



BAY VILLAGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

"Preserving the Character of Our City"

[HTTPS://WWW.BAYHISTORICAL.COM/](https://www.bayhistorical.com/)



Potluck and Program Holly Tramba, Vice President

Thursday, September 21 —Bay Lodge

6:00 p.m. social, 6:30 p.m. potluck dinner, 7:00 p.m. program

Main Dish – provided by The Bay Village Historical Society

Last name beginning with:

A-J bring an appetizer or dessert for ten; **K-Z** bring a side dish for ten.

Bring your own place setting.

Please bring a beverage of choice. Alcohol is permitted at Bay Lodge.

There will be a \$10 charge for non-members at the door.

THE LAKE ERIE WORLD OF HENRY WISCHMEYER

Ed Neal, Executive Director of Cleveland Amateur Boatbuilding and Boaters Society, will speak on The Lake Erie World of Henry Wischmeyer.

RSVP to Holly Tramba; 440-537-1581 or e-mail:

htramba@sbcglobal.net by September 14.



September 2023



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Cathy Flament

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Gift Shop

Pamela Ebert

Monica Thomas

Osborn Learning Center

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Tom Phillips

Log Cabin

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President's Message

Cathy Flament

What a summer it has been! One project we are extremely excited about is the model gristmill with a water wheel in its final stage of completion. The Cahoon's built the first mill in the area in 1813 and wrote that they heard Perry's Battle on Lake Erie in the background while they were building it. We are grateful to those involved in the design and creation including Ed Wozniak, Jim Rowe, Tony Pantina, Pamela Ebert, Ed Neal, Dan Krieg with Michele Yamamoto and myself overseeing. This will be stored at Rose Hill and will provide a valuable example illustrating our early history.



Our website is being updated and will include new features that will hopefully attract the younger generation. Children's activities will be featured that tie in with our collection and local history. Also some of the upcoming articles include the Cahoon family's arrival in a covered wagon, writing and mailing letters in the 1800's, portraits, optical toys and more. Check these out and pass the word along! More will be coming.

In case you can't tell, our focus this year is expanding our outreach to the younger generation. To build on that concept we will be conducting a 1/2 day, week-long, pioneer summer day camp next July. Our plan will be aimed at children entering grades 3-6. We are very excited about the ideas we have planned and have a teacher with experience lined up to direct it. We are looking for volunteers, both teenagers and adults. So, if you are interested, please let us know.

We would also love to offer classes throughout the year for adults and children, so if you have an idea or talent you would like to share with others let us know.

If you have been by the Osborn Learning Center lately you probably noticed that a significant section of wood siding has been replaced on the south and west sides. The city has done an excellent job and was able to add insulation in sections which we will appreciate this winter! Hopefully by the time this newsletter reaches you it will be painted. Be sure to stop by and see the updated landscaping on the northwest section of Rose Hill. Our overgrown bushes have been replaced and it has been a significant improvement.

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President's Message—continued

Cathy Flament

Interesting donations we received this summer were two stereoscopes, along with cards donated by Frank Landl of Avon Lake. Guests are now able to view cards located in the genealogy room when they visit Rose Hill. Tom Jones, who painted the Community House watercolor that was designed for the bicentennial, donated several cards and prints. Included are ones he created for Pres. and Mrs. Reagan and Vice-president and Mrs. Cheney. Don't miss the display featuring these over the holidays. The large donation of notes and papers from primarily the 1970's and on from Bob and Gigi Monroe have proved to be a goldmine of information. It is amazing the amount of information we are still uncovering.

Congrats to the League of Women Voters who began 75 years ago with meetings at Rose Hill when it housed the Dover-by-the-Lake Library. We were honored to be included in their celebration on the grounds. To add to the festivities we dressed in 1950's dresses.

This summer we were thrilled to have two college students volunteering. They were invaluable assets. Nicholas [Rinderle](#) is a sophomore at the University of South Carolina studying international business and operations & supply chain. During the summer he faithfully worked two hours a day, five days a week, tackling a backlog of unscanned documents to modernize access to our local history. In that time, he scanned three scrapbooks, a stack of stereoscopic images, along with photos and newspaper clippings.

Alex [Stevovich](#) is a Junior at the University of Cincinnati's DAAP program. She is studying Art Conservation, majoring in Fine arts, minoring in Art History and Chemistry, and getting two certificates in Museum Studies and Historical Preservation. She volunteered to learn more about the cataloging side of conservation and technicalities that come with the profession. We wish them both the best as they pursue their education.

If you would like to assist us to continue the projects they were involved in, please volunteer. There are so many interesting items that we continue to discover. We can use your help to speed the process along as there are still boxes of papers. With the variety of projects we are working on, I am sure we will find one you will enjoy and find rewarding.

The upcoming luncheon is an event you don't want to miss. Vintage clothing from private collections will be featured that are one of a kind. They truly are beautiful pieces. So, be sure you come and bring some friends and neighbors!

