



November, 2018

The Village Crier

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

President's Message

Another year, another story to tell. This past year has been very busy at the Society. We have had many great events which were supported by the community, fantastic speakers and programs to share some history, and time spent with friends working and planning together. Thanks to everyone who has been a part of 2018 at the Society.

With the end of this year comes the beginning of a new year which will bring some new faces to our Board of Directors. You will find them listed later in this newsletter. It is time to thank our outgoing Officers and Directors for their dedicated service. Debbie Miller, Scott Maloney and Jennifer Sinisgalli have served on the Board for the past couple of years as Officers, and Bruce Keenen, Michelle Piech and Marty Shaw have served as Directors for 3 year terms. We appreciate their service and know they will continue to be active within the Society.

Dedicated volunteers such as these are what allows us to continue to move forward. We have lots to do and are always in need of more hands to complete the tasks. Please consider volunteering often in 2019. If you are not sure how to help, please call and ask!

Enjoy the Holiday Season and we will see you in 2019!

Ruth Brickley

Christmas in the Village

There is Christmas in the air! Our Village will host Christmas in the Village on December 1 and 2, as well as December 8 and 9 from 2:00 - 5:00 PM each day.

That's right, 4 days of holiday cheer, decorations, crafts and SANTA! THIS IS THE

HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S ANNUAL GIFT TO THE CITY. Admission is free. Come and step back in time to celebrate an old fashioned Christmas at Grandma's. All buildings will be open and charmingly decorated for the season.

December 1 and 2: All houses will be open and Santa and Mrs. Claus will be with us.

December 8 and 9: All houses will be open and there will be a very special activity on hand. The Strongsville Girl Scout Service Unit will host the 20th year of Gingerbread House building in the Lathrop House. Houses are available for a donation of \$1 (or more...)! All money will go to maintaining the historical buildings. All materials and labor have been generously donated by our Girl Scouts to add smiles and cheer to the event and holiday season.

Don't forget...the General Store will be open all 4 days for holiday shopping. Special Strongsville related treats are available along with special little gifts for all ages.

Don't miss out on this last and wintery look at the Historical Society and its collections for 2018! Happy Holidays to all and our best wishes for a successful and joyous New Year!

Another Successful Harvest Festival

Many thanks to all who participated in making the Harvest Festival a success. It was the perfect fall weekend. Thank you to all the demonstrators for sharing your unique talents, skills and time. With such a wonderful group of volunteers we were able to bring life to the Village and spark visitor's interests and participation. Thank you to Linda Plain and her team for making and serving the food. The team did a fantastic job! A special thank you to the Cert team for looking out for the safety of our volunteers and guests.

Many thanks to the continued financial support of Mike Daymut and Mike Kalinich, which helps us to open the Festival to the public free of charge. Thanks to Mayor Perciak for his annual donation which is used for the petting farm. Thanks to Scott and Vicki Maloney, Dana Martin, and Pam Hughes for organizing the cow pie lottery. Thank you to all who made generous monetary donations. Thank you to Bill Ritchie and Gina Cathcart for providing the fresh produce and pies at the Farmer's Market. Thank you to Team Strongsville who did face painting and were willing to lend a hand whenever the need arose. Thanks to the Boy Scouts who again displayed their amazing bridge building abilities. Thanks also to Leann Hawk for her awesome bubble making skills. Thanks to Lexi Smith and her mom who helped Jan Miller and Elaine Cairns with the children's games and popcorn sales.

Also, big thanks go out to Linda Plain for heading up the food tent. With the skillful help of grillmaster Bob Russell, our guests were treated to great food and refreshments.

On Saturday we had another amazing performance by Babes in Black. Sunday we had a brilliant demonstration of blacksmithing by Dean Schrage, a first for the Village. Another highlight was the parade of the old time cars, always a spectacular show. Finally, thank you to all Members/Board Members who gave their time to help out during the weekend. Without you the Harvest Festival would not be possible.

Collections

In 2018 we added many items to our collections. Included in the donations were military items such as a WWII Army uniform and a WWII Navy uniform from the Wheller brothers, a 1963 wedding dress, hats, several dolls, cameras, a 1920's Teddy Bear and a display case for our military area. These are just a sampling of items donated.

