Lamplighter Vol. 17 No. 1 February 2023



Salem Civic Association

2022 Year in Review

by Allison Hibler

2022 was a very active year for the Salem Civic Association (SCA) as we were finally able to return to "normal" operations after a few years of COVID-related interruptions. We hope you were able to participate in some of our annual events in 2022—whether it was enjoying a meal with your neighbors at a SCA general meeting, joining the neighborhood in Chaseland Park for National Night Out (NNO), or making a few bucks by participating in our Neighborhood Garage Sale. We hope to see old and new faces at our events in 2023!

The SCA does plan on continuing to provide meals at our monthly SCA general meetings *every other month* in 2023, beginning with our February meeting (all Salem residents and SCA members are invited to attend!). If you plan on having dinner at these meetings, a donation to help offset costs is very much appreciated! SCA general meetings are typically held the final Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at Salem Baptist Church. Here is a link to the calendar on the SCA's website for upcoming dates: https://salemcivicassociation.org/calendar/.

NNO is an annual event held across the country the first Tuesday in August (including here in Salem!). This year NNO falls on Tuesday August 1. The SCA plans on having another fun night out with the community and local law enforcement in 2023! Don't forget to wear those NNO slap bracelets that many of you received at the 2022 NNO! You can read more about NNO here:

https://nationaltoday.com/national-night-out/. The City of Columbus actually provides community organizations—like the SCA—with grants for certain programs like NNO. If you are interested in volunteering to write the grant application so that

the 2023 NNO is bigger and better than 2022, please email the SCA and we will help you get started: salemcivicassn@gmail.com.

The Neighborhood Garage Sale in 2022 was a huge success—foot traffic began well before the stated 9 a.m. start time and a few folks lingered after the 3 p.m. end time. The use of the "Yard Sale Treasure Map" was a great find to help organize garage sale shoppers, as it allowed garage sale participants to provide the address of their homes and a short description of the things that were being sold—this map was printed and distributed to all participating homes, who provided it to garage sale shoppers to help plan their attack! Garage sale signs were placed around the neighborhood and community and are not cheap. Neither is making photocopies of the Yard Sale Treasure Map. For these reasons, the SCA will be looking for a \$250 sponsor of the Neighborhood Garage Sale in 2023 to help offset these costs.

I would be remiss not to mention the incredibly fun Christmas party held at the December 2022 SCA general meeting. The pizza from Pizza House did not disappoint; the dessert selection was plentiful. We enjoyed live music courtesy of "Otis the Barber," who sang and played familiar songs on his guitar. As everyone entered Salem Baptist—particularly the kids—their eyes were drawn to the huge table with Bingo prizes (the legwork of former President Charlene Combs); everyone was a winner and enjoyed a few games of bingo. Thank you to Salem resident, SCA member, and master-gardener Sam Shy for creating beautiful Christmas-themed centerpieces for the tables at the Christmas party.

Year in Review con't. on page 2

Salem Civic Association Meetings

The next Civic Association meetings are Tuesday, February 28 and Tuesday, March 28. Meetings are held at Salem Baptist Church on Sinclair Road at 7:00 p.m. All residents are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Year in Review con't. from page 1

One event that we were, unfortunately, not able to host in 2022 was the Neighborhood Block Party (planned for the end of September). With more advance planning and a stronger network of volunteers, we do plan on having a block party in 2023, bouncy house and all. If you are interested in volunteering, please email the SCA. Stay tuned for more details.

As announced at several SCA meetings, Salem Elementary School does not have a parent teacher association (PTA)—and as of the writing of this article, still does not. You do not need to have children attending the school in order to start-up/lead/be a member of the PTA. If you are interested in leading the PTA, please email the SCA and we can get you in touch with Barb Valley of The Ohio PTA who will guide you through the process. Principal Nikki Myers has also let the SCA know that Salem Elementary is in need of volunteers for gardening and for monthly evening meals at the school. Please email the SCA if you are interested.

Now to the money. First, your membership fees and your donations directly impact the quantity and quality of events the SCA is able to bring to the community. Thank you for all you did in 2022! Thanks to your membership, we were able to provide ten (10) Salem Elementary School families with Thanksgiving Dinners (thank you to Sam Shy and her team of volunteers for shopping and putting these meal kits together!). Meals included much more than turkey—rolls, butter and cream cheese, fruits, sides, cookies and pies, and more!

