



**LYNDON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY – “Bridging the Past with the Future”
February 2015 Annual Newsletter**

Pursuing Our Mission

- To restore the Lyndon Area Historical Society to a viable community asset
- To convert the sanctuary for public use – celebrations and events
- To preserve and archive Lyndon’s venerable history
- To create a media, technology, and genealogy center

Future Museum Restoration

We have purchased a new efficiency-sized hot water heater which has been installed by the good-hearted Beau Wetzell and Bart Bielema. Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Coffin, long-time residents of Lyndon, have most generously painted the exterior ramp, and a fresh coat of paint has been added to the adjacent door. We are now at a most critical juncture in our restoration projects - ***facing the formidable financial challenge of replacing the roof and gutter system. The roof is in extremely poor condition and continues to deteriorate at an alarming rate. The harsh winter of 2014 caused exceptional damage. We beg all of you to help us raise the additional funds needed to replace it. Your family membership of \$20.00 will greatly assist us. Annual membership dues and donations are essential to our continued existence. Please seriously consider an extra donation to our building restoration fund. The estimated roofing costs exceed \$20,000.***

Financial Status

A total of \$10,075 was credited to us in 2014. \$4755 of that amount has been received through special memorials and donations presented to us through the remarkable benevolence of a few current and former Lyndon area residents. Other sources of income for 2014 have been: dues, merchandise sales, building facility usage fees, the annual yard sale, the 1st annual Bridge Bash, and the 5th annual Trivia Night. Expenses for 2014 totaled \$6011. Please know that all historical society board members volunteer 100% of their time and efforts. We are sustained through generosity, ingenuity, optimism, and elbow-grease.

We have completed and submitted the IRS application for our 501 c (3) tax status. Currently, we await a response from the IRS. Such a nonprofit tax status will allow us to apply for both public and private grants.

Pay Pal

We are researching the feasibility of setting up a PayPal account on our website. Such an account is contingent upon the issuance of our 501 c(3) non-profit tax status.

Usage of the Facility

Both the chapel and downstairs fellowship hall may be reserved for private events and celebrations. Please visit our website at: www.lyndonareahistoricalsociety.org for a PDF copy of the Usage Agreement and Fees.

Current Exhibits

On display are: the history of the Lyndon schools and businesses, the Lyndon Bridge and artifacts from Dr. Holt. A permanent display of Bud Gibson commemorates his invaluable contributions to the village of Lyndon.

2014 Facility Usage – A Review of Events and Fundraisers

In March we hosted the PLT #3 IHSA Vocal Recital and the Crow Festival Trivia Night. In April, we supported the Wright Family annual community Easter Egg Hunt by providing the rental fee for the “bounce house”. A private wedding was held in May as was our participation in the village annual yard sale. We were the first stop for the Crow Fest Golf Cart Poker Run in June. Also in June, Bonnie Miles provided a quilting square workshop followed by a vintage quilt display. July brought us Dmitry Feofanov, resident of Lyndon and accomplished concert pianist, who amazed us as he performed Mozart’s Sonata in D major. We partnered with the Lyndon Village Board to host our 1st annual Bridge Bash in October. It was a heart-warming Sunday afternoon spent at our historic bridge. The day’s events featured entertainment, a cake walk, bake sale, kids’ games, 50/50 drawing, raffles, a professional photographer, sale of historical society memorabilia, and a delicious meal of pulled pork, baked beans, coleslaw, drinks and desserts. Costumed little ones did not let a cold and rainy Halloween night keep them from trick or treating at the historical society. Our 5th annual fall Trivia Night – *Raise the Roof*, was held in November featuring home-made goodies, raffle items, door prizes, and a 50/50 drawing. Many area businesses generously donated items for the door prizes and raffle items. The 3rd annual Holiday Open House – A Visit from Santa, was held in December. Santa arrived courtesy of the Lyndon Fire Department. The kids and their families enjoyed Santa’s visit, yummy treats, and holiday stories. The Leo Club of Prophetstown High School assisted the kids as they created holiday ornaments. 2014 came to a close with a private Christmas party held in the downstairs fellowship hall.