If you are cleaning house or clearing out an estate, please remember the Strongsville Historical Society before throwing away any items which have strong ties to Strongsville's history. We can't accept everything, but you may have just the right item for our collection. Thank you one and all for your donations.

Trick or Treat at the Village

On October 20 our 10th Annual Safe Trick or Treat at the Village was enjoyed by over 300 Preschoolers, Kindergarteners and their parents and friends. In spite of threatening weather a good time was had by all. Our Villagers, once again, came out to pass our treats and prizes in spectacular costumes. Thanks to everyone who helped or attended this special event.

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. There are still a few open dates so contact us soon if you would like to set something up.

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.

And remember, it's never too early to book for 2019. Two dates for events have already been reserved for the summer of 2019.



Holiday Gift Ideas

Your purchase is a gift of support for the Historical Society. Come visit the Olds 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, many items \$10 and under
- One of a kind handmade pottery Christmas ornaments, and coasters with the
- Historical Society logo and Historical buildings
- Green Strongsville afghans only \$30
- New Christmas corner with interesting Christmas items and Santas
- Unsigned Chapman prints only \$10
- 50% off all remaining collectibles

The store will be open November 19 from 5-8 PM and on Christmas in the Village weekends in December. Call Marty or Marie Shaw for your personal shopper at 440-878-1092. All Christmas items will be wrapped.

Christmas Tea

Our Christmas Tea is just around the corner. This year the Tea will be on December 1st and 2nd from 2:00-4:00 PM. The tickets for this event are \$25 each. Make sure you buy your tickets promptly since we always have a great demand for them. Debbie Miller is in charge of selling the tickets and you can contact her at 440-572-4967.

Soup Supper

The annual Soup Supper, which is the January General Meeting of the Society, will be held on January 22, 2019 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. 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. Deadline to purchase tickets is January 18, 2019. A few tickets will be available at the door. Once again we are looking for soup donations as well as volunteers for set up and clean up. You may also contact Jan Miller at jemiller@wowway.com or 440-567-7222 for reservations.

Membership

The year is very close to ending so it's time to think about renewing your membership!! Remember that every January memberships are due. A reminder that our membership year runs from January through December. Membership opportunities are as follows: Senior 65 & older - \$15, Student 22 & under - \$10, Individual - \$25, Family including children under 18 - \$40, Life Membership - \$300. Corporate - \$100. Please think about getting a LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP. A Lifetime Member is a person who contributes \$300 one time and does not pay dues again.

Beginning in 2019, if your membership to the Historical Society is up for renewal, you will receive a statement from the Society by mail to renew. Renewal envelopes will no longer be sent through the newsletter. Of course, if you are a Life Member, you will not be receiving a statement. Please be on the lookout for this statement!

UPCOMING EVENTS

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| Nov. 18 | Christmas Lighting at the Village
VILLAGE WILL BE OPEN and decorated 5:30 - 8:00 PM |
| Nov. 27 | General Meeting 7:00 PM Lathrop House
Adoption of budget, Election of officers - no program. Refreshments will be served. |
| Dec. 1, 2 | Christmas Teas 2:00 - 4:00 PM Lathrop House
Tickets: \$25 Contact Debbie Miller at 440-572-4967 |
| Dec. 1, 2 | Christmas in the Village 2:00 - 5:00 PM Free admission
Santa and Mrs. Claus will be in attendance |
| Dec. 8, 9 | Christmas in the Village 2:00 - 5:00 PM Free admission
Gingerbread House Building Lathrop House donation: \$1 |
| Jan. 22 | Soup Supper 6:00 PM Cost: \$10
Ehrnfelt Recreation Event Center Reservations required
Contact Jan Miller at jemiller@wowway.com or 440-567-7222 |
| Feb. 26 | General Meeting - Founder's Day 7:00 PM Old Town Hall
"Roughing It: When Strongsville Was a Frontier Town" by Valerie Mattingley |
| March 9 | Spring Luncheon and Fashion Show Don's Pomeroy House |

Strongsville Historical Society
13305 Pearl Road
Strongsville, Ohio 44136

Mark your calendar for Sunday, November 18, 2018 for our 5th 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 by lighting and decorating our grounds and the interior of our buildings. Come visit with us and see the beautifully decorated buildings which will surely put you in the holiday spirit.