Notes from the Executive Director
By William J. Dichtl

As you may already we have had more than 4000 students visit the Village or participate in an outreach program presented at their schools. This is an increase of 29% over last year. There are many positive signs that we are moving in the right direction to attract more visitors and expand the impact of the Village. Cincy Chic was here to film which will be used to create a commercial to expand word about the Village. We need your help in getting the word about the Village and what a sharing the experience you have whenever, you come to volunteer, attend an event or program, or take a guided tour. Share your enthusiasm for the Village with your friends, neighbors, and family. We look forward to seeing many smiling faces enjoying Southwest Ohio history. Our staff and volunteers want to talk history.

Civil War Weekend is just around the corner, July 11 & 12. Volunteer Mike Stretch, a Civil War re-enactor, presented to the staff a great scenario to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the ending of the Civil War. The focus of the event is The Road to Appomattox. Mike has worked hard to line up Generals Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee to participate in the event along with Presidents Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson Davis. Check out the website www.heritagevillageCWW.org for the schedule of programming. Everyone should find something of interest throughout the weekend.

There is a lot going on at the Village! Some projects and events were planned and others we did not see coming, such as the electrical situation. Everyone should have received by now a letter asking for financial support to help remedy the electrical issues at Somerset Church and the Elk Lick House. These projects are part of the care of the collections of the buildings and the buildings themselves that is part of our mission. They are also important to assure visitor, volunteer, and staff safety. Please consider making a donation.

I hope to see you at the Village this summer. As usual there will be several vintage baseball games at the Village throughout the summer and guided tours are available Wednesday-Saturday 10:30, 12:45, and 3:00 and Sunday 1:30 and 3:30.

Village Hours

May-September
Wednesday-Saturday
10:00 am-5:00 pm
Sunday
1:00 pm-5:00 pm

October-April
Wednesday-Friday
10:00 am-4:00 pm

Office Hours:
Monday– Friday
8:30 am—4:30 pm
(513) 563-9484

Private tours, school programs and scout programs available year round by appointment.
American Glass Exhibit

Heritage Village Museum presents a new exhibit, “Brilliant Impressions: A Century of Glass” showcasing American glassware in the 19th century. Glass has long been a vital material for both functional and decorative household items. Between 1800 and 1900, the glassmaking industry was revolutionized by the invention of machines to manufacture glass by pressing rather than blowing and decorating it by hand. Pressing allowed greater availability of glassware and a wider array of designs. This exhibit highlights different variations of glassware, ranging from everyday objects to symbols of economic status.

The exhibit runs through October 23, 2015. Admission is $2/adults, $1/children 5-12. Children under 5 and museum members are free. Exhibit admission is included with the purchase of a guided or self-guided tour.

Follow us on social media:

The Union Forever Exhibit

As the country celebrates the 150th anniversary of the end of the Civil War, Heritage Village presents the exhibit “The Union Forever.” This exhibit highlights the important role Ohio played in the Civil War with every artifact on display representing the greater Cincinnati area. Items include the field desk of Major Robert Joyce of the 93rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry, uniform of Captain Henry Mallroy of the 35th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and saber used by Dr. Henry Langdon, Brigade Surgeon with the 79th Ohio Volunteer Regiment. Dr. Langdon’s Office is one of the buildings located at Heritage Village.

This exhibit is the capstone project of Eric Kelso, a graduate student in the Master of Arts Public History program at Northern Kentucky University.

The exhibit runs through October 30, 2015. Admission is $2/adults, $1/children 5-12. Children under 5 and museum members are free. Exhibit admission is included with the purchase of a guided or self-guided tour.
At the June 1, annual meeting of Historic Southwest Ohio, Inc./Heritage Village new board officers were elected.

**New Board Officers**

Rob Carter-President
Marshall Tucker-1st Vice-President
John Seeck-2nd Vice-President
George Euskirchen-Treasurer
Wayne Purintun-Secretary

---

**Join us in congratulating the 2014 volunteers of the year:**

**Heather Jones** is a member of the Chocolate, Champagne, and Candlelight committee and plays a key role in putting the event on. Heather’s time at special events has included the concession stand and checking on other volunteers. When needed, she has come into the office to assist with mailings. Setting the tables with food and drinks for programs has become one of the regular times that we see Heather at the Village. In 2014, Heather gave 234.75 hours.

