



MARCELLUS

HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Volume 5, Issue 1

Winter 2000

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH

Editor's Note: The following information was submitted by John Curtin.

In 1993-1994, the Parish of St. Francis Xavier Church in Marcellus, New York celebrated its 140th anniversary as a religious community, and its 125th anniversary as a church. As Marcellus celebrated its bicentennial founding in 1794, the Roman Catholic community in Marcellus was also witness to a special celebration. On December 3, 1993, Rev. Peter M. Creed, Pastor of St. Francis Xavier Church, celebrated a special mass to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the church. And the church continued to join with the Marcellus community in commemorating the town's bicentennial throughout 1994.

A number of individuals have already told some of the story about St. Francis Xavier Church, including Kathryn C. Heffernan, Israel Parsons, and W. Clayton, and from their works this brief history is, in part, borrowed.

The first religious services for the Catholic population in Marcellus were held in 1853 at the home of John McNally (presently on Rockwell Road) and in 1854, a church of about twenty members was organized, and called the Church of St. Francis Xavier. Among the twenty members first organized as a mission, Clayton lists eight men: John McNally, John Glover, Patrick McLoughlin, John Kerwin, Michael Curtin, John McDonald, Jeremiah Curtin, and James McNally. It might be assumed that the names of the remaining twelve were not available at that time, or that they were women and children.

Services were held for many years in the second story of the Old Tavern, which stood on the corner of what is now West Main and South Streets in Marcellus. This building was purchased by the

Roman Catholic community, and on this site the present church edifice was built in 1867.

The first Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Michael Haes (Hayes) who was somewhat of a circuit rider, covering not only Onondaga County, but parts of Madison, Cortland, and Oswego. Baptismal and marriage records in widely separated places bear his name, if not his signature.

In December 1852, Bishop John McCloskey of Albany appointed Reverend William McCallion as the first pastor of a new parish of Camillus, which included the territory within the present towns of Camillus, Marcellus, Skaneateles, Otisco, Jordan, Split Rock, Tully, and probably Onondaga Hill. St. Francis Xavier was then organized as a mission congregation of St. Joseph's Church (in Camillus, N.Y.) in 1854, and many of the church records (baptismal and marriage) of SFX for the time period, 1854-1867 are located there.

Skaneateles was separated from Camillus in 1867, and became a parish with Marcellus and Otisco as missions.

Because of this affiliation, many of the church records for the time period, 1867-1873, are located in St. Mary's of the Lake parish in Skaneateles.

Marcellus would remain a mission church until February 4, 1873 when St. Francis Xavier was made an independent parish with the Reverend



William J. Hayden as first resident pastor and Otisco (St. Patrick's Church) as a mission. The exact boundaries of this original parish are not known, but it is supposed to have included the towns of Marcellus and Otisco and part of Onondaga.

In 1888, St. Patrick's at Otisco was separated

from Marcellus, but St. Michael's at Onondaga Hill and St. Peter's at Split Rock continued to be missions of St. Francis Xavier until 1903. And at the present time, the boundaries of the parish of St. Francis Xavier are roughly co-terminal with the boundaries of the town of Marcellus.

As a religious community for over 140 years, St. Francis Xavier has grown from a membership of about 20 people to over 650 families at present. In that time period, there have been over 4000 baptisms performed at SFX, along with over 1000 marriages, and over 3000 interments have taken place in the parish cemetery. There have been eleven resident pastors and a number of assistant pastors at St. Francis Xavier Church including the following:

PASTORS AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH

Rev. Michael Heas, Circuit Rider 1849-1852
Rev. William McCallion, Camillus Pastor 1852-1864
Rev. Joseph Butler, O.M.C. Camillus Pastor 1864-1865
Rev. Francis J. Purcell, Skaneateles Pastor 1865-1873
Rev. John J. Hayden, 1st Resident Pastor 1873-1874
Rev. Bernard J. McDonough, 2nd Resident Pastor 1874-1878
Rev. Michael P. Renehan, 3rd Resident Pastor 1878-1879
Rev. James J. Renehan, 4th Resident Pastor 1879-1925
Rev. Thomas J. Driscoll, 5th Resident Pastor 1925-1933
Rev. Daniel C. Hartnett, 6th Resident Pastor 1933-1967
Rev. J. Robert Quigley, 7th Resident Pastor 1967-1972
Rev. James L. Nicholson, 8th Resident Pastor 1972-1986
Rev. Robert F. Lavin, 9th Resident Pastor 1986-1990
Rev. Peter M. Creed, 10th Resident Pastor 1990-1995
Rev. J. Michael Donovan, 11th Resident Pastor 1995-Present