Memorabilia

Mouse pads, coasters, beverage insulators, refrigerator magnets, note cards, T-shirts, Whiteside County History Books...these are just a few of the many items available for purchase through the Lyndon Area Historical Society. A number of these items are also available at the Lyndon Village Hall. Contact Alicia Wetzell (815-499-1813) or Lindy Greenwood (815-499-3840) for further information.

Media and Marketing

Our website address is www.lyndonareahistoricalociety.org Visit our site to **contact us**, to view our **photo gallery** and **calendar of events**, or for information concerning the use of **our facility for your next event**. A **membership form** is available at this site. You can also contact us at lyndonareahistoricalociety@yahoo.com Call either Mary Ellen (Hunt) Rogers (815-778-4962) or Kris Bielema (815-778-4801). We are on Facebook. We are generally showcased in the following: The Echo, The Whiteside Sentinel, The Erie Review, The Fulton Journal, The Prairie Advocate, The Gazette, and at thecity1.com. Look for us in the **2015 Northwest Illinois Visitor Guide** or visit www.visitnorthwestillinois.com

A Special Thank You

We wish to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all who have so generously given to the Lyndon Area Historical Society. To those who have made monetary donations – thank you. To those Lyndon residents who have donated items – thank you. To those businesses who have donated items for our fundraisers – thank you. To Rod Copeland, for his legal expertise – thank you. To Tony Winstead, our web designer - thank you. To the Coffins, Lois Pilgrim, Mary Stern, Karen Combs, Bonnie Miles, Karen Miles, Jeff Wirth, Carol Fox, and Rosalie Pollard – thank you. To the Lyndon Village Board and Public Works employees – thank you. To the Lyndon Fire Department – thank you. To the Prophetstown High School Leo Club, for their greatly appreciated assistance at our Holiday Open House – thank you. To our most faithful board members for their incredible commitment to our mission – thank you.

Board Meetings

We meet the last Wednesday of every month at 6:00 pm at 405 4th St. West. All board meetings are open to the public. (No meetings in December or January)

Museum Hours

Generally, we are open every Wednesday from 1:00 – 3:00 pm. If you wish to visit the facility at another time, contact Kris Bielema (815-499-4015).

2015 Events

All events are subject to changes/adjustments as needed. Others may be included at a later date. For updates check our calendar on our website at: www.lyndonareahistoricalsociety.org. You can also visit us on Facebook.

February		
March		PLT #3 IHSA Vocal Recital
April		1 st Annual Spring Trivia Night
April	4	Wright Family Easter Egg Hunt at Richmond Park (sponsor)
May		Bake Sale/Refreshment Stop during Lyndon's Annual Yard Sales
June		Weddings of the Past Display
July		TBA
August		TBA
September	28	2 nd Annual Bridge Bash
October	31	Trick or Treating
November	14	6 th Annual Fall Trivia Night
December	6	Holiday Open House – Visit from Santa and Children's Holiday Crafts

Sincerely,

Carol (Richmond) Crady – president; Alicia (Attig) Wetzell – vice president; Mary Ellen (Hunt) Rogers – treasurer; Kris Bielema - secretary

Board Members: Jim Boonstra, Dale Ann and Terry Cook, Lindy Greenwood, Neil Johnson, Brady Nance (youth member), Bart Bielema, and Kodi Wright

Lyndon Area Historical Society Membership Form

Return this portion with your membership dues/donations.

To make a monetary donation and/or to become a member, please mark the appropriate area and mail your check to our address:

Lyndon Area Historical Society
PO Box 112
Lyndon, IL 61261

Single Membership (\$10.00)

Family Membership (\$20.00)

Monetary Donation/Memorial (Please specify the intent of donation/memorial in the space provided below).

We are *Always* in need of volunteers. Please consider any of the following:

I am interested in becoming a board/committee member.

I am interested in helping the museum maintain specific visitor hours.

I am interested in cataloging artifacts.

I am interested in helping with painting, carpentry, yard work, housekeeping, etc.

I am interested in donating items to the museum.

Other _____

NAME _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

***Lyndon Area Historical Society
PO Box 112
405 W. 4th Street
Lyndon, IL 61261***

***Local Postal Patron
Lyndon, IL 61261***

