

THE COLUMBIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
NEWSLETTER  
WINTER – SPRING 2010

Hello. Hope everyone had a nice Holiday Season.

Bronson House looked very nice for the open house. Members worked very hard to make Bronson look the most festive, it has ever looked. At the open house members in attendance were entertained by Jeanne Boey playing her keyboard. But am sorry to report no one other than members came.

As we are in the midst of winter and looking at heating our homes for the next few months the way it was done in 1872 might be of interest.

In contriving the mode of warming a house, attention should be paid not merely to economy of fuel, but to the preservation of a salubrious atmosphere. A chimney fireplace or grate is preferable to a stove, which is apt to give the air a close or disagreeable smell, and produce headache and stupor. Count Rumford imagined that the hot iron roasted the dust that settled on it, which dust was composed of all sorts of animal and vegetable matters; others complain of the extreme dryness of the air. Stoves of brick or earthenware, used in various parts of Europe, are said to be better than iron but all close stoves are liable to the objection, that in using them it is difficult to change the air continually, or procure proper ventilation. The same difficulties prevail, to some extent, in warming a house by a furnace, and the dryness of the air is often productive of discomfort. Steam might afford an agreeable and convenient method of warming apartments. Of all the modes usually adopted, the advantage seems to lie with the open fire. The temperature should be steady and not too high: say 60 or 62 degrees. Apartments in our cities are generally kept at a dangerous degree of heat. Bedroom should not be warmed, more than to have the “outside chill” taken off.

Mrs. E. F. Elliott, *The New Cyclopaedia of Domestic Economy and Practical Housekeeper*, 1872

If the kitchen at Bronson is the oldest area of the house the people building it must not have listened to this advice. That half chimney was built to accommodate a cooking/ heating stove.

The Officers for 2010:

President	Mary Melnyk	Vice President	Ken Roth
Secretary	Jim Hitchcock	Treasurer	Dave Burnett
Corresponding Secretary	Debi Hitchcock		
Publicity	Blanche Nemeth		
Web Master	Barb Hitchcock		
Programming	Jeanne Boey		

The officers met to set the schedule for the first part of the year.  
Please mark your calendar for the following:

**February 9** – meeting at the Columbia Town Hall - 7:00 Social time, 7:30 Program, meeting to follow. Valentines Day is this month, members will participate in the program. Aprons and Valentines. Members that have a special apron(s) old or new, bring them to show and tell their story. Anyone with valentines that are old or new with an interesting story bring them. The historical society's valentines will be on display. For those without aprons or valentines bring a small plate of goodies to share.

**March 9** - Meeting at the Columbia Town Hall - 7:00 Social time, 7:30 Program, meeting to follow.

Tom Neff of the Liverpool Historical Society will give a program on the History of Liverpool Township (Valley City). He will also tell about their Bicentennial occurring this year. Columbia Historical Society has been asked to participate during their July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration. This will be discussed as part of the meeting.

**Monday April 5** - 5:45 at the Columbia Branch Library. The Columbia Story slide show will be presented. The show is open to everyone.

**Sunday, April 11** - Pot luck at Columbia Town Hall - Meet 1:00 P.M. Eat 1:15  
Bring a dish to share and your own table service.

Program at 2:30 up stairs:

Concert Doux is a chamber ensemble specializing in music from the Baroque and Renaissance periods performed on the instruments of the time. The ensemble was formed in 2008 by Andrea Vallejo and Adam Wead, both students of the Early Music Institute at Indiana University. Andrea is a performer of Renaissance, Baroque and Modern flutes and Adam is a specialist on plucked instruments such as the lute and theorbo. While they enjoy performing music from all over Europe, their favorite genre is music of the French court. Come hear a concert of light, Baroque chamber music representing composers of the court of Louis XIV as well as their colleagues from all over Europe.

For those that do not recognize Andrea, she is George & Shirley Heideloff's granddaughter. Those unable to come at 1:00 P.M. are welcome to come to the concert and bring others that are interested.

This and That:

Needed: A couple of people to take down the Christmas tree and pack up the ornaments & decorations.

When it gets a little warmer, a work session to bind copies of Vol 2 needs to be scheduled. Plus there is a need to keep going through the files so we know what we have and where it is.

Donation - Sue Wendt gave the society 2 maps, 1) a zoning map 1981, and survey map covering a couple of sections along Rocky River and a bit of East River Rd.

John Yantz provided pictures of the iron Sprague Rd. Bridge being moved when the first cement bridge replaced it. Also, high water pictures from 1951. They have been scanned and added to our picture collection.