



Greetings from your Historical Society President!

“This past year of 2019 has been busy and productive at our Lyndon Area Historical Society. As you read through this newsletter make note of our activities, accomplishments, and fundraisers. Our board strives to present interesting and fun events in hopes that Lyndon residents – past and present – will learn our village history and want to be present in our society. We appreciate each and every attendee, member and donor for sharing their gifts, talents, and funds. We couldn’t keep our doors open without YOU!

Carol (Richmond) Crady

TOTAL RECORDED VISITORS FOR 2019 = 283+

Reflections of 2019

April	Spring Trivia Night (fundraiser)	October	Trick or Treat at the museum (service)
May	Spring Celebration (program)	November	Fall Trivia Night (fundraiser)
September	Collections of Lyndon residents (exhibit)		Salute to Veterans (exhibit)
		December	Light Up the Lyndon Bridge (service)

Our ever-popular Spring and Fall Trivia Nights are our main fundraisers. In May we hosted our Spring Celebration featuring Ron and Connie Koehn. A program, the Lincoln Assassination – The Trial, was presented. Following the program, **The Connection**, an area musical group, entertained our guests with a musical montage of 60’s pop music. Collections of Lyndon residents featured displays of vintage telephones, Ginny Dolls, Native American dolls, Precious Moments dolls, historic quilts, miniature teacups, vintage postcards, salt and pepper shakers, milk glass, Coca Cola collectibles, vintage pitchers, and Teamsters pins. Halloween 2019 featured snow- covered Trick or Treaters! We again partnered with the Village of Lyndon and the Royal Neighbors of America to Light Up the Lyndon Bridge on Sunday, December 8, 2019. Santa and his sleigh welcomed more than 100 visitors. AroundPtown.com featured a heartwarming video of the event. The lights welcomed visitors throughout the holiday season.

Salute to Veterans - November 10, 2019

Howard Darrell Bowen – enlisted US Army 1947	Richard “Dick” Osteen – Air Force 1953 -1957 France
Douglas Orton Chamberlain – US Army Korea	Wayne M. Sawyer – US Army WWII
Leroy C. “Pee Wee” Garrison – US Navy WWII	Charles Leroy Stewart, Jr (KIA) – US Navy Vietnam
Arthur Kent Gibson – US Army Korea	Renyold “Ren” VanDerLeest – US Army Korea
Robert Madsen – US Navy WWII	Joe Williams – enlisted US Navy 1981
Ralph Madsen – US Army WWII	Joseph Henry Wyckstandt – US Army Airborne WWII
Donald Arland Meier – US Army stationed in US	Emil Alphonse Wyckstandt – US Army Air Corp WWII
Thomas Montgomery – US Army Vietnam	

Since 2016, the Lyndon Area Historical Society has created over 120 military veteran exhibit posters. If you are interested in submitting information on family members who served, please contact Lois Pilgrim at 815-213-1952. We will mail you an informational packet. All packets MUST be returned no later than September 1, 2020 if you wish to have a family member honored at our November 8, 2020 exhibit.

Remembering Our Lyndon Area Residents

These former and recent Lyndon residents passed away in 2019: Frank Belt, Kevin Gibson, JoAnn Bultema Hill, Chuck Lalley, Charlene Nance, Shirley Buntjer, Dorothea Schroeder, Opal Smith, Nellie Zaagman, Thomas and Dawn Whitney.

Tidbits from Our Files: Lyndon Businesses

In September of 1935, Lyndon celebrated its 100th birthday. Among businesses advertising in the Centennial Edition of the Sterling Daily Gazette were names yet familiar to those raised in Lyndon.

- Roy Eads – buyer and seller of live poultry
- E. E. Gardner – hardware
- Harrington Brothers – groceries, meats, clothing, shoes
- Ronald Kniskern – Sand and gravel
- McDearmon and Attig – Lyndon Feed Mill
- Gibson Brothers – Purol Products
- Settles Garage – Chevrolet cars, Texaco gas and oil

2020 Proposed Calendar of Events (ALL EVENTS AND DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.)

April 4	Spring Trivia Night (fundraiser)	October 24	Fall Trivia Night (fundraiser)
May/June	Garage Sale**(fundraiser)	October 31	Trick or Treating at the museum (service)
July		November 8	Salute to Area Veterans (exhibit)
August		December	Light the Lyndon Bridge (service)
September	Ladies Fall Luncheon(program)		

** The Gibson Oil Company has been a strong supporter of our efforts. We have maintained their planter for the last 3 years. The Gibson family approached us as they are planning to take down their old storage building on 1st Avenue. They have allowed us to retrieve items that may be of historical significance. We have been given further permission to host a garage sale in May or June at the old storage building.

Proposed programs: The Oatmen Family Massacre, Lyndon’s Schools, Lyndon’s Sports Stand-Outs, the Lyndon Post Office, and a presentation by Mary (Poulter) Stegmiller from her new book, Life’s Lessons from King David and Grandma.