ASST. PASTORS AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

Rev. Edward Bayard, Rev. Michael P. Renehan 1878-1879
Rev. Dr. William J. Glenn, Rev. James J. Renehan 1897-1897
Rev. David M. Hennessey, Rev. James J. Renehan 1914-1917
Rev. Edward Melick, Rev. James J. Renehan 1917-1919
Rev. Howard C. McDowell, Rev. James J. Renehan 1919-1920
Rev. Marshall McMahon, Rev. James J. Renehan 1920-1922
Rev. Harold J. Flynn, Rev. James J. Renehan 1921-1922
Rev. Paul Hemmer, Rev. James J. Renehan 1922-1923
Rev. William Tracey, Rev. James J. Renehan 1923-1924
Rev. Lyial A. Tobin, Rev. James J. Renehan 1924-1925
Rev. James Lutz, Rev. Daniel C. Hartnett 1965-1967
Rev. Gerald Katz, Rev. Robert F. Lavin 1989-1990

Because, throughout the 19th century, the reasons for emigration were more acute in Ireland than in any other European country, the early baptism, marriage and interment records for St. Francis Xavier are mostly those of Irish immigrants and their children. St. Francis Xavier Church was founded by such individuals. Most of them worked on the nearby farms or in the local mills, and their children attended the local one-room schools. And most of them are interred in St. Francis Xavier Parish Cemetery.

Today, St. Francis Xavier Church is a community of many different people. It welcomes, marries, baptizes and buries people from all parts of the world, and all walks of life. Many work outside the town of Marcellus in non-farm jobs, and their children attend a centralized school. But they worship in the same church.

St. Francis Xavier Church is over 125 years old, with a rich history. And it has added to the vitality of the community that is Marcellus for the last 140 years. It is proud to have been a part of Marcellus history for so long. The mass on December 3, 1993 helped to add special meaning to this history. And 1994 celebrated not only the bicentennial of the Town of Marcellus, but 140 years of St. Francis Xavier Church as a religious community. ~

YOU KNOW YOU'RE GETTING OLDER WHEN...



- You're sitting in a rocker and you can't get it started.
- Your knees buckle and your belt won't.
- Your back goes out more often than you do.
- All of the names in your little black book end in MD.
- The gleam in your eyes is from the sun hitting your bifocals.
- Everything hurts and what doesn't hurt doesn't work.
- You know all the answers, but nobody asks you the questions
- "Happy Hour" is taking a nap. ~

FROM THE GAVEL

November 7, 1999

General Meeting.

Annual election of officers was held. (See related story page 5)

Peg Nolan provided a talk on her role as Town & Village Historian.



December 5, 1999 - Holiday Dinner, 30 members attended and had a very enjoyable dinner.

January 9, 2000 - General Meeting. Outgoing president, Bill Reagan, was presented with a plaque honoring his four years of dedication and service. He is now serving on the New Museum Committee, on the Historic Painting Committee and as Newsletter Editor. Bill & Mike Plumpton were also named Museum Curators at the meeting. John Curtin provided a presentation on Marcellus websites. ~

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT JOINING THE SOCIETY?

Our Society preserves the history of Marcellus through our many projects and events. We also maintain a museum above the village hall which contains thousands of historic Marcellus items and photographs from early Marcellus. Please support our volunteer efforts by joining today and you will continue to receive this newsletter. Members meet at the museum on Tuesday evenings to work on projects. If you would like to help, stop by or call Peg Nolan at 673-1765. ~

TIME TO RENEW MEMBERSHIP!

We ended 1999 with over 600 members. Our total membership for 2000 is currently 282.