See you in September!
Cathy



PIONEER CAMP NEEDS

Cathy Flament

As we look ahead to next summer's pioneer camp, we are looking for items to help defray the cost. If you have some at home or are willing to donate, it would be greatly appreciated. The following are on our wish list:

- View master with discs (also for museum use)
- Kaleidoscopes (also for museum use)
- 2 Hand crank old fashion coffee grinders
- Folding cart with wheels
- Ink wells
- Marbles
- Block of candle wax – no candles please
- Candle wick
- Working glue gun and glue sticks
- Large metal wash tub
- Rug beaters
- Flat Iron
- Wooden ironing board
- Hand crank clothes wringer washer
- Wooden buckets
- 6" paper doilies
- Large pan such as a Dutch oven, doesn't need to have to have a lid
- Tall narrow metal pot to melt wax for candles
- Ivory soap
- Old vintage looking items students can wash!
- Balls of worsted yarn in a variety of colors for weaving. Variegated would be wonderful. We also need a couple of full skeins.
- Bandanas
- Wooden beads with hole – approximately 3/8"
- Computer ink
- New crayons, markers and colored pencil
- Reams of paper
- Cardstock
- Plastic straws – regular size
- Small paper plates
- Children's pioneer aprons and caps.

FASHION SHOW FUNDRAISER Co-Chairs Pamela Ebert & Monica Thomas**Silhouettes of Style***A fashion show of late 1800s to early 1900s clothing styles and fall luncheon.***September 24, 2023, 11:00 a.m.****Lakewood Country Club****2613 Bradley Road, Westlake****Mystery Bags Silent Auction Raffle Items****Tickets—\$45.00***Cash Bar***RSVP by September 19**

Send in your reservation with a check—

Payable to: Bay Village Historical Society**Send to: Pamela Ebert, 153 Kensington Cr., Bay Village, OH 44140.****If you are part of a table of eight or 10 guests, please indicate at which table you will be seated.***All proceeds will benefit the Bay Village Historical Society. Co-chairs are Pamela Ebert and Monica Thomas.***HISTORIC HIKES WITH STEPHANIE WEST AND MONIKA ROCK**

Mark your calendars:

Thursday, Sept. 21

Details: Historic homes along Lake Road West

Meet at Rose Hill at 9 a.m.**Saturday, Sept. 30**

Details: Historic homes along Lake Road East

Meet at Rose Hill at 9 a.m.**Tuesday, Oct. 10**

Details: Bay Village History Hike

Meet at Rose Hill at 10 a.m.

3-mile option also available

Membership— Thank you to the following for their generous donations**Eric Eakin****Cahoon Level (\$2,500 and up)**

Bay Village Foundation

Osborn Level (\$1,000 to \$2,499)**Bassett Level (\$500 to \$999)**

Councilman Mike Greco

Gail & Bob Reid

Saddler Level (\$250 to \$499)

Claire & Mike Boettler

Peter D'Angelo

Cathy & Paul Flament

Monica Thomas & Eric Otto

Larry Wolf

Foote Level (\$150 to \$249)

Marie Albano & Bruce Weitz

Cynthia & Eric Eakin

Dan McGarry

Marj & Chris Elhardt

Terri & Ben Miyares

Peggy Norton

Susan & Steve Ruscher

Patrons (\$100 to \$149)

Evelyn Allen

Denise Baldanza

Cathy Bogart's 2nd graders

Eileen Cernea

Beth & Dave Conroy

Debra & Howard Doughty

Pamela & Gary Ebert

Doris Gorgas

Virginia Hamister

Sue & Herman Jachnick

Therese & Paul Koomar

Cindi & Ken Lindgren

Rev. Richard Lutz

Ed Neal

Elaine & Bill O'Brien

J. Marshall Osborn

Diane & Denny Pavan

Jean & Tim Pell

Anne Ryan

Sandra Taradash

Michelle & Eugene Yamamoto

The Bombing of 444 Bradley Road

Eric Eakin

Apparently, someone was VERY upset with Walter E. Bidlingmyer of 444 Bradley Road, Bay Village, back in 1923.

We know because someone bombed his house, twice, within three days.

As part of the Bay Village Historical Society, I was doing some research for a century-home plaque for the home, so I contacted the Cuyahoga County archives for clarification on when, exactly, the home was built. What they found out was surprising.

Sure, having been built in 1920, the home qualifies for a plaque, but what was more surprising was the included two newspaper clippings from the Plain Dealer, dated May 25, 1923. It turns out someone really did not like the owner at the time, Walter E. and Isabelle Bidlingmyer (although I don't think Isabelle had anything to do with it.) Walter owned a cigar store in downtown Cleveland and later was a manufacturer's representative for a toy and novelties company. At one time he operated slot machines in Lorain County.

According to the Plain Dealer article of May 25, 1923, "The second mysterious explosion in three days rocked the spacious home of W.E. Bidlingmyer, 444 Bradley Road, Bay Village, early yesterday. Both blasts shattered windows in Bidlingmyer's and a neighbor's home and wakened many nearby residents. The detonations were reportedly heard several miles."

"Mr. and Mrs. Bidlingmyer and their children, Robert, 12, and Janice, nine, were asleep in the first floor rooms both times. Bidlingmyer believed that had the bombs been placed more skillfully he and his family would have been killed."

"The first blast occurred at 1:30 Saturday morning. Bidlingmyer ran to his front porch to find a post blown from its base and a hole in the porch floor against the house wall. A front window was shattered, as well as the glass in lanterns above the entrance."

"Bidlingmyer sat up through the following night with two guns at hand. About 1:30 in the morning, he lay across his bed and must have fallen asleep, as he was knocked to the floor an hour later by a second blast."

"I went to the back of the house and found the porch steps blown to slivers and several windows broken. I fell over part of the steps and cut a finger."

Bidlingmyer and Marshal John Eaton traced fresh footprints from back of the home, across a creek, through a neighbor's garden and to the place beside the road, where they found the print of an automobile tire in the soft earth. They also found an eight-inch piece of fuse.

No one was ever arrested.