---

**Marilyn Meckes** is a member of the Holly Days committee and oversees with her husband Mark the musical performances. Marilyn is a regular at special events handling the cash box at the concession stand. Cleaning the interiors of the buildings and washing windows as well as boxing up decorations from Haunted Village and Holly Days are when she spends significant time at the Village. In 2014, Marilyn gave 255.5 hours.
2014 Junior Volunteers of the Year:

Emily McDonel: spends most of her volunteer time in the Schram Print Shop at the Village. When not interpreting to the public at special events and helping them try the hand press Emily can be found behind one of the presses. She has printed baseball scorecards, handbills for Civil War Weekend, and other special events. Emily spent time assisting with last year’s pioneer and Civil War camps. In 2014, Emily gave 199.75 hours.

Madison Lunsford: interprets the buildings during special events and assisted with last year’s pioneer camp. In the fall Madison wrote a year’s worth of letters for second and third grade girls. This was part of the new Pen Pal membership program. In 2014, Madison gave 51 hours, but does not include hours spent researching and writing the Pen Pal letters.

Zachary Dichtl: could be seen at special events helping at the concession stand or at the admission tent. He also assisted with a mailing for the Chocolate, Champagne, and Candlelight event. Zachary came up with the Pen Pal membership program and organized it including designing the trade cards and what the letters would be about. He has written the letters for the second and third grade boys. In 2014, Zachary gave 70.25 hours, but does not include hours spent researching and writing the Pen Pal letters.
CIVIL WAR DAYS
THE ROAD TO
APPOMATTOX
HERITAGE VILLAGE MUSEUM
INSIDE SHARON WOODS PARK

July 11-12th
Saturday: 10-5  Sunday: 10-3

Learn about the dramatic final months of the Civil War and witness the Confederate surrender at Appomattox Court House, Virginia.

Meet President Abraham Lincoln, Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, Confederate President Jefferson Davis, and Gen. Robert E. Lee (CSA)

Battles Each Day at 2pm
Admission: Adults: $8  Children (5-11): $5  Museum Members: Free
Weekend Passes: Adults: $12  Children 5-11: $8

Civil War Music ★ Food & Beverages ★ Period Games
Educational Speakers ★ Living History Programs

www.HeritageVillageCWW.org  (513)563-9484

WHERE HISTORY COMES ALIVE!
Stonelick Covered Bridge

Cincinnati is well known for its haunted landmarks; something many local residents are proud of. It seems that almost every town can boast of its own creepy house or mysterious murder, and with so many hauntings, there’s bound to be one near you.

Right near our home in Goshen is the famous Stonelick Covered Bridge. This one-lane bridge, built in 1878, is on Stonelick-Williams Corner Road in Clermont County. It is 140 feet long and includes a single, but significant, window.

A little background: The bridge itself has endured a number of traumatic events (and repairs) over the years. In 1983, a garbage truck fell through the bottom. It also suffered a fire in 1991. In 2010, the bridge was closed when a truck exceeding the weight limit tried to cross and severely damaged the floor and structural supports. Renovation began in October 2013, but on February 11, 2014, the upper section suddenly collapsed, falling into the riverbed. The bridge is now being completely dismantled, and each part inspected for reliability.

The Stonelick Covered Bridge is reportedly home to an apparition that appears when properly summoned. If you would like to visit the apparition personally, drive inside the bridge and park near the lone window. Turn the engine off and flash your headlights 3 times, then look out the window. Outside, among the trees, you will see a man hanging by his neck. Even if you try to start your car, you will not be able to do so until the man is gone. Extensive research has failed to turn up any historical record of a death involving the bridge, and the mysterious figure in the trees has no traceable story. There is also a supposed haunted farm house nearby, and angry “cult members” will chase you off the property if you are caught there after dark.
**JUNIOR VOLUNTEER SCHOLARSHIP**

Heritage Village Museum has a very devoted core of Junior Volunteers who have transitioned to adult volunteers and many of those volunteers attend college. To highlight their contributions to Heritage Village and show a measure of gratitude, the Village will be offering a $500.00 dollar scholarship to one currently enrolled or college-bound volunteer.

The recipient of this scholarship will be chosen based on the number of volunteer hours and content of a short, required essay. The essay is a simple one-page, typed explanation of

*What does the Village mean to me and how has it prepared me for the future?*

For additional criteria, contact Steve Preston or Bill Dichtl. Applications should be submitted via email, mail, or in person by July 31, 2015.

**MILKWEED TO MONARCHS**

Last fall the Cincinnati Nature Center announced a campaign to help change the plight of the monarch butterflies. Their population is threatened!