Keeping Our Doors Open - 2019 Operating Expenses

Expenses	Amount	Expenses	Amount
Utilities (gas/electricity/water)	1495.00	Memorabilia	50.00
Office Supplies/Maintenance/Fees	327.00	2019 Newsletter	317.00
Insurance	1392.00	Structural Updates	1775.00
Pest Control	200.00	Donations**	425.00**
Website	260.00		
		TOTAL	6241.00

Contact Mary Ellen Rogers (815-778-4962) for further information concerning, our operating expenses, fundraisers, dues, donations and memorials.

** Wright’s Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Light the Bridge Fund

Work Accomplished in 2019

Funding New Beginnings Community Foundation Grant provided funds needed to complete these insurance- required structural updates.

- Completion of cement step repair at sanctuary doors (Deerview/Color Star Construction)
- Installation of new threshold at sanctuary doors (Dan Posey)
- Installation of 4 illuminated exit signs (Bryan Bowen Electric)
- Installation of GCFI outlets in fellowship hall kitchen (Bryan Bowen Electric)
- Installation of photo-cell security light at ramp entrance (Bryan Bowen Electric)

Keith and John Crady donated materials and labor to repair the ramp and foundation cracks.

Facility Improvement Projects 2020 and Beyond...

- Remove and replace old nob and tube wiring (*work on this project commenced in December 2019 and was completed in January 2020. (Bowen Electric and Strikes’ Electric)*)
- Feasibility study for installation of an additional restroom
- Internet access; new laptop and printer

Usage of the Facility

Both the chapel and the fellowship hall may be reserved for private events and celebrations. Visit our website for a copy of the Facility Usage Agreement. Contact Kris Bielema (815-499-4015) for further information.

Media and Marketing

Contact us by calling or texting Kris Bielema at (815-499-4015). On Face Book, visit ***You Know You Grew Up in Lyndon if You Remember...*** Our website at www.lyndonareahistoricalsociety.org has a photo gallery, calendar, history, facility usage forms, genealogy research, Lyndon Bridge chronology, past issues of our newsletters, and a membership form. We are often showcased in AroundPtown.com and in Sauk Valley Media publications – The Sterling Gazette, The Echo, The Whiteside News Sentinel, The Erie Review, and the Fulton Journal. Look and Listen for PSA announcements of events on WLLT 94.3 FM, PSA boards at the PLT #3 District Office, Prophetstown Super Wash, Lyndon Village announcement board at the public works building on Commercial Street, and flyers posted throughout the Lyndon area.

Bill Doering, our Bridge Bash photographer, was honored with an award from The Last Picture Show in Dixon, IL. for his Lyndon Bridge photo. It is on display at KSB Hospital in Dixon. James Stepp of Morrison, IL has generously shared his Lyndon Bridge photos with us. Mr. Stepp's photo – Winter Serenity – is on display at the Lyndon Village Hall. James Stepp photos (8 x 10) can be purchased for a \$20 donation to the Lyndon Area Historical Society.

Memorabilia for Sale

We have a variety of items available: t-shirts, magnets, coasters, mugs, mouse pads, can koozies, postcards, notecards, mugs, Lyndon History Books compiled by Gene Harrington, Whiteside County History Books, and Lyndon Bridge photos.

Board Meetings and Museum Hours

Board meetings are the last Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm at 405 4th St. West from March – November. Generally, we are open Wednesdays from 1:00 – 3:00 pm. Call Kris Bielema at (815-499-4015) if you plan a visit.

Please remember!! We are sustained through volunteerism, fiscal diligence, dues, memorials, fundraisers, ***availability of grant monies***, generosity, ingenuity, optimism, and elbow-grease. ***Those annual membership dues, donations, memorials, and fundraisers are critical to our continued existence.*** LAHS is not funded through any foundations, trusts, or endowments. We are a 501 (c) 3 non-profit entity. All donations are tax-exempt. We can provide documentation of your donations for your financial records.

Sincerely,

Carol (Richmond) Crady – president; Lois (Johnson) Pilgrim – vice president; Mary Ellen (Hunt) Rogers – treasurer.

Kris Burke-Bielema – secretary. Board Members: Bart Bielema, Jim and Connie Boonstra, Dale Ann and Terry Cook, Lindy Greenwood, Neil Johnson, Brady Nance, Mimi Sweetser, Alicia Wetzell, Kadi Wright

Lyndon Area Historical Society Membership Form

Return this form to: Lyndon Area Historical Society 405 4th Street West PO Box 112 Lyndon, IL 61261

Check Payable: Lyndon Area Historical Society

_____ Single Membership (\$10.00) _____ Family Membership (\$20.00) _____ Monetary Donation/Memorial

Please specify the intent of donation/memorial _____

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

I am interested in helping at the Lyndon Area Historical Society. Contact me.

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

**Local Postal Patron
Lyndon, IL 61261**

