



Greetings From the Lyndon Area Historical Society,

Another year has passed with Covid in the background. As Covid persisted, we continued to be mindful of safety in 2022. But this year, as the deadly disease seems to be in better check, we hope to return to more regular operations! For the first time in three years, we hope to hold our beloved Trivia Nights in 2023. The board will assess as April draws near and take a vote. Fingers crossed!

I have completed my first year as Board President with the dedicated support of the other board members and my family. It has been a labor of love and I very much enjoy the partnership keeping LAHS in working order for future generations. I want to thank the businesses, residents, society members and board members for their donations of money, time and materials that help keep LAHS maintained and improved, ensuring it remains a gem in Lyndon to be proud of.

With kind regards,
Mimi Sweetser

Reflections of 2022

June: Landscaping additions

July/August: New Free Little Library and Bench

November: Lyndon Area Veterans Display

December: Lighting of the Bridge*

*For the third year in a row, LAHS has partnered with the Royal Neighbors of America and the Lyndon Village and enthusiastic residents to decorate and light the bridge. Despite the bitter cold, on December 3rd, Santa, visitors and the press came out to enjoy the Lighting of the Bridge. It is such a joy to see people utilize the historic bridge for pictures and get-togethers.

Total recorded Historical Society visitors in 2022: 41

Honoring our Lyndon Area Veterans November 13, 2022.

This was our 7th year honoring the Lyndon Area Veterans. We paid special tribute to Lois Pilgrim who was instrumental in creating thoughtful exhibits since 2016. Before she passed, she was working on a special salute to Women in Service. In addition to this special display honoring Lois, 41 honorees are still on display through March. Eleven of those are new: Jim Blumhoff, John =m,./ ildebrand, Robert Hildebrand, John Wesley Holt, Richard Maronde II, Everett McDivitt, Jerry McClellan Jr., George Ransom, Charles Thomas Ryan Jr., Roland Sawyer, and Fred Steele.

Each year our collection grows, and the information provided by veterans and their families is turned into exhibits designed by Dale Ann Cook, Carol Crady, Mimi Sweetser, and Kris Bielema. If you are interested in sharing information on a family member, please contact Carol Crady (815.449.7875)

Remembering our Lyndon Area Residents Who Have Passed In 2022:

Beth E. (Detra) Abbadusky, Marilyn (Morse) Bielema, John Buntjer, Kenneth Bohm, Gordon Bennett, David "Joe" Crocker, Avis (Landheer) Chamberlain, Lois J. (Johnson) Pilgrim, Glenda J. (Rummel) Norman, Brian Lanphere, Kay (Foster) Nelson, Patricia A. (Loechel) Gorzny, Mark S. Jones, Ardetta Pearl (Belt) Hayner, Warren

E. “Bud” Keel Jr., George Taylor Jr., LaVisa (Woodard) Sathoff, Roger E. Sutton Sr., Betty (Olson) Rose, Kenneth “Rick” Stallings

Keeping Our Doors Open - 2022 Operating Expenses:

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

Expenses	Amount	Expenses	Amount
Utilities (gas/electricity/water/wifi)	2486	Newsletter Printing	160
DC Computers (Microsoft 365 subscription)	99	Secretary of State (annual report)	10
Insurance	1237	USPS (annual newsletter, postage, postbox)	203
Pest Control	225	Bank Lock Box	32
Website	230	Hot Spot	75
Supplies (office, archiving, exhibits)	1084		
Facility Improvements (toilet, water softener, outdoor water spigot)	2190	TOTAL	8031

2022 Grants:

ARPA SLFRF (American Rescue Plan/Coronavirus State and Local Recovery Funds): Whiteside County Grant Award for Covid Relief from missed Trivia Nights

Moore Grant: comfort height toilet, safety grab bar, water softener, exterior water spigot.

2022 Accomplishments

- *Installation of various plumbing needs
- *Creation of new kiosk for our Free Little Library (thanks to generous donations of time and materials from various residents and businesses)
- *Addition of handmade wooden bench (thanks to another generous donation...)
- *Partnership with the IMPACT Program at Sauk Valley Community College
- *Installation of a new flower bed at the East side of the building complete with edgers there and at the South facing side of the building (front), with a refresh of donated mulch.
- *Gibson’s Conoco partnership in upkeep of their planter on the North face of their business.

Proposed Facility Improvements for 2023 and beyond

We are currently researching storage options to house and protect our 160+ Veteran’s Posters and other Lyndon memorabilia/artifacts. In addition, painting of the facility’s exterior doors and trim is needed as well as various siding, downspout, and gutter repairs.

We need your continued support:

As stated in our annual newsletters: ***“we are sustained through volunteerism, fiscal diligence, dues, memorials, fundraisers, availabilities of grant monies, generosity, ingenuity, optimism, and elbow grease.”*** LAHS is not funded through any foundations, trusts, or endowments. Because we are a 501 (c 3) non-profit entity, 100% of all contributions (donations and memorials) **must be directed solely** to the care, operation, improvement, and maintenance of the Lyndon Area Historical Society. All donations are tax exempt. Please consider us in your retirement planning and/or IRA Required Minimum Distribution (RMD). Contact your financial advisor/ tax preparer for further information on the most current IRS guidelines for charitable donations. The Lyndon Area Historical Society treasurer will provide documentation of your donations for your financial

records. We thank you for being a part of the society and your continued support as we look forward to the future with a firm grip on the past.

Usage of the Facility

Due to Covid guidelines and insurance restrictions, the use/rental of our facility for large events has been on hold. We are currently reassessing the options. If you have any questions, please contact Mimi Sweetser (813.774.0963).

Media and Marketing

Contact Kris Bielema at (815.499.4015) if you have any questions on this matter. Our website is www.lyndonareahistoricalociety.org The village website is: www.villageoflyndon.org ***You Know You Grew Up in Lyndon if You Remember...*** is an excellent Facebook page you will enjoy visiting. Other excellent sources of local news are www.aroundptown.com. and The Prophetstown Echo newspaper.

Memorabilia For Sale

We have a variety of items available: t-shirts, magnets, coasters, mugs, mouse pads, can koozies, postcards, notecards, Lyndon History Books compiled by Gene Harrington, and Whiteside County History Books. Beautiful, photos of the Lyndon Bridge can be ordered. Samples are on display at the society.

Board Meetings and Museum Hours

Board meetings are the last Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm at 405 4th St. West from March – October. Generally, we are open Wednesdays from 1:00 – 3:00 pm. It is best to call ahead to Mimi Sweetser if you plan a visit. (813.774.0963)

LAHS Officers/ Board

Mimi Sweetser –President; Carol Crady-- 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, Alicia Wetzell, Kodi Wright

Lyndon Area Historical Society Membership Form

Return this portion with your membership dues/donation/memorials.
You keep our doors open! Thank You!

To make a monetary donation and/or to become a member, please mark below. Return this form to: Lyndon Area Historical Society 405 4th Street West PO Box 112 Lyndon, IL 61261. Check Payable: Lyndon Area Historical Society We are a 501 (C) 3 tax-exempt organization.

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

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

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

**Local Postal Patron
Lyndon, IL 61261**

