Notes from the Executive Director
By William J. Dichtl

As we begin to look for signs of spring (I hope it is sooner than it looks outside), there will be an increase in our need for volunteers. Steve Preston has increased the number of students coming for education programs beginning in March and building through April with more than 1700 children in May, and ending in early June. We expect to share our local history with a total of 6000 children. Many school visits need three to five people to present our outstanding programs. The students are immersed in history with interpretation in three to four buildings complimented with hands-on activities. We need volunteers to help with the programs. Please give some consideration to volunteering. Make this the year that you volunteer to give one of the Village programs. You will receive the joy of seeing the faces of the children when they learn about the past.

If education programs are not your thing, we have other opportunities. We need volunteers to wear period clothing and give guided tours of the Village Wednesday through Sunday May 1 through September 27. These tours last 90 minutes and are given three times a day and twice on Sunday. You can choose the days and how often you volunteer.

Are you artistic and like to research? Then maybe working on exhibits is for you. This includes researching, selecting artifacts, writing labels, designing, and installing the exhibit.

If talking to people is of interest, then working in the gift shop could be right for you. Greeting visitors and assisting them with their purchases is important. Helping select merchandise, pricing, and displaying the merchandise are all part of the job.

Of course, there are opportunities for everyone to assist with our special events in some capacity. So, if you made a New Year’s Resolution to volunteer this year at the Village or even if you did not, please give me a call and see where you can fit in with whatever your interest is.

May the snow melt away and the spring flowers start dotting the Village grounds soon!
Everything but the House Auction

We have once again partnered with Everything But The House for an online auction fundraiser.

Bidding occurs March 23-29 with merchandise pick up on March 31.

There is also a preview day Saturday March 28 where you can see the items in person in the Hayner House Ballroom. Items up for bid will include antique furniture, artwork, and more.

Proceeds from the auction will be used to support the mission of Heritage Village Museum, preserving and interpreting the history of 19th century southwest Ohio.

Follow us on social media:

Guided Tour Season

Our guided tour season runs from May 1-September 30.

We will be open:

Wednesday-Saturday 10:00 am-5:00 pm
Tours: 10:30, 12:45, 3:00

Sunday May 3rd 1:00 pm-5:00 pm
Tours: 1:30, 3:30

Tours last approximately 90 minutes
$5/adults, $3/children 5-11
Children under 5 and members are free.

Let's Team Up to Clean Up!

Our Annual Spring Clean Up Day is Saturday April 25 at 10:00 am.

We will be sweeping, dusting, and washing to get the Village squeaky clean for opening day on May 1.

RSVP to Bill at 513-563-9484 or wdichtl@heritagevillagecincinnati.org

Lunch will be provided, so bring a friend!
Summer Day Camp

Kids Summer Camp is a time for youngsters to take a step into the past and make history come alive! Campers will get to do many of the things that their great-great-great grandparents used to do.

Camps are Monday - Friday, 9:00 am to 3:30 pm
Come early/stay late option available

Campers must be 6-12 years of age (or completed Kindergarten)

Fees: $150/week members
$175/week nonmembers

Registration form can be found on our website at

Pioneer Camp
June 22-26 & August 3-7

Campers will spend 5 fun-filled and busy days learning old-fashioned skills and the life of kids during the 19th century.

Activities include:
- Cooking in the hearth kitchen
- Weaving
- Chores on the farm
- Candle dipping
- Learning about our 1800s buildings
- Hiking

Civil War Camp
July 20-24

Campers will see what life was like as a child in Southwest Ohio during the Civil War. Entertaining and educational opportunities abound as campers participate in daily activities from the 1860’s.

Activities include:
- Civil War drills
- Signal flags
- Secret code breaking
- Hardtack making
- Paper art
CITIZENS SOLDIERS OF 1812

Cincinnati and her citizens played a major role in the mobilization and execution of the War of 1812 in the 8th Military District of the Western Theater. All Kentucky Militia and United States Regular Troops fighting in Ohio and the Indiana/Illinois Territory moved through Cincinnati. The citizens of Cincinnati helped the war effort by joining up in local militias and others, by outfitting the troops. Both of these choices made by the citizens of Cincinnati had an impact and should be showcased to inform the public of Cincinnati’s contributions.

