



August, 2021

The Village Crier

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

President's Message

After a slight set back with my health I am finally able to get to and through the Village again. Just being able to walk the path and take in the sights made me think once again about all the dedicated volunteers we have had over the years, who helped us get to where we are today. Without the foresight of our founders, we would not have the property, buildings and by laws which govern us. Without the many, many wonderful donations of artifacts from friends and family we would not have the excellent representation of our history for guests to enjoy and learn about the history of Strongsville. Without the many financial donations, we would not be able to continue to keep history alive in Strongsville.

As is true of many groups in today's world, we are in need of volunteers to keep us going strong. If you have an interest in helping, please call 440-572-0057. The Society phone message will direct you as to what number to call next. Don't wait for us to call you as most often we are busy doing things and don't have time to make calls. Please step up and volunteer your time and expertise. Sometimes our volunteers work in groups and sometimes they work alone as their time allows. Please remember that we have 8 buildings to clean, inspect and repair which takes many hands to get done properly.

We look forward to a better 2022 when we can be open more for the public to enjoy and learn from what we have gathered over the years.

Ruth Brickley

Thank You to so Many Who Reach Out to Help Us

Thank you, AlphaGraphics Printing, for donating the printing and folding of our new Village brochures. A committee met and redesigned the brochures to highlight our store and rental area along with our buildings. The new brochures look great and are ready to circulate.

Thank you, Cub Scout Pack 157 and their families, for coming to our rescue. Our path through the Village was quickly filling with weeds and grass. On Saturday, July 10, 2 hours on the clock which amounted to many, many hours of work pulling weeds and grass, got us off to a great start. Now as you enter the rolling gate it is much more welcoming. We hope to be able to work again and get more done.

Thank you, Lowe's, for donating 2 step ladders to the Village to replace some very old, very unsteady ladders. Aaron Wade, Store Manager at Lowe's of Strongsville graciously helped facilitate this donation.



Yard Sale Update

We want to thank EVERYONE who helped make our Yard Sale a success. It took volunteers doing many things to pull this off. The donations which came in of items to sell were great! The workers on the days of the sale and set up were efficient in getting things done. The Strongsville football team came once again to set up tables and move boxes to the sale area and then came back to help clean up. Without this “muscle” and youthful “energy” I don’t think we could have pulled this off. Last but not least are all of the shoppers who purchased items on a donation basis, some even returning a 2nd and 3rd time to pick up items.

Start saving quality items for next years’ sale. Hopefully it will happen in June 2022.

Trick or Treat at the Village

Our 12th Annual Safe Trick or Treat will be held this year on Saturday, Oct. 23 from 2-3:30 pm on the Village grounds. This event is for Pre-school through Kindergarten students and their families. Admission is \$1.00 or 1 non-perishable food item per person. All money and food collected will be donated to the Strongsville Food Bank. Registration is required. On the day of the event, we need volunteers to hand out the treats, man the registration table and help with games. We will not be opening the Lathrop Room for snacks this year and all buildings will be closed. On Oct. 21 we need volunteers to put in stakes and posts. Set up of our displays is Oct. 22 at 10:00 am. The displays will be removed after the event on Oct. 23. We need lots of volunteers for this fun event. Please call or text Judy Gleason at 440-655-8040 or email at goddessgleason@yahoo.com to register or if you have questions.

Lathrop House

It is never too early to book the Lathrop House for your holiday gathering for this year - and its never too early to reserve the Lathrop House for your event in 2022.

Bridal showers, baby showers, birthday parties, alumni reunions, picnics, and meetings are just some of the gatherings that were held at the Lathrop House in past years. People have commented on the intimate nature of the setting, and that is what has drawn them to rent the space.

Truly 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 at www.strongvillehistoricalsociety.org and click on the rental tab to be in touch with the Rental Coordinator.

Restoration Project Update

We are so pleased to be starting the restoration of the Lathrop outhouse. Thanks goes out to Benedict Roofing for installing a new roof to start the process. their donation of labor and product is greatly appreciated. We hope to do more exterior work in 2022. This structure was moved to the Village at the same time as the Lathrop House.

Historical Tidbits

You know Whitney Road. John Strong's wife was a Whitney. As for Edith Whitney Elementary School it is named for Edith Whitney, born in 1871. At the age of 18, she started teaching at the one-room school on the corner of Westwood Drive and Prospect Road. The building was originally on the northwest corner, but was moved to the southwest corner at some point. It is now a private residence, still standing, and is painted a pastel sage green...if you care to drive by and look at it.

Edith Whitney kept house for her father and brother, and was still living in the family farm home on Whitney Road at the time of her death in 1954. The school was dedicated in 1963.

Olds General Store

It's Christmas every day in the Olds General Store! It's never too early to start picking up those one-of-a-kind vintage holiday items available on the shelves in the antiques corner. Lots to choose from. Come and see!

Or select from the line of Westerwald pottery or from green Strongsville afghans for you secret Santa. Items on the shelves are at last year's prices. (Prices will be increased after the new year according to the manufacturers.)

Until Christmas there will be the item of the month from the pottery line at 20% off. First item of the month is a planter. Come and select yours to give or to keep!

Just call your personal shopper, Marty, at 440-879-1092 to arrange a shopping day and time.

Sad News

We have lost several treasured members this summer. Charles Pope, who served as a director on our board for 3 years, passed away in June. He was a dedicated member who helped out in many ways behind the scenes. Charlie and his family were Strongsville residents and he will be greatly missed by many.

Fran Siedel, age 99, also passed away in June. Fran, a long time Historical Society member, served many times as a hostess at various Society events and loved to dress the part with one of our costumes. Fran was also a long time Strongsville resident.

Help Needed

In order to continue with the renting of the Lathrop House Great Room we need to have several House Sitters available. Those who have done this in the past are no longer able due to health or age. Please consider volunteering your time. Rentals are usually 4 hours or so with advance notice to be able to put it on your calendar. There are some very specific guidelines which renters must follow upon signing the contract for use of the room. Renters are to clean up after the event again with specific guidelines. As a House Sitter you would be asked to be there a little prior to the start of the rental time, supervise clean up and secure the building afterward. Training is provided for all House Sitters. If you don't already have a key, one will be assigned to you. Most times renters offer you goodies to help make your job more enjoyable!!

If you have any questions about being a House Sitter contact Kathy Ader at 440-725-7965 and she will gladly sign you up or answer questions.

Renting this area has brought us many new members and more rentals. Please consider being a part of this aspect of the Strongsville Historical Society.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 23 Safe Trick or Treat at the Village 2-3:30pm
Reservations required: Judy 440-655-8040 or goddessgleason@yahoo.com

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