



Heymann Historical Society



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS 1986

Dear Cousins:

In this holiday season we join together to wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

Looking ahead ... our Heyman Family Reunions are held the first Sunday of August each year. So please circle August 2, 1987, on your calendar now for our gathering next Summer. This reunion will be held at the Historic Lyme Village, on State Route 113 East, in Bellevue, Ohio. Following our picnic lunch, under their covered shelter, we will tour this restored village. We know you will be anxious to join us there too.

On the current agenda is a matter of grave importance. Our Hunt's Corners Church is in desperate need of a new roof. The last one was put on in the 1940s, and a new one is long overdue. The average roof lasts 20 years, so 40 years has been quite a stretch. The estimates for the new roof are \$6,000. This includes repairs to the bell tower and new gutters and down spouts. The interior is so lovely, we would hate to have the new carpeting and furnishings spoiled in any way by new leaks. Your church has been host to family weddings and baptisms, and is open for tours by appointment. We welcome family ceremonies you might like to hold there.

We ask for your financial support in any amount you may be able to remit. No amount is too small. If each of us contributes, we can do the necessary repairs next Spring. You may wish to make a donation as a Family Memorial to the Hunt's Corners Church ... that too is acceptable .. as are Gift Memorials at any time or Family Trust Funds.

In view of the new Tax Reform, you may find it to your advantage to do this before the end of 1986. A comparable contribution made in 1987, or later will generally result in a smaller, or possibly no tax savings to the taxpayer. (We are an IRS 509-1-C organization)

We hope you will be able to contribute this year, as the roof repairs are absolutely essential. The need for funds to maintain the church over the long term is ongoing though, so your future donations will also be greatly appreciated. Please mail your contributions to:

Monroeville Branch
National City Bank
Account # 80-022-7 - Heyman Historical Society
167 North Ridge Street
Monroeville, Ohio 44847

As the enclosed Church History letter states, every Heyman or Heyman-related family is an automatic member of the Heymann Historical Society. Please help us to help you maintain your church as a form of our roots for future generations to treasure and be proud of also.

Thank you for your help, and may the blessings of Christmas be yours, and happiness fill each day of the New Year ahead.

Members of the Board of Directors
Heyman Historical Society

P.S. Volunteers keep your church looking excellent inside and out ... year after year.

Heymann Church Hunt's Corners

In 1847, Philip William Heyman, the third child of John George Heyman, emigrated to the United States from the family home in the village of Kaltenholzhausen, Duchy of Nassau in what is now the Federal Republic of Germany.

He had served his term of military service, and when he came to the United States he paved the way for his family to follow. His father and five other children followed. By June of 1848 they had established themselves at Hunt's Corners, Lyme Township, Huron County, Ohio. Hunt's Corners and the surrounding townships of Ridgefield and Sherman would be home for most of the members of the John George Heyman family for the remainder of their lives. A large German population in the area favored the German Reform Church, it being an all-important factor in their lives in both a religious and social sense. On August 15, 1858 a Congregation of the German Evangelical Reform Church was formed.

This first group had no church so they met in the homes of the various members of the congregation. On September 11, 1858 a constitution was drawn up and on March 28, 1863 papers of incorporation were drawn up. On January 6, 1866 a motion was carried to build a church. The land for the church was donated by John George Heyman and was some of the first Heymann land that the family owned in America. The timber for the church was donated from the farm of William Conrad Heyman and was sawed out of the mill of John George William Heyman in Sherman Township. It was erected by members of the congregation. This would be the community church for well over a century. While Heymann's and Heymann relatives made up a large part of the congregation, it was by no means an exclusive church of the Heymann clan. Most of the people who attended it in the early days spoke only German, and it became a gathering place for the Protestant German people who favored the German Reform Church.

In its latter days, the congregation became too small to support the church, and it was in danger of being sold. The congregation did not want to see this happen, and the Heyman family did not want to see it happen either. The Heymann Historical Society was formed with its primary objective being the preservation of the church. Every Heyman or Heyman-related directly is an automatic member.

The congregation turned the church over to the Heymann Historical Society, and all that they requested of the society was that the church be maintained and preserved in good order. The church is maintained with donations of both cash and labor by members of the society.