Please renew your membership for 2023—or please become a new member in 2023. If there are multiple adults in one home, you can all become members. You can pay for membership in person at any SCA general meeting, in cash—our new Membership Chair Laurel Hobden will be happy to assist! You can also pay for membership online through the SCA website (PayPal)—please note in the "Comment" section what type of membership and how many you are purchasing (e.g., individual, senior (62 and older), business/organization, or non-resident). Here is a link to the site: https://salemcivicassociation.org/join-the-salem-civic-association-become-a-member-today/.

In addition, the SCA collects donations from Salem community members and puts that money directly back into the community. You can donate to the following causes through the SCA:

- The Lamplighter SCA operating costs/general projects Food bank
- Feral cat management Thanksgiving dinners Beautification
- Neighborhood events (Block party, National Night Out, Annual Garage Sale)
 These donations can be made in cash at our monthly SCA general meetings

These donations can be made in cash at our monthly SCA general meetings to Laurel Hobden or can be made online through the SCA website (PayPal) using https://salemcivicassociation.org/make-a-donation/. Please let us know in the message section online how much and to what cause(s) you would like your donation made.

In 2022 we collected \$392 of donations for the *Lamplighter*. This was much



needed as the costs of printing the *Lamplighter* rose 50% between January and November 2022! Leslie Baab was also more busy in 2022 as we were able to put out seven (7) editions of the *Lamplighter!* Leslie does a tremendous job with the layout and organization of the *Lamplighter.* (All seven

Year in Review con't. on page 8

Salem Civic Association

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Secretary

Charlene Walker Combs 614-738-0617 ccombs16@yahoo.com

Freasurer

Allison Hibler allison.hoyt107@gmail.com

Communications Officer

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Officer needed. Contact SCA President, Jake Wheeler, for details.

Membership Officer

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Salem Lamplighter

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Design/Layout/Editing Leslie Baab lesliebaab@yahoo.com

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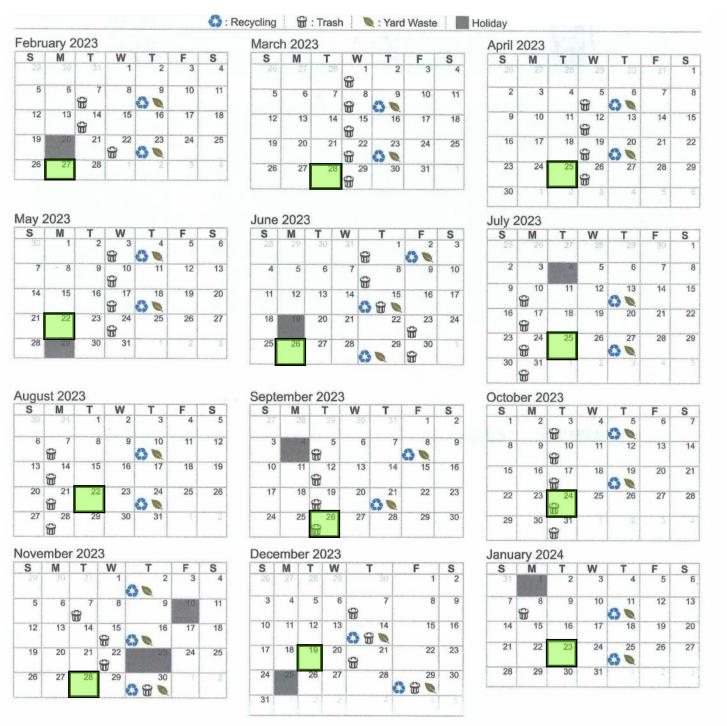


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Don't forget to attend your Salem Civic Association meetings. They are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month, with the exception of December. The December meeting, which is a Christmas party, is on the third Tuesday.

Meetings are at Salem Baptist Church on Sinclair Road at 7:00 p.m. *All are welcome and encouraged to attend*!