Heritage Village Museum has created an event showcasing Cincinnati’s contributions to the War of 1812. Militia units such as 1st Regiment of Ohio Infantry, Brush’s Independent Company and Linigle’s Company will highlight the story of local militias and their role in the fighting. Civilian life will be demonstrated by Dave Barno and his group of civilian interpreters. They do many different activities to illustrate day to day life in 1812 Cincinnati. Units and civilians will be set up in various buildings and areas within the Village highlighting their contributions to the Ohio war effort.

May 2, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
May 3, 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
$5/adults, $3 children 5-11
Children under 5 and museum members are free.
Do you like to sew? Interested in historical clothing? If so, join our Sewing Circle!

Although it feels like a long time until summer arrives, it’s time to start thinking about what you’d like to wear to Civil War Weekend if you’re planning to sew something.

If you made an outfit last year, you can think about adding to your outfit. What is the next piece that your outfit needs? Chemise? Drawers? Dress collar? Something just for fun like a decorative belt or a ribboned hair net? A slat bonnet to keep the sun out of your eyes this summer? A pinner apron? Something for the gentlemen: shirt, vest, sack coat? A period-correct type of bag to carry your stuff around?

If you’re starting from scratch, plan to start your outfit at least three months before the event to leave yourself time to make the pieces you’ll need--and save yourself some frantic last-minute sewing!

And, of course, Heritage Village can still use sewing volunteers to make things for the gift shop and for the historical clothing closet.

The next scheduled sewing circles for 2015 will be on

**March 21 and April 18**

**Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

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**Congratulations to our December raffle winners!**

- Madame Alexander Doll - Billie Whalen
- Hand Stitched Quilt - Roxanne Dieffenbach
- Chocolate Basket - Laura Strachan

Thanks to everyone that bought tickets and supported the Village!
The Great Eastern American Wilderness,
Its Wildlife and Native People

Have you ever wondered what the great Eastern American Wilderness really looked like before European settlement in the 18th century? Fortunately, some of the first naturalists, explorers, Indian captives and missionaries from that time left vivid descriptions in journals. They described the vast pristine beauty of the land and rivers, the immense trees, remarkable wildlife and native people. Mary Louis Holt has created a series of paintings based on the colorful descriptions from those original journals. Travel back through time with the artist as she takes you into this wilderness with compelling stories and images from her paintings.

Exhibit: April 14 - May 31
Program: April 19 at 2:00 pm
$3 members / $5 nonmembers

Mary Louise Holt was an honors graduate from the College of Mount Saint Joseph with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. She started her career as a graphic designer, illustrator, and courtroom artist for local and national television. With comprehensive formal training in the academic tradition of fine portraiture and figurative painting she paints many portraits in commission for private collectors. She has studied under internationally renowned artists Daniel Greene and Nelson Shanks. She is a member of Oil Painters of America and the Portrait Society of America.
JAMES PRESLEY BALL:
CINCINNATI PHOTOGRAPHER

James Presley Ball (1825-1904) was a prominent African American photographer, abolitionist, and businessman. He was born in 1825 to William and Susan Ball, who were listed as free people of color in Virginia.

Ball learned daguerreotype photography from John B. Bailey of Boston, who was also a “free man of color”. Daguerreotype photography was invented in 1839 and marked a milestone in photographic history as people could now easily carry around a portrait of their loved one. Today, most photographs are made from images printed to paper from transparent negatives. The daguerreotype was a polished copper plate upon which an image was directly exposed. Since no negative was used in the process, each daguerreotype was one of a kind. Each photograph had a mirror-like surface, ornate case, and was small enough to hold in the hand or carry in a pocket. It is no wonder the daguerreotype was primarily used for portraits and became immensely popular through the 1850's.