Below and to the right is a list of all of our current members as of press time. If you have any questions about this list, please contact Hollis Abbott at 673-1753. To join or renew, please use or photocopy the membership form on the last page of this newsletter. ~

Abbott, Brian, Debi & Family
Abbott, Mark, Lynn & Family
Allen, Newt & Ann
Amidon, Jane C.
Arthur, Mrs. Katherine
Austin, Dolores J.
Banks, Gail

Abbott, Hollis & Nancy
Aherin, Margaret
Amidon, Jacob E.
Armstrong, Carol
Atkinson, Robert C.
Ball, Dave, Donna & Alexa
Bartlett, Dorothy

Beak, Joyce
Bedford, Scott
Bishop, Barbara S.
Blackler, Pat
Boudreau, John, Kathy & Family
Brinkerhoff, Harold
Buffan, Lawrence C.
Cambs, Olivia E.
Case, Dick
Christensen, Chris
Church, John H. & Elsa
Cole, Rose E.
Cryster, John & Ruth
Dailey, Mary, Pat & Family
DeBevic, Frank & Janis
Drexler, Mary
Duncan, James & Laura
Egtvedt, Myron & Barbara
Field, Roger & Joan
Foster, Rita
Gallinger, Don & Shirley
Gascon, Mrs. Pat
Gilmour, Nattie
Goldacker, Daphne
Grzasko, Barbara
Haggett, Doris
Heer, Raymond P. & Christine
Hildman, Gary & Brenda
Huckle, Phyllis
Hughes, Jean S.
Kantor, Dr. Edward & Maureen
Kelly, Frank & Doris
Kennedy, Agnes
Kiniry, Kevin, Leslie & Family
Lambert, Ziilpha
Lehman, Robert L.
Leubner, Deb
Linderman, Ronald & Janet
Losky, Mary
Mac Clurg, Suzie & John
Mahan, Robert & Alice
Martens, Dorothy
McGraw, Thomas
McVey, Jodelle Z.
Mills, Mr. Donald
Mitchell, Jack & Ann
Munro, Stanley
Murphy, James Sr. & Joyce
Nicholson, Jon
Oliver, Ruth
Paccone, David E.
Palmowski, Henry & Maria
Paul, Charles
Phillips, Dr. Richard & Doris
Plochocki, Leon, Julie & Family
Pollard, Karen
Post, Robert L.
Pursey, Clifford G.
Rappazzo, Dominick & Monica
Reagan, Carol B.
Reagan, Tom & Kathy
Revere, Veronica
Sanborn, Patricia A.
Schofield, Phyllis G.
Schweitzer, Sheila
Selover, Lewis L. & Elizabeth C.
Shields, Margaret
Sievers, Nellie
Smith, James E.
Steadman, Lewis T. & Alma
Sweet, Lucy
Trendowski, Ethel
Tuthill, Sidney & Mary
Waldburger, Harry & Harriette
Welsh, Sarah
Whyland Janet
Widger, Dr. Bruce & Mary
Wilson, Mrs. Sally
Winslow, Eleanor
Woods, Midge
Zink, Marion Hall

Bedford-Catlin, Anita D.
Berry, Louise
Black, Betty
Bliss, Charles
Bribeck, Tom
Buffan, Joy L.
Buffan, William H.
Campbell, Mrs. Kathleen M.
Casler, Michael & Tobey
Christensen, Dorothy
Clarke, Helen & Phillip
Costello, Paul W.
Curtin, John & Maureen
Dawson, Hugh C.
DePaul, Dr. Louis
DuBeau, Lauren
Durgee, Suzanne
Fenner, Harold & Phyllis
Forster, Jean
Friske, Roger J.
Gallinger, Fred
Gibbons, Mrs. Thomas & Sharon
Glover, Joyce
Greenfield, Linda
Guptill, Ellen M. Hall
Head, Steve, Patty & Samantha
Herold, Dorothy R.
Hoey, Terry
Hudson, Art & Nancy
Jansen, Sterling & Ruth
Keeler, Steve, Carol & Family
Kelly, Winnie
Kershaw, Kay & Family
Klug, Kenneth & Rosemary
Lawson, Edward
Leonard, Tom & Sue
Linck, Serena