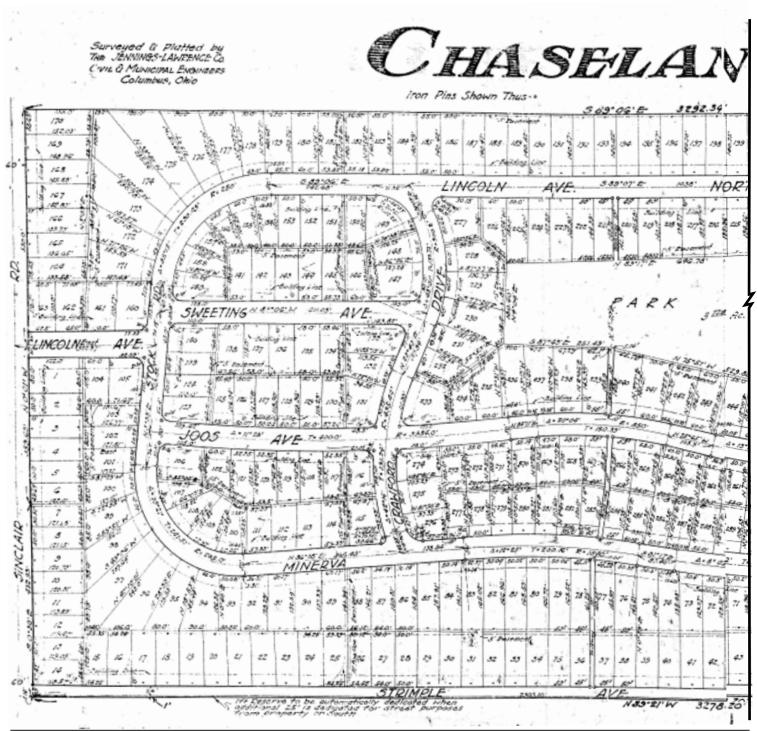


Curious Salem

by Grace Freeman

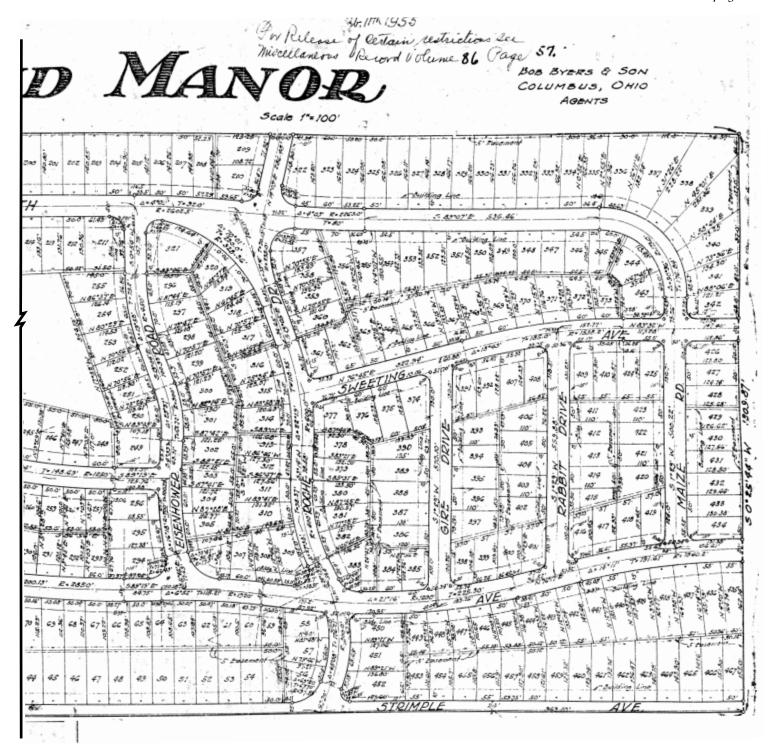
Rather than answer a specific question in this edition of "Curious Salem," I wanted to share this map which dates to 1955 when the Chaseland Manor subdivision was initially platted for one of the primary builders, Bob Byers. Byers was one of the earliest developers in the area and began with the southern portion of what is now Salem, from Lincoln to the northern end of Strimple (the southern side of Strimple was developed separately by Ernest G. Fritsche & Co., as the Aven Gardens development. Fritsche also developed in the northern portion of Salem, later).