Ball had opened a one room daguerreotype studio in Cincinnati in 1845, but business was sluggish, so he closed the gallery and became a travelling photographer. He settled briefly in Pittsburgh, then in Richmond before returning to Cincinnati in 1849.

Ball opened another daguerreotype studio in downtown Cincinnati in 1851. Two years later, he moved the studio to a larger location at 30 W. Fourth Street and hired 9 employees. The gallery was known as “Ball’s Great Daguerrian Gallery of the West” and became one of the notable photography galleries of the United States.

Due to the studio's success, Ball opened a second gallery in downtown Cincinnati at 120 W. Fourth Street with his brother in law, Alexander Thomas. The Ball & Thomas gallery also prospered and soon became known as the finest photographic gallery west of the Allegheny Mountains.

In 1855, Ball published one of his most significant works - an abolitionist pamphlet accompanied by a 600 yard long panoramic painting titled “Mammoth Pictorial Tour of the United States Comprising Views of the African Slave Trade; of Northern and Southern Cities; of Cotton and Sugar Plantations; of the Mississippi, Ohio and Susquehanna Rivers, Niagara Falls & C.”

Ball ended his partnership with Alexander Thomas in 1860, but the Ball & Thomas gallery remained as Thomas C. Ball, J.P. Ball’s younger brother, continued the studio until the death of Alexander Thomas in 1875.

Ball began to have financial difficulties around 1865 and ultimately left Cincinnati in 1871. Before he left Ball gave his son an interest in his gallery and the name was changed to Ball & Son.

During his career, J.P. Ball became known as an accomplished photographer and had the opportunity to photograph a wide mix of people. Some of the more notable subjects include P.T. Barnum, Frederick Douglas, Charles Dickens, Jenny Lind, the family of Ulysses S. Grant, and Queen Victoria of England. Ball also captured a country in transition as he photographed common pioneers, slaves, soldiers, and immigrants. His works were featured in exhibitions at the Ohio Mechanics Institute expositions held in 1852, 1854, 1855, and 1857. He also won the bronze medal for photography at the 1857 exposition.
Cincinnati’s Role in Audubon’s Epic Birds of America Program

April 6th at 7:00 pm
$3 members/$5 non-members

Longtime friends John Ruthven and DeVere Burt have a mutual interest in nature, birds, conservation, art, and the life work of the amazing artist naturalist, John James Audubon.

In this unique program, DeVere will introduce the controversial Audubon, discuss his accomplishments, and the events leading Audubon to Cincinnati. Ruthven will address the largely unknown story of Audubon’s brilliant young Cincinnati apprentice Joseph Mason. It’s an amazing, purely Cincinnati tale that will surprise and delight.

DeVere is the founder of Masterworks for Nature, a group of wildlife, and landscape artists who have worked with nonprofit conservation organizations to raise nearly $1.7 million for educational and wildlife management projects. DeVere is dedicated to wildlife conservation, natural area preservation, and endangered species advocacy. He has won numerous awards and his art can be found in museum, corporation, institutional, and private collection.

Reverend James Kemper: Frontier Minister

The following is an excerpt from a booklet being written by Steve Preston. The booklet will be for sale in the gift shop this spring.

The inside of Fort Washington overflowed with wounded soldiers and militia. Some of the most grievously injured showed signs of trauma from tomahawk and war club damage. Some sat seemingly uninjured in silence, unable to do much other than stare into space. Many lacked a complete uniform. Many had discarded whatever kept them from making a speedy retreat, including throwing down their weapons. Such was the state of the American Army, the protectors of the inhabitants of Cincinnati, November 9, 1791.

Fear was everywhere. Everyone expected an Indian war party to appear out of the surrounding forest and massacre the entire town. Many planned to make their escape to civilization back east, except for one peculiar man, quite well dressed for the frontier. Wearing knee breeches, ruffles and silver buckles, the five foot nine, one hundred and sixty pound Reverend James Kemper went door to door imploring settlers to remain here on the edge of civilization. He must have cut quite the odd figure compared to the rough-hewn; settlers clothed in hunting frocks and patched up clothing he visited. So began James Kemper’s ministerial career in Cincinnati.

