



LEWIS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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LewisCountyHistory.org

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Dear Lewis County Community:

Do you usually come to the Lewis County Historical Society to see the trees and trains this time of year? Or to support our silent auction?

If your answer is yes, you should know that we are doing things a bit differently this year. Our *Home for The Holidays Festival* has routinely kicked off the holiday season with such things as historic Christmas decorations, a bright festival of the trees, an eye-opening Lionel train display, and several days of family-oriented activities. Last year, this single event alone brought over 2,000 people through our doors in downtown Lowville; and their generosity was significant.

For the safety of our community, we won't be hosting this event in person this year. Instead, we are keeping the spirit alive by taking the tree and wreath auction online! Look for "**LCHS Virtual Holiday Auction**" on Facebook.

You may not know it, but annual events like this fund a significant portion of our operational budget – and through community generosity we receive donations, sponsorship contributions, and ticket and raffle sales proceeds, which in turn are used to keep our lights on and our facility staffed.

The COVID-19 related restrictions that we are all adapting to, have dramatically reduced the fundraising on which we have come to depend so significantly. For going on a hundred years, the Lewis County Historical Society has been the steward of our County's rich history, and through our collections, exhibits, preservation endeavors, public programs, writings and publications, we have sought to nurture a greater appreciation for both the history of this area and the ideas, values, successes and failures that bind us together as a County and a community.

Make no mistake: we know the impact of this pandemic has been hard on everyone financially, but if you can afford to do so, we would ask that you consider bidding on a tree or wreath in our auction, or making a donation online through our website **www.LewisCountyHistory.org**.

We certainly understand if you cannot do this, but if you can and do, will we be forever grateful. We cannot thank you enough and we wish you a happy and healthy holiday!

Sincerely, The Lewis County Historical Society Board