

The Dickens Crier EXTRA!

Dec. 2, 2006

DICKENS VICTORIAN VILLAGE OPENS WITH CEREMONY, CELEBRATES WITH PARADE THEME

By Toni Kellar

Special to *The Dickens Crier*

CAMBRIDGE, OH – Thousands of people lined the sidewalks of Wheeling Avenue to watch the Cambridge Area Chamber of Commerce's annual Holiday Parade Nov. 25 and to celebrate the official opening of the Dickens Victorian Village display.

This year's parade theme was "A Dickens Of A Holiday," and many floats and walking units celebrated the theme with traditional dress and décor. One float featured Bob Cratchit presenting the Christmas turkey to his family, while others featured men in top hats and women in capes and dresses.

"It's wonderful to see a city like Cambridge take Christmas back to what it should be," said Burdella Thomas of San Diego, Cal., who was inspired by the opening of the Dickens display to come back to visit with her family during the Thanksgiving holiday.

"I've never seen so many people downtown Thanksgiving Day, tons and tons, taking pictures," said Stacy Barnhouse of Cambridge. "They were taking pictures of their families with the displays."

Ms. Barnhouse said her five-year-old daughter Evie ran up and down the street to see all the figures when they came downtown.

"They look really cool," said Evie's 10-year-old sister Emily.

"I think it's beautiful, very outstanding," said Diana Arnold of Zanesville. "I just can't hardly believe that people created this."

She and her family came to the Cambridge Holiday Parade after hearing about the Dickens Victorian Village display.

"We also hope to take in some of the other events this weekend," she said. "We're quite impressed."

The Holiday Parade was preceded by opening ceremonies on the courthouse lawn that included songs by the Friendship VII Sweet Adelines, the reading of an inspirational story, and a candle lighting ceremony.

"The opening celebration was heart warming," said Cindy Arent, volunteer on the Dickens Victorian Village committee and representative from The National Museum of Cambridge Glass.

Oohs and aahs emanated from the crowd when a flip of the switch for the courthouse lights suddenly illuminated Cambridge's centerpiece building. Soon after, the holiday parade began.

Ms. Arent and others dressed in Victorian era costume walked along the float sponsored by the glass museum that carried Father Christmas, a new addition to the annual parade.

"What fun we had meeting so many special people along the way!" said Ms. Arent.

"The streets were filled with people this past weekend," said Anna Marie Pavlov, manager of Penny Court Antiques, "just like it used to be back in the 1960's and 70's. Thanks to the help of so many individuals and their hard work."

"It has such a calming effect on me," said Edna Miller of Antrim about the new downtown display and atmosphere. "It's nice and peaceful from a long ago age."

"It's not about the commercial displays," noted Ms. Burdello, referring to the typical holiday atmosphere this time of year. "The traditions of Christmas is what it's all about."

"It just doesn't get better than Cambridge," she said.

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS **SATURDAY and SUNDAY DEC. 2 and 3**

Peddler Weekends

Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; **Sunday** 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Along Wheeling Avenue, Cambridge

Nonprofit groups stroll Wheeling Avenue as peddlers selling treats. Free commemorative "EXTRA!" editions of *The Dickens Crier* noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2.

Victorian Baked Goods

Saturday 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Kennedy's Bakery, 1025 Wheeling Ave., Cambridge

Victorian Tea & Crumpets

Saturday and **Sunday** 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Cool Beans Coffee Bar, 710 Wheeling Ave., Cambridge

\$5.99. 740-439-9339

Visit with Father Christmas

Saturday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Cambridge Performing Arts Centre, 642 Wheeling Ave., Cambridge

Free. Small fee for Polaroid photograph.

Scone, Tea & Tour at the Colonel Taylor Inn

Saturday noon to 3 p.m.

Colonel Taylor Inn Bed & Breakfast, 633 Upland Road, Cambridge

By appointment. \$5.00. 740-432-7802

Old Time Christmas Tales

Saturday 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Main Street School Supply, 723 Wheeling Ave., Cambridge

Free. 740-435-0319

Byesville Scenic Railway "Spirit of Christmas" train ride

Saturday 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.; **Sunday** 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Departs downtown Byesville.

\$8.00 adult, \$5.00 child. 740-685-8625

Holiday Open House of Heritage and Arts

Saturday 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

National Museum of Cambridge Glass, 136 S. 9th Street, Cambridge
The Guernsey County Historical Society, 218 N. 8th Street, Cambridge
The Eastern Ohio Art Guild Art Center, 619 Wheeling Avenue, Cambridge
All free admission.

Christmas Art Workshop

Saturday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Eastern Ohio Art Guild Art Center, 619 Wheeling Ave., Cambridge
\$5.00. Registration required. 740-432-8100

“A Christmas Carol”

Saturday 8 p.m.; **Sunday** 2 p.m.

Cambridge Performing Arts Centre, 642 Wheeling Ave., Cambridge
\$10.00 adult; \$8.00 senior (65 and older) and students (18 and younger); children (5 and under)
free. 740-432-7958 or 740-435-8777

High Tea at the Colonel Taylor Inn

Sunday 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Colonel Taylor Inn Bed & Breakfast, 633 Upland Road, Cambridge
\$10.00 adult, \$5.00 child. 740-432-7802.

“Messiah”

Sunday 3:30 p.m.

Southeastern Ohio Symphony Orchestra
Brown Chapel, Muskingum College campus, New Concord
\$10.00. 740-704-2422.

For additional details about the Schedule of Events, please contact the Cambridge/Guernsey
County Visitors & Convention Bureau, 627 Wheeling Ave., Cambridge, 740-432-2022, or visit
www.dickensvictorianvillage.com.

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