James Kemper was uniquely qualified to be the spiritual head of early Cincinnati. While being a man able to mix with his flock, he worked on a higher level because of his vision for Cincinnati. Kemper was born November 23, 1753, the third son of Virginia planter, John Kemper. He was the grandchild of Johannes Kemper, a founding member of the Germanna, German Colony of 1714, near Culpepper, Virginia. He later moved near Warrenton, Virginia. Here, in 1745, John Kemper built a ten room wood frame house within the 70 acres of land purchased from Lord Fairfax. “Cedar Grove”, as his father’s estate called, provided a comfortable setting for James and his six sibling’s upbringing. James, himself states he was; “indulged by his parents”. James attended school from age 12 to 15, rather typical for this period in history. In 1768, at the age of 15, James lost his mother during the birth of his sister, Alice. His oldest sister, Sarah raised the children for her father, even taking in an African American boy who had lost his mother. This event affected Kemper so much that he chose to relate it to the reader of his memoirs some sixty years later. Other than this tragic occurrence, James Kemper’s childhood appears to have been rather traditional and near idyllic for this time in history.

Judith Hathaway, daughter of Captain John Hathaway, American Revolution officer was born April 28, 1756. Judith was the oldest of 14 children. Judith Hathaway grew up in a family of “considerable property both in lands and slaves in Virginia.” Her grandfather was one of the earliest settlers of Virginia. Although born in White Stone, Lancaster County, the family later moved to Fauquier County near where the Kemper homestead was located. The Kemper and Hathaway families were quite friendly even before Judith’s betrothal to James.

In the year 1772, Judith, sixteen, and James, eighteen, were married. The young couple received a dowry from Judith’s father. As if this was not generous enough, Kemper’s father also provided a small farm. Kemper’s family was unusual for the time as his father provided land to all his sons in a time dominated by primogeniture, the practice of inheritance of everything by first born male. Despite receiving what many young couple would desire in the way of setting up housekeeping, James seemed to want more than the life of a farmer.
Heritage Village is home field for two vintage base ball teams:
The Cincinnati Buckeyes & The Cincinnati Red Stockings.
Come out and enjoy the game as it was played in 1869!

**The 1869 Cincinnati Red Stockings 2015 Games at Heritage Village**
- May 3 - Champion City Reapers
- May 30 - Rising Sun Belle River B.B.C.
- June 13 - Queen City Festival
- June 27 - Cincinnati Buckeyes and Indiana Blues
- July 26 - Clodbusters B.B.C.
- October 3 - Trophy Ball, Cincinnati Buckeyes

**Cincinnati Buckeyes 2015 Games at Heritage Village**
- April 19 at 12:00 pm - Losantiville and New Richmond
- May 3 at 1:00 pm - Champion City Reapers
- May 30 at 3:00 pm - Rising Sun Belle River B.B.C.
- June 13 at 10:00 am - Queen City Festival
- June 27 at 1:00 pm - Cincinnati Red Stockings and Indiana Blues
- July 26 at 1:00 pm - Clodbusters B.B.C.
- August 23 at 12:00 pm - Losantiville and Norwood
- October 3 at 1:00 pm - Trophy Ball, Cincinnati Red Stockings

**Glassware Exhibit**
- June 3 - October 23

**Antique Carriage Exhibit**
- June 13

**Vintage Base Ball Tournament**
- June 13

**Civil War Weekend**
- July 11-12
New Membership Benefit

Museum members now receive a 10% discount on wedding ceremonies at the Village!

Interested in having a wedding ceremony at the Village? The Somerset Church offers an intimate indoor setting and can accommodate up to 100 guests.

The Hayner House front porch is available for a romantic outdoor setting and can accommodate up to 200 guests.

For more information, contact Kimberly Koch at 513-491-3350 or weddingsatheritagevillage@gmail.com

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Check out our website, www.heritagevillagecincinnati.org, for all the latest news and upcoming events happening at the Village!