



The Amherst Historical Society

Grindstone Newsletter

November/December 2022

AMHERST HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Amherst Historical Society Events

For questions or to make reservations please call the AHS Office 440-988-7255

Have you borrowed a costume from AHS?

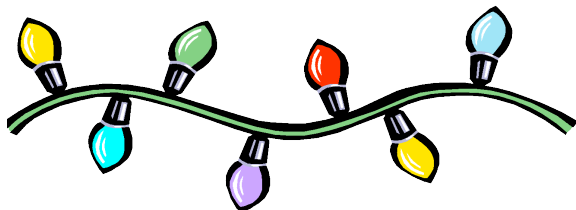
Our closets are missing some items.

Please return any costumes you may have forgotten about so we can keep our closets up to date.

Thank you



Community Events



Main Street Amherst and Sliman's present Miracle on Main Street Holiday Extravaganza Friday, December 2, in downtown Amherst.

Start your evening early with dinner at a local restaurant. The Madrigals of Steele High begin their performance at 5:45 at Town Hall.

Amherst Marching Comets lead the parade that starts at Amherst Public Library at 6pm and continues on Park Avenue to Town Hall. As the parade ends, the Madrigals will lead the community in seasonal music and Santa lights the tree.

ONE NIGHT ONLY—JINGLE BELL BUS!

Wednesday, December 14. A wonderful evening with magic in the air. The bus departs Main Street for a journey through the City of Amherst to view the beautiful Christmas lights.

\$5 per person per ride

TICKETS GO ON SALE WEDNESDAY

NOVEMBER 2

MainStreetAmherst.org

A Letter from the Executive Director. . . .Sandy Kaiser

Dear Members and Friends,

Life seems to be happening very fast, as for me, I hope the winter scurries by just as fast as summer did. It's hard to believe that with this issue we are wishing everyone a Great Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and the best of all Holiday celebrations and traditions. With that being said, it is also time to renew your memberships for 2023. Forms are included in this issue or you can renew on our website www.amhersthistoricalsociety.org.

We have been very busy with events, as you will see by all the pictures in this issue. The Village Garage Sales have been extremely successful this year. Thank you to all who worked and shopped; our last sale will be on Saturday, November 19 – hope to see you there. A special thank you to all who have worked and attended our events this year - - we truly had fun working together to support our organization.

We are working toward utilizing the Sandstone Village for more celebrations and events. Since it's such a gem we want to promote it as much as possible. Everything takes massive hours of volunteer time and effort. We are always looking for new volunteers and hope you will consider joining our group. Simply call our office and find out how you can use your talents to benefit the Amherst Historical Society.

It is with great sadness that I tell you of the passing of Marie Robinson. She was a strong business woman who worked hard to promote the Amherst community. Her energy and spunky style made her a delight to work with. She was truly a most valued volunteer to AHS.

Congratulations to our monthly prize winners

November - Kurt and Pamela Beiswenger December - Diane Travis

Light Up the Village for Christmas 2022

Saturday November 26 - From 5:30pm to 7:30pm

This year we decided to have an official “Light Up the Village for Christmas” ceremony on November 26th from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. We will be collecting donations for **Toys for Tots** and **Wreaths Across America**. Our Garage Sale and Sandstone Village buildings will be open for tours and shopping. The Young Marines will be selling hot chocolate and donuts, plus Santa will be there to hear your Christmas wishes. Follow us on Facebook as we continue to plan this event.



THE CURIOUS CURATOR— by Joan Rosenbusch

The Quigley Museum is closed for the year, but it went out with a BANG! Two new items will be featured at the Quigley Museum next year. You won't want to miss this.



As noted in the last Grindstone, the walking stick (cane) donated by Tom English, the great-great grandson of Joseph Quigley, was an exciting item to add to our museum. It originally belonged to Joseph Quigley (1777-1873) the son of the original owner and builder of the Quigley House. We received a picture of Tom holding the cane and are including it in the display. Upon closer inspection it is noted that the top of the cane is Sterling Silver not stainless steel and is engraved with Joseph Quigley's signature.

Just when we thought it couldn't get any better, we received two exquisite, porcelain Spill Holders from Nancy Bleil, the great-great granddaughter of Joseph Quigley. The Victorian vases were owned by Esther Quigley (1803-1895), an Amherst school teacher and daughter of Joseph Quigley.

What is a spill holder, you ask? Well, in order to light the fireplace years ago before matches were invented, a spill or sliver of wood was used to carry the fire to the fireplace.

The spill holders sat on or near the fireplace and contained the splints or tapers. They are nicely displayed now on the fireplace in the Quigley Museum.



Thank you Nancy and Tom for the amazing additions to our Museum.

Even though we are closed during the winter months, we can give personal tours upon request. You can call the Amherst Historical Society at (440-988-7255) to make a reservation for a tour during our off-hours. Last week we entertained a couple from New Mexico, Mr. & Mrs. Steve Erhman, who toured the Quigley Museum. We would love to see you also.

Dr. Pepper Murder Mystery October 8-9



The dynamic Murder Mystery, directed by Valerie Farschman was presented to two sold-out crowds who enjoyed music, comedy, and drama.



