



## SOLON HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

March 10th, 2022

Greetings Historical Society Members and Supporters! Even with the COVID pandemic keeping us from sharing the museum and programs with the public your Board has been hard at work making improvements to the museum, receiving and cataloging donations, hosting 3rd Grade tours. Solon Home Days Time Capsule display, Farmers markets and updating our financial obligations to be sure we are always funded into the future.

### **Dues are Due**

It's that time of year for members to renew their memberships to the Solon Historical Society. Your support and commitment to preserving Solon's history is very important. Please take the time to send your dues. You must be a member in good standing in order to participate in any elections or decisions made on behalf of the Solon Historical Society.

### **Election Time**

2022 means that it's election time again. Once again, due to the pandemic we will not have an in person annual meeting. The current Board has agreed to continue in their positions unless voted out. If you are interested in running for one of the 2 year terms of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer or Trustee you must contact Society President Bob Shimits at 440-248-3586 by March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to be on the ballot. We will consider having a Zoom meeting to be announced.

### **Cemetery Stroll**

In late 2021 with COVID seemingly slowing down we were able to present our Cemetery Stroll at Roselawn to a nice crowd of Solon history fans. The on and off rainy weather that day stayed in our favor while costumed volunteers made their presentations.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Tours**

November of 2021 also brought back our 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade tours. All the Solon 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders from St. Rita's, Dorothy Lewis and Solon Elementary schools, except Roxbury made the trip for an in person tour and presentation by Denise Maiorana and Bob Shimits. The Museum had provided a virtual video tour to all the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade teachers in 2020 because of the pandemic. It was nice to see everyone again.



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### **WiFi Installation at Museum**

The Museum Board negotiated a great deal with Solon's Administration to install WiFi at the museum. We paid a one-time cost of \$500.00 to purchase the hardware which included a transmitter from the Solon Center for the Arts and a receiver that will mount on the museum building. If we subscribed for our own WiFi with Spectrum it would have to be a commercial account billed monthly at a much higher rate than residential. Having WiFi accessibility will be an advantage for future programs and interactive displays.

### **Chapel Renovation**

The long awaited small Chapel renovation has begun. Now that the basement Community Room and kitchen remodeling has been completed it was time to move on to the next step of updating and repurposing the museum building. The front Chapel room off the kitchen display room has been unused for many years. It was decided to completely gut the room and repurpose it for a Library. This room was an addition that was added onto the front of the building enclosing an old entrance to the church back in the 1950's. If you, your company or an organization would like to donate to the Library renovation fund or for information on Naming Rights contact me.

### **New Website**

In our plan to update and streamline our operations at the museum it was determined that the current website was outdated and not fulfilling the needs of our organization. The board has contracted with a company that is currently building us a brand new website. We are working closely with them to make sure it is more interactive, the online gift shop is user friendly and the event/calendar page is easily updated. There will also be areas where we can share our huge collection of pictures, videos and documents. When finished we will send out notification to all members.

### **Past Perfect Inventory Program**



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The Collections Committee will hopefully begin soon the daunting task of taking inventory of everything in the Museum collection. Due to our lack of storage space and the huge amount of artifacts we need to streamline our efforts to create a Museum that tells the story of early Solon up to the present time. The Finance Committee has approved the purchase of a new computer system and the purchase of the Past Perfect program to store and catalog our vast collection.

### **Updates to our Donation Options**

**There are different ways you can donate:**

**1) A donation in an amount of your choice** via Paypal, OR send a check to the Solon Historical Society, 33975 Bainbridge Rd, Solon, OH 44139, OR call us at 440-248-3586

### **2) Legacy Giving (Planned Giving)**

**Join our 1820 Legacy Circle! There are many wonderful options:**

- matching corporate gifts
- gifts of stocks and bonds
- annuities
- real estate

**An 1820 Legacy Circle Gift designated in your name can be for current use or establishing restricted funds for special purposes including (but not limited to):**

- Conservation of a specific Collection (Window Restoration)
- Educational Programming
- Scholarship Fund
- Building Maintenance Reserve



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### **Your gift may be at the level of a naming opportunity!**

Please contact President, Bob Shimits at 440-248-3586 or [pathfind41@aol.com](mailto:pathfind41@aol.com) for more information.

### **3) Charitable IRA Rollover**

Are you taking a required minimum distribution from your IRA this year? If you are age 70 ½ and older you can make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) to the Solon Historical Society & Museum and reduce your taxes.

Benefits of a QCD:

- Avoid taxes on transfers of up to \$100,000 from your IRA to Solon Historical Society & Museum
- Satisfy your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) for the year
- Reduce your taxable income, even if you do not itemize deductions

A qualified charitable distribution is a simple and easy way for you to use your IRA to help the Solon Historical Society & Museum's efforts to discover, preserve, and share knowledge about the history of Solon and vicinity. You can help us achieve our goals all while also enjoying valuable tax savings.

### **How to make a Charitable IRA Rollover to the Solon Historical Society.**

- Step 1: Contact your individual Retirement account (IRA) plan custodian to request a direct charitable distribution from your IRA to the Solon Historical Society
- Step 2: Request that your custodian issues a check payable to the Solon Historical Society. Include our Tax ID Number 23-7009379. The materials can be sent to Solon Historical Society 33975 Bainbridge Rd Solon Ohio 44139. Please have your custodian contact Bob Shimits at 440-248-3586 or [pathfind41@aol.com](mailto:pathfind41@aol.com) for Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) instructions.
- Step 3: Receive Acknowledgement. The Solon Historical Society will provide you written acknowledgement shortly after the gift is received.



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### **4) Item Donations**

The Museum accepts objects and photos on a limited basis. The Collections Committee meets to discuss items that are dropped off then will make a formal decision. You will be asked to fill out paperwork for the item when you drop it off, you can choose what the Museum does with the item if we do or do not accept it. If we accept the item, you will be mailed a donation form to fill out and return to our Curator. Please contact us at 440-248-3586 to discuss item donations. Thank you!

### **Learn More**

Want to learn more about the History of Solon and the Solon Historical Society?

View us at [SolonHistoricalSociety.org](http://SolonHistoricalSociety.org) or on FaceBook Solon Historical Society

Visit us at Solon Historical Society

33975 Bainbridge Rd. Solon Ohio 44139

Contact us at [pathfind41@aol.com](mailto:pathfind41@aol.com) or 440-248-3586

Thank you All for your continued support!

Bob Shimits