As can be seen in this original plat map, the neighborhood was intended to extend further to the east, with Strimple, Minerva and Lincoln continuing further than they do today, connected by an extension of



Maize Rd. (which runs through much of North Linden) running north and south. We also see Sweeting Ave. continuing east of Chaseland Park. Between Sweeting and Minerva are two streets which never came to be: Rabbit Dr. and Gire Dr. This eastern portion was never developed for one major reason: I-71. This map is from 1955, showing intended development, but in 1956, just as building would have begun, the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956 was enacted and portions of the freeway were completed and opened by 1959, with freeway construction continuing into the 1960s—right at the time Salem was being developed and built. The freeway clearly impacted the intended footprint of the neighborhood, with this eastern section being completed absorbed by the freeway.

Curious Salem con't. on page 9



Year in Review con't. from page 2

2022 editions of the *Lamplighter* and 2023 editions can be found on the SCA website https://salemcivicassociation.org/lamplighter-newsletter/.)

If you are interested in writing an article for the Lamplighter on any topic that would be interesting/relevant to the Salem community, please email Leslie at lesliebaab@yahoo.com. Thank you to Salem resident Grace Freeman who keeps us learning more about our community with her regular "Curious Salem" column. If you're interested in a particular question about Salem history, Grace wants to hear from you! Please email your question to curious.salem.oh@gmail.com. A big thank you to Angie VanHulle and the other volunteers who pick up and distribute the Lamplighter (i.e., walk the neighborhood) to Salem residents. If you are interested in picking up a Lamplighter route, email the SCA. Finally, advertisers and SCA business members are essential to helping us fund the Lamplighter. We cannot go to print without these very generous individuals and organizations. We are always interested in new advertisers and business members. Prospective advertisers should get in touch with Leslie Baab and prospective business members with Laurel Hobden.

In 2022 we collected \$200 in donations for the SCA operating costs/general projects and \$49 for bi-monthly meals and hospitality at SCA meetings. We also collected \$240 in donations for the Food Bank for which we were able to present the Worthington Resource Pantry with a check in that amount in late December (Worthington Resource Pantry serves the Salem community). Finally, in 2022 we collected \$415 for feral cat management in the neighborhood. Rae Kirkbride and her team of cat purrsons (I couldn't resist) fearlessly help control the feral cat population in the neighborhood through the Trap Neuter Release (TNR) program.

Finally, perhaps saving the best for last, I refer all readers to the front page story in the April 2022 Lamplighter: "Preferred Living Defeated." Those "No Rezoning. No Preferred Living" signs seem like a distant memory already, but the efforts of the SCA and volunteers to block the proposed development of (more) residential apartment buildings along Sinclair Road was tremendous. Otherwise, without their efforts, we may be dealing with road closures on both the south *and north* sides of Sinclair Road.

Thank you, Salem, for a great 2022! We look forward to another fantastic year!

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Curious Salem con't. from page 7

Gire Drive (like much of the neighborhood) was named for one of the executives with Bob Byers's real estate/development firm. As seen in this advertisement from *The Columbus Dispatch* in 1949, many of the streets in the area were named for those involved in the company's development of our community (Sweeting, Crawford, Byers, Joos).

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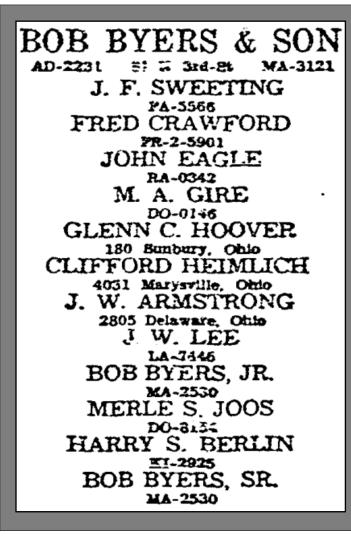
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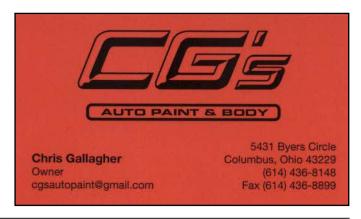
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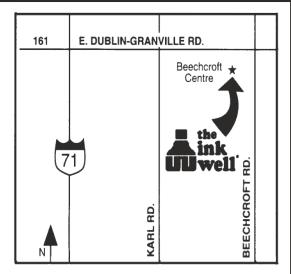
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Membership Application Salem Civic Association, Inc.

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Or join online at: salemcivicassociation.org

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