Linda Howell



**Jean Rahrig, Linda Cosma and
Teri Drda Saltis**

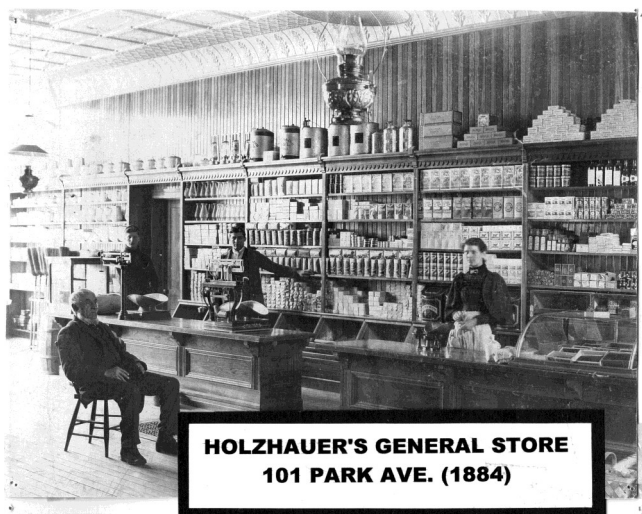


**Virginia Waratinsky, David Stacko, Brenda
Phillips and Raymond E. Cosma, Jr.**



Elizabeth Fought

EARLY AMHERST GROCERY, DRY GOODS AND MILLINERY STORES



Plato Bros. S.E. Corner Church & Park
Destroyed by Fire in 1899



Bodmann's Grocery and Dry Goods 1900



Parsons—Young Millinery Shop
223 Park Ave. 1914



A&P
Corner of Church and Park
1950

Gold & Ross Milk	.10 gal
Oven Baked Beans	3 cans .29
Pillsbury Flour	.29 a sack
Butter	.43 lb
Eight 'O Clock Coffee	.35 lb
Bokar	.48 lb
Red Bay Coffee	.39 lb
Sugar	1.95 25lb sack

Remembering Vivienne Bickley

Reprinted from Grindstone November/December 2015

DO YOU REMEMBER..... Christmas Past?

Of course you do! Even Scrooge warmed up when he was reminded of Christmas in his youth. Of course, none of us experienced live candles on our trees and the accompanying bucket of water to put out the many fires they caused. We remember different types of tree bulbs until now we all use the mini twinkle lights. My favorites were the big round crackle bulbs which were not liked by my family so I still have a box full of them.

All of us share memories of past holidays, including carols, cookies and other culinary delights only made for yuletides. We may all have a memory of a favorite gift. But I'll wager that none of you can match my memoirs of gifts received. Did your family ever receive, for instance, a rustic, sturdy, W.P.A. built wooden outhouse? This really was a historic antique. This began a series of unusual "gifts" left by my husband's friends on Christmas Eve. This tradition was extended to Len's birthday which was on Memorial Day weekend. Traffic on these holidays increased in front of our house; as more people heard about the gifts. These included Santa in an antique dental chair, a whaling boat, a dozen wine barrels and when I was overheard saying I needed a replacement for my old Corvair, the "Elves" brought me a terrible Junker with a Christmas tree jammed thru its roof. (My husband solved this problem by keeping the Corvair to take to the office and leaving me the Caddie.)

Another memory connected with gifts was the visit from Jenny Crimm and her T.V. crew to film a short segment. It was viewed on Christmas night- - tho who watches T.V. on Christmas night? Our annual family party guests all huddled around the T.V. to watch the short segment.

Some say the "Elves" wives put an end to the shenanigans, because they wanted their men at home on Christmas Eve. Many of their projects took hours to perpetrate; so this may very well be true. But I feel they could never top their last gift, so gave up. We waited and waited until after midnight, when our doorbell rang! They'd never announced their presence before. There was a box about 3 ft. long - no fancy paper, no bows. I noticed vents in the box and knew there was something alive inside - was it a cute bunny, a squirrel, even a kitten? Then I heard it slither and the live animal inside was a BOA CONSTRICTOR! Even tho Len locked it away downstairs, I dreamt of snakes that night and could not delight in the "gift" as I always had in the past. Next night at the family party one of our relations said, "With friends like that, who needs enemies?" but I know it was meant to be funny; and the memory of previous gifts outweighed the shock of the snake. People call them practical jokes, but have you ever known anything more impractical?

Merry Christmas and may your Elves bring you fun memories or at least something practical.



Whooo is there?
Could it be one of
the Dute sisters?

No, it's just Mary
Jane Myosky
trying to scare us!!



By My Lantern's Light was offered October 22 and 23 at the Sandstone Village. There were ghosts and goblins and things that went bump in the night. Thank you to the volunteers and staff who contributed to this scary event.



Joe Fought, Martha Pallante, Gerri Rice,
Barbara Gilbert-Whitcomb and Norm Miller



Robert Pallante, William
Fought and Kat Myosky



Dee Horvath, Valerie Farschman
and Kat Myosky



Blacksmith Joe Fought

The Amherst Historical Society

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The Amherst Historical Society

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The Amherst Historical Society wishes to acknowledge
a charitable remainder trust by Mr. Evan Nord and administered
by the Community Foundation of Lorain County.

Grindstone Printed by SQP Print Center

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Other Items of Interest



We are pleased to announce that the Sandstone Village has been
selected as “Best Historic Site”
by the Morning Journal Readers Choice Awards



The Final Garage Sale of 2022 is Saturday, November 19,
9am-2pm. Furniture, books, puzzles, decorative items,
glassware, jewelry and MORE! You may find that special
treasure for holiday gifts or decorations.

Enjoy the wonderful variety of cars
that were on display at the Amherst
Historical Society 2022 Car and Bike
Show. Photos are now available on
our website
amhersthistoricalsociety.org

