



NASHVILLE COMES TO JAMESTOWN

Jamestown native, Diane McCall, came back home to entertain the largest crowd the Opera House has seen since its reopening in 2009. Her band, “Hometown” was comprised of many talented musicians including sister Dee Jee (Donna) Overbey, and cousins Bill and Tom Bowermaster. Diane and Hometown presented a superb program of traditional country music that we could all appreciate and enjoy. After the show she spent 2 hours signing autographs, posing for pictures and reminiscing with old friends. Plans for her return in June 2016 are being discussed.

This year we have been entertained by Elvis impersonator, Ryan Roth, by the 2014 Ohio State Fair Youth Choir which included 14 Greeneview students (the largest representation of any high school in Ohio), by the Malone University Concert Choir, gospel music from area churches and by Drifting Aimlessly. Schedule for remaining events can be viewed on the website which we invite you to visit frequently. www.jamestownohiooperahouse.com

We are pleased to announce we received a very nice gift! A person who wishes to remain anonymous found a church that was updating their sound system, made a donation and brought their old sound system to us for the Opera House!

The gift includes a 12 channel mixing board, 3 Shure microphones, microphone cords, over 100 foot of snake with a 12 outlet end, 3 Bose speakers (1 Bass and 2 Verticals) with a support box and a power amp. The purchase price for this system used would probably be \$3000. A new system would be \$5000! So...things are looking up...come out to our next show and "listen" to our latest gift!

A glimpse of the past..... Jamestown Lions Club 70th Anniversary by Dean Gordin

In April, 1945, 26 outstanding civic and community-minded individuals formed the Jamestown Lions Club. Charter members were Howard Fairley, John C. Ferguson, Charles Fudge, R. L. Haines, MD, Edward Irons, Robert Moorman, Milton Oliver, Roy Powers, Charles Rutter, A. D. Ritenour, MD, Willard Thuma, Vernon Stafford, Harold Lewis, Marion Burr, Andrew Grapevine, Leslie Abersole, Earl Gibbs, Clarence Boger, Richard Smith, Clay Mauck, Marston Claire, Rodney Roberts, Guy Garman, A. Y. Whitehead, DDS, Elmo Higham and Max Powers. Official Charter from Lions International was received April 12 of that year. 12 men held the following offices: President Clarence Boger, 1st VP Max Powers, 2nd VP Robert Moorman, 3rd VP Howard Fairley, Secretary John Ferguson, Treasurer Lawson Reid, Lion Tamer Dr. A. Y. Whitehead, Tail Twister Robert Moorman and Directors: Earl Gibbs, Andrew Grapevine, Clay Mauck, Willard Thuma.

Lion President Boger suggested a Fall Carnival as the first public event sponsored the Jamestown Lions Club. Director Mauck said, "If we are going to have a carnival, let's do it right and have it on the streets." There was a parade with bands, floats and spectators standing in the rain to watch. The net cash amount of \$650.00 was used for eye glasses for the school children in Bowersville, Jamestown and Ross Twp. During December 1945, Christmas food baskets were delivered to needy families, That got the Club off to a great start!

By 1948, the Jamestown Lions Club had sponsored new clubs in Bowersville and Jeffersonville, A western horse show became a hugh draw and was of high quality in every respect. Each year saw more projects funded by the JLC including a new ball diamond at Silvercreek School, paying for more than 400 doses of Sabin Polio Vaccine, supporting the Jamestown Volunteer Fire Department and continuing to provide food baskets at Christmas for needy families in the greater Jamestown area. 1966 was the Sesquicentennial year for Jamestown. Lions members were the core group that provided the leadership for this historic celebration and it was first class. Many Jamestown Lions have served in key positions throughout the various levels of leadership in Lions International, including District Governors and hosting 13-J District Conventions.

A triple tornado ripped through Xenia, Ohio in April 1974 with over 30 fatalities and horrendous damage, wiping out huge areas of the city and surrounding areas, as it hit Bellbrook and followed a NE track exiting Greene County. The Jamestown Lions Club decided to make an effort to provide assistance in the aftermath, as not only Lions, but many residents volunteered for weeks to man food kitchens, provide physical assistance via street patrols at night and helping in the clean-up and reconstruction efforts. The Club decided to present a fund-raising production entitled "Eeh-Wah" in the format of the popular TV show "Hee-Haw" which was not only fun to develop but was truly a smash hit and well done. The net proceeds were donated to the Xenia Tornado Relief Fund. The show was very successful and served as the catalyst for future "Dinner Theatre" events in subsequent years.

1982 saw the carnival become an official "Ohio Festival Event" as the Bean Festival, featuring "Jimmy the Bean" as the face of the event was registered with the state of Ohio. An expanded group of events was developed including the Grand Parade, crowning of the Queen and her court, Friday night acution of donated merchandise, ham and bean dinner served each afternoon and evening, along with the traditional contests, games and raffle on Saturday night for the various cash prizes. From 1976-1985, the Jamestown Lions Club donated more than \$7,600.00 supporting the Ohio Lions Eye Bank, Eye Research, School for the Hearing impaired, Echo Hills Camp for the handicapped and international disaster victims relief. In 1990, past District Governor Lion Kenneth Talbott of the JLC received a most prestigious award from Ohio State Lions Pilot Dogs, Inc. This organization assists the blind in many ways, including, of course, companion "Pilot Dogs".

The list of activities and accomplishments of the dedicated members of the Jamestown Lions Club goes on and on. The motto of Lions International is "WE SERVE". Jamestown Lions live this theme every day in ways too numerous to list. This document would require several more pages to compile. The Jamestown, Ohio greater community of Jefferson, Ross and Silvercreek Townships receive various forms of contributions from the JLC throughout each year. As the Jamestown Lions Club celebrates its 70th anniversary year, the citizens of Jamestown and surrounding communities are grateful, thankful and blessed to enjoy the benefits of public-spirited activities and events resulting from the efforts of the Jamestown Lions Club. We sincerely say----THANK YOU!!!!!!!

We continue to strive for funding for the elevator. With each event, the need becomes more apparent as 40-50 people who wish to attend are unable to climb the 3 levels of stairs. We have approximately one half the cost of the elevator. We are grateful for the continued support of friends of the Opera House.

We invite everyone to visit the website to view updated event schedules, pictures from past events, newsletters, and other items of interest as well as a link to our Facebook.

We would like to send as many newsletters as possible by email. If you have a paper letter and would be willing to receive the electronic version, please contact us at jamestownohiooperahouse@gmail.com. Also if you are anticipating a home and/or email change of address, please inform us so we may continue our communication with all members.

Anyone who wishes is invited to tour the Opera House at any time to discover the many improvements made over the years.

We continue to meet the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM in the Senior Citizen Center room at the rear of the Opera House. Entrance is on the Xenia Street side of the building.

CURTAIN GOING UP

Jamestown Area Historical Society
PO Box 162
Jamestown, Ohio 45335
937/675-3501 or 937/675-5751
www.jamestownohiooperahouse.com

_____ 1 Year Individual Membership	@ \$ 10.00 each	\$ _____
_____ 1 Lifetime Individual Membership	@ \$100.00 each	\$ _____
_____ 1 Year Business Membership	@ \$ 50.00 each	\$ _____
_____ 1 Lifetime Business Membership	@ \$300.00 each	\$ _____
_____ 1 Year Student Membership	@ 5.00 each	\$ _____
_____ Elevator Donation		\$ _____
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