like to join online using a credit card, please scan the QR code on the membership form.

Renew your membership or join the Strongsville Historical Society soon so you don't miss out on future newsletters

Welcome to the SHS Members who Joined in 2023

Welcome to the following people who joined us in 2023 - Dave and Joyce Biada, Julie Bender, Alison Braun, Rosanne Coyne, Fox Dobeck, Sharon Ehas, Keith and Laura Housum, Joe Lynch, Leslie Miles, Bonnie Mott, Clarice Murdock, Judith Nitzsche, Ralph Sammon, Melanie Schad, David Thurau, and Mike Walters.

Save the Date– Founders Day Program

Tuesday, February 20th, 7 pm

Old Town Hall

18825 Royalton Road, Strongsville, OH 44136

“190 Years of Bedfords in Strongsville” presented by John Bedford

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov. 19 Tree Lighting on the Strongsville Square
 Historical Village open 5-7 PM
- Nov. 21 General Meeting Lathrop House 7 PM
 Election of Officers and Directors, Social
- Dec. 2/3 Christmas Teas Lathrop House 2 PM
 For reservations, call Debbie Miller 440-572-4967
- Dec. 2/3, 9/10 Christmas in the Village 1-5 PM
- Feb. 20 Founder's Day Old Town Hall 7PM
 "190 Years of Bedfords in Strongsville"
 Presented by John Bedford

Strongsville Historical Society

13305 Pearl Road

Strongsville, Ohio 44136