Years ago it was a common sight in the Midwest during summer to see the monarchs fluttering about. Milkweeds are disappearing and that is one flower the monarch eats and lays its eggs on.

The Cincinnati Nature Center mailed packets of milkweed to organizations and individuals to plant.

The Heritage Village Museum requested the seeds and they were planted last month. They were planted in the area where we have dye plants growing near the admission tent.

Hopefully, later this month we will see many monarchs fluttering around this area.
SLAVERY, POLITICS, AND ELK LICK HOUSE

BY STEVE PRESTON

Thomas Morris is a forgotten titan of Ohio politics. Serving only one term as a United States Senator from Ohio, 1833-1839, Morris left his mark on national politics because of slavery. Voted in on the coattails of the Jackson presidency, Morris stood strong with the president on the issues of the banking system and ‘nullification’. As time went on, he became an early opponent of slavery; this put him at odds with the Jacksonian Machine that got him elected as a result.

Born in Berks County, Pennsylvania, January 3, 1776, Morris was the fifth child of a Baptist minister and his wife. They soon moved to Clarksburg, Virginia, now West Virginia. Tradition holds that his anti-slavery beliefs were a result of his mother’s views. His mother, Ruth, was the daughter of a Virginia planter. Seeing the hardships of her father’s slaves had an impact on her to the point of not accepting four slaves as part of her inheritance. It should be noted, however, that she also did not free them. If indeed this was where the seeds were sown for his anti-slavery beliefs, they would not surface until his time as a United States Senator.

After a brief stint, searching for Indians in the back country as a Wood Ranger, under the command of Captain Levi Morgan, Thomas Morris arrived at the Columbia settlement in 1795. He worked as a store clerk for several years, married Rachel Davis in 1797, then moved to Bethel, Ohio in Clermont County in 1800. He studied for and passed the bar to become a lawyer in 1804. He set up shop in Bethel and soon had a successful practice as a frontier lawyer.

Thanks to his success, he rose to prominence and was elected to the Ohio House of Representatives in 1806. He went on to serve in the Ohio Senate as well before gaining the national stage as United States Senator from Ohio 1833-1839. His selection by the Democrats for the senate seat was largely viewed as reward for his ardent support of the re-election of Andrew Jackson. Morris proved his loyalty by supporting Jackson’s war with the National Bank and introducing anti-nullification legislature that passed through the government. This may have been the high-water mark for this relationship.

Continued on page 9
SLAVERY, POLITICS, AND ELK LICK HOUSE

Continued from page 8

As the issue of slavery raised its ugly head due to America’s expansion, legislators began to take sides based on state location and personal beliefs. On January 7, 1836, Senator Morris introduced an anti-slavery bill in the 24th Congress, which raised the ire of South Carolina’s John C. Calhoun. In response to Calhoun’s attack, Morris stood his ground and seemingly broke what was a “gentleman’s agreement” not to broach the subject at length. The gauntlet had been thrown down and Morris was now hailed a torch bearer by abolitionists such as Cincinnati’s James G. Birney. While popular in those circles, his views were not so within the party that elected him. President Andrew Jackson went so far as to “shun” him on his visit to Cincinnati. The writing was on the wall; Morris had lost the support of his party due to his outspoken views on slavery. As the Senator’s first term came to a close, he did not seek a second term in the senate.

Thomas Morris returned to Clermont County. In 1840, he began to work at the Elk Lick Mill property owned in partnership by Charles White, his son-in-law, and others. The property had a sawmill, gristmill, and distillery on site. Morris split his time between his home in Bethel and working and staying on the grounds of the Elk Lick House compound. It appears that with the exception of running for vice-president on the Liberty Party ticket in 1844, that most of Morris’ time was spent at Elk Lick Mills. So much so that three mortgages were owed to Thomas Morris’ estate after his death December 7, 1844. A rise in the value of the Elk Lick property indicates that the Elk Lick House front addition was probably built while Morris was still alive, perhaps as his retirement home. To reinforce this possibility, the census of 1850, according to researcher, Mary Ladrick, shows Charles White, Thomas Morris’ widow and three daughters all living at Elk Lick House. Regardless, Senator Morris left his mark on the anti-slavery movement, Clermont County, and Elk Lick House.
Two Ohio teachers told Ohio’s Governor’s Reception that they’ve improved their teaching skills significantly with help from the Ohio Society. In summer 2014, the Society sponsored Suzanne Gripenburg and Steve Preston at Colonial Williamsburg’s Teacher Institute, where teachers immerse themselves in Colonial life. The intensive 6 day program lets teachers live American history in Williamsburg, the restored capital city of 18th century Virginia. Teachers take part in simulations of colonial living, from the perspectives of different types of people, and learn techniques to bring the colonial era to life for their students.

