

HISTORIC LYME VILLAGE
P.O. BOX 342
BELLEVUE, OH 44811
www.lymevillage.org
419-483-4949
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Lyme Lines

Pictures from our Victorian Christmas Dinners

Our annual Christmas Dinners in the Mansion was a success, and, as usual, thanks to the efforts of a huge number of wonderful volunteers. It takes lots of work and planning. Plans for next year are already in the works. Dinners are sold out by October and there is always a waiting list.

Here are a few snapshots from the weekend.
Getting instructions – waiting for dirty dishes
Greeting guests – dinner setting



PATRON ADS

Patron support for the “Lyme Lines” is \$35. Name to be listed in each issue for one year
Send name, address, and check to: “LYME LINES” P O Box 342 Bellevue, OH 44811

Art at 106	03/2023	Rebecca Parcher	05/2022
Dennis & Joyce Bauer	03/2023	Anita Larsen Raab	03/2023
Richard Bollinger	01/2023	Ruth Randall	01/2022
Mary Brook	03/2023	John Schick	05/2022
Richard & Alice Chaffin	05/2023	James & Bonnie Semon	12/2022
Helen Comisky	02/2023	Edgar Shelly	12/2022
Carol Gray	12/2023	Ron & Kathy Smith	12/2021
Caroline Guice	01/2023	Alice Southworth	05/2023
Mary Jean Hammann	05/2023	Anne Southworth	03/2020
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Hendren	05/2022	Philip Sutter	03/2023
Linda Irons	03/2023	Shirley Waldock	03/2023
Roger Knight	01/2023	John Wallrabenstein	03/2023
Marjory Murray	03/2022	Wilbur & Judy White	04/2023
Elizabeth Marquard	02/2023	Regina Wolfe	05/2023
Clayton & Marilyn Miller	05/2023	David Wright	03/2023
		Hal & Jane Wright	05/2022

HISTORIC LYME VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Tim Rife, President (2023) Bobette Seymour-Linder, Vice President (2023) Pam Benedict, Secretary (2022)
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From the President.....

With the calendar year coming to an end, just a couple more events. The Victorian Dinners were wonderful, as always. Dennis and Joyce go above and beyond. Thanks to all the volunteers. This is very busy and enjoyable at the same time. December 17 and 18 we will have our Christmas in the Village. About half the buildings will be open and decorated. Some may have treats. There will be refreshments in the Café and Father Christmas in the Mansion. In the beginning of the new year we hope to launch our revamped website. Stay tuned for that. We are in the process of scheduling and planning for the events for the upcoming year. Some are already scheduled. We are still looking for help for Pioneer Camp and the Victorian Dinners. As our board members and volunteers get older it is always nice when younger people step up to help keep the Village going. Also, anyone with handyman skills, we could use your help also. There is room for anyone who would like to volunteer to help out. We will not say no or turn anyone down.



There is a second membership renewal form in this newsletter. If you have already sent yours in please disregard.

From all of us at Historic Lyme Village to everyone - Have a Safe and Happy New Year

CHRISTMAS MORNING

The accompanying picture of the interior of the Detterman Church was posted on the Historic Lyme Village webpage. I looked at it, so old and so serene. What stories that little church could tell. With Christmas lurking around the corner, pictures of Christmas Morning lit up my imagination.

It would be nice to consider a Christmas Eve service a century ago, but it was cold in December and it was pitch black outside. So, I presume service was held on Christmas morning.

Picture, if you will, the darkness broken by the light of a dozen or more candles, all hand-made and dipped. Greenery cut by the members, including boughs and wreaths provided by sturdy juniper bushes. Inhale, and enjoy the aroma of the building. Some creative ladies arranged candle holders hidden inside the wreaths which added another festive touch.

A great fire roared in the pot-bellied stove. The men hung their heavy coats and scarves on coat hooks and their hats on the provided shelf. Most of the ladies kept their coats on and wrapped around them.

Christmas morning. Candles are all lit, and the visiting pastor arrives on his horse. He wraps his hands around the hot cup of coffee offered to him. He speaks to all those attending in German as this is a community still using the language native to them.

The wood floor resounds with the heavy boots and hard heels of ladies' shoes. Couples and families sit together, quickly blessing themselves and taking out their prayer books written in German. The ancient pump organ groans as the organist begins to play the music of the service.

An old tradition continues as each person is handed a candle and a young man moves about lighting the first candle that lights all the adjoining ones. The organist begins to play *Stille Nacht*. The hymn is sung reverently and clear. Candles are extinguished. People smile and laugh and offer good wishes. It's Christmas morning in the Detterman Church.

By Pat Olsen



Tea at the Mansion

Ladies of the area are cordially invited to

TEA in the WRIGHT MANSION

and to a display and discussion about Vintage Wedding Gowns

at Historic Lyme Village in Bellevue, OH

Sunday, April 16, 2023

2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

Seating is limited to 15 guests - \$15 per guest

Please reserve your seat by

Phone 419-483-4949



Schedule Events for 2023

- April 16 Wedding Dress Display and Tea
- April 29 Storybook Adventure
- May 13 Goat Yoga
- June 26-30 Pioneer Camp
- July 15 & 16 Civil War Days
- September 9 & 10 Pioneer Days
- December Christmas Events (still being scheduled)

If you think you would like to help with any of these events please contact the office at 419-483-4949.

Christmas in the Village

There was a good turnout for our annual Christmas in the Village. Folks enjoyed touring the open buildings, snacks in the Café, and visiting Father Christmas in the beautifully decorated John Wright Mansion.



