

JAMESTOWN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



April 2011

Jamestown Area Historical Society
PO Box 162
Jamestown, Ohio 45335

Our membership and friends of the Opera House responded magnificently to the request in the February 2010 letter for support to rehab and install the 400 seats we received from Springfield's Memorial Hall. The enclosed picture is evidence of our success thanks to your generosity.

The following renovations were completed in 2010:

- Auditorium walls, floors and woodwork painted
- New chairs refinished and installed in auditorium
- Point and tuck repair to bell tower exterior
- Dressing room area under the stage – new stairsteps into the area, subflooring laid and rooms painted. Carpet is being selected at this writing.
- Ceiling repair in downstairs rooms and mechanical room (garage)

Program notes 2010

We have had 3 events since our last newsletter. On November 6th, the Long Family Band presented their "Music from the Heartland", on November 12th, Greeneview High School's Drama Club presented "*Excuses, Excuses*" – the first play performed in the Opera House by our high school students since 1936, and during Jamestown's "Small Town Christmas" celebration on December 4th, X*Act, Xenia's Area Community Theatre group brought their Christmas play "*Best Christmas Pageant Ever*" to our Opera House stage. All events were well attended and much appreciated by the audience.

On February 23, our 2011 season began when Springboro resident Jim Crabtree came to the Opera House as an Abraham Lincoln presenter. This gifted gentleman became Abraham Lincoln. He spoke on American History and the Presidency and then mingled with the audience to answer many questions. Preceding his address, the Earlham College Faculty Brass Ensemble played musical selections from the late 1800s. To start the evening's festivities, two flags were presented the Historical Society for permanent placement on the Opera House stage. An American flag that had flown over the Capitol was presented by Congressman Steve Austria and the State of Ohio flag was given by State Representative Bob Hackett. David and Shirley Harper and Chris Shewman donated the flagpoles and stands. It was an evening steeped in history and we were happy to see several students in the audience, some of whom had questions for "President Lincoln."

We have several events scheduled for 2011. The next program is April 23rd, featuring an evening of gospel music. Performers are the Southern Airs, George & Rowena Walker, and the Gibbons Family. May 7th is the Sauerkraut German Band playing their "oompah" music and May 21st is the New Carlisle Area Community Chorus doing Broadway, patriotic, popular, classical and sacred music. April 23rd and May 7th performances will begin at 7:00 PM with May 21st performance starting at 7:30 PM. Admission for the three events is \$10.00 each. On May 30th, which is Jamestown's 195th birthday, Mayor Mark Ferrell is sponsoring the Mayor's Scholarship Fund benefit which will feature Greeneview High School's Band and Ryan Roth, an Elvis impersonator.

June 16, 17, & 18 is the village garage sale days always well supported by the community. September 16 and 17 is the Lions Club Bean Festival at which time we will again sponsor a tent and hold a garage sale. Opera House tours are always available during the garage sales or at any time requested.

On December 3rd, during Jamestown's "Small Town Christmas" celebration, the Opera House will host "Voices of Ohio" in a return appearance. This exceptional group composed of Ohio State Fair Youth Choir alumni presented the inaugural concert at the reopening of the Opera House December 5th, 2009.

Projects scheduled for completion in 2011:

- Rehab balcony and install balcony seats
- Install ticket booth

As we have said many times before much work has been done but much more remains. Therefore, we remind all friends of the Opera House that donations are 100% tax deductible, much needed and gratefully accepted by the Historical Society.

We continue to meet the second Thursday of each month at the Phoenix Restaurant at 6:00 PM. Many of us meet at 5:00 for dinner and socializing, but this is strictly a matter of choice. The public is always encouraged to attend. Meeting dates are April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, October 13, November 10, and December 8.

C U R T A I N G O I N G U P

Glimpses of the Past by Jane Hollingsworth

Hon. Ed West of Wilmington addressed a large audience at the Opera House last evening on the issues of the campaign. It was an able address.

The Semi Weekly Gazette & Torchlight, Jamestown News, September 22, 1891

To tell all about Eli Perkins – who he is, what he is, and how he is, is really getting down to tedious particulars. You'll find out all these things by attending his lectures at the Opera House Dec. 8 and you will be glad you went.

Reserved seats for Eli Perkins on Sale at Carpenter's Drug Store

Jamestown Comet Oct. 23, 1891

Eli Perkins has long since won a National reputation as a humorous lecturer. His houses are always doubly crowded, being filled invariably with people and laughter.

Mabley & Carew of Cincinnati will give a stereoptican lecture in the Opera House Dec. 4th for the benefit of the M. E. Church. The lecture illustrates a tour of the Rocky Mountains, Pike's Peak and the Canons (sic) of the west. Tickets are at McGuire's.

Jamestown Comet Nov. 27, 1891

The Farmers Institute of Greene County will hold a meeting at the Opera House, Jamestown, Dec 11 & 12.
Jamestown Comet Nov. 27, 1891

Programme of the Second Annual Session of Greene County Farmers Institute:

First Day - Opened with music and prayer, remarks by the president, "How to Overcome the Disadvantages of Farm Life," "To What Do I Attribute My Success as a Farmer", music, "The Most Profitable Horse", "Weeds and Insects", "The Fertilizers of the Farm", "Temperance", music, "Some Seed Thoughts for Farmer Boys", "How to Keep the Boy on the Farm".

Second Day - Music and Prayer, "Why Farming Don't Pay", "Fertilizers of Commerce", "Science on the Farm", music, "Going into Debt", "Fertilizer for Wheat", "History and Management of Honey Bees", "Does Thorough Cultivation Pay", opening of question box, report of committees, and adjournment. Officers are J. H. Sanders, W. D. Sutton, B. B. Vandervort, Zara Little, J. W. Pollock, T. J. Stinson, Jackson Ballard, H. C. Faulkner, L. V. Johnson. Lunch baskets and wraps cared for free of charge. Everyone invited.

Jamestown Comet December 4, 1891

The Farmers Institute, now in progress at the Opera House, is well attended and the addresses are instructive. Pres. W. O Thompson's address to farmers' sons was a gem.

Jamestown News, Semi-Weekly Gazette & Torchlight December 15, 1891

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

_____ 1 Year Individual Membership	@ \$ 10.00 each	\$ _____
_____ 1 Year Business Membership	@ \$ 50.00 each	\$ _____
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_____ 1 Student Membership	@ \$ 5.00 each	\$ _____
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