Preston said the Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute strengthened his programs at Heritage Village in Sharon Woods park, where he serves as Education Director. “The immersion experience made me better at presenting history, at playing the part, at identifying the ‘teachable moments’.” Preston pays particular attention to the use of detail in a historical character’s life story and the way it manifests in dress and artifacts. “When I portray a character, I inform by what I wear, what I carry, what I use. This happens before I even talk. I want to make every detail correct—my suspenders, my musket. You never know which detail a child will remember!”

Ohio Society Governor Dr. M. Donald Hays chairs the teacher education program and nominated Gripenburg and Preston to Council for sponsorship of tuition and travel expenses.

**STEVE PRESTON HONORED AT OHIO’S GOVERNOR’S RECEPTION**

---

Save the Date

- **August 9:** Art from the Start: Artist in Early Cincinnati
- **August 18:** Songs of Stephen Foster
- **September 19-20:** Fall Harvest Festival
- **October 2-3:** Echoes of the 1800’s Ohio’s Untold History
## Donors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bill &amp; Cynthia Mottel</td>
<td>John Seeck</td>
<td>Rob &amp; Lynne Carter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sherry Bryant</td>
<td>David Mowry</td>
<td>Sally Connelly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte Voss</td>
<td>Winkie Foster</td>
<td>Elaine Krick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rick &amp; Janis Kiefer</td>
<td>Roxann Dieffenbach</td>
<td>Mr &amp; Mrs Kenneth Wright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr &amp; Mrs Rudy Beaujon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## New and Renewing Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ting &amp; Wen-Yin Tu</td>
<td>Mr &amp; Mrs Philip Trickey</td>
<td>Brad &amp; Tara Proano-Raps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julie Hermann</td>
<td>John Seeck</td>
<td>Rob &amp; Lynne Carter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr &amp; Mrs Alex Teass</td>
<td>Donna &amp; Alan Short</td>
<td>Mel &amp; Pete Griffiths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robin Davidson</td>
<td>Brian Saal</td>
<td>Susan Bacevich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Hinton</td>
<td>Scott Johnson</td>
<td>Lauren Koon &amp; Aaron Herzig</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patricia &amp; Brian Becker</td>
<td>Keith Hanley</td>
<td>Emily &amp; Don White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christina Solomon</td>
<td>Glenna Stricklett</td>
<td>Walter Seebohm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rick &amp; Janis Kiefer</td>
<td>Mamta Kori</td>
<td>Ron &amp; Liz Gorley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bobbie Ebbers</td>
<td>Louise Allen</td>
<td>Carolyn Hoeltke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terri Puckett</td>
<td>Winkie Foster</td>
<td>Roxann Dieffenbach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr &amp; Mrs Leland Cole</td>
<td>Mr &amp; Mrs Doug Bell</td>
<td>Katie &amp; Jeremy Smeltz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr &amp; Mrs Rudy Beaujon</td>
<td>Bryan Bertram</td>
<td>Bob Berrones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dave Brooks</td>
<td>Bill Dieckmann</td>
<td>Dan Fischer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dave Fischer</td>
<td>Tim Gilkey</td>
<td>Joe Gilkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Griffith</td>
<td>Andy Juengling</td>
<td>Mike Juengling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brad Keller</td>
<td>Joe Kennedy</td>
<td>Dave Koch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Obermeyer</td>
<td>Larry Philips</td>
<td>Doug Rowe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeff Sliter</td>
<td>Dan Thomas</td>
<td>Brian Essen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Fernholz</td>
<td>Lance Fiemeyer</td>
<td>Charlie Goodwin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noah Goodwin</td>
<td>Danny Goodwin</td>
<td>Grant Griffith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Hurr</td>
<td>Andy King</td>
<td>Rick Krummen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Leary</td>
<td>Bev Lyon</td>
<td>Andrew Pardi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chip Rickard</td>
<td>Landon Smith</td>
<td>Mark Stewart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chad Wilson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Check out our website, www.heritagevillagecincinnati.org for all the latest news and upcoming events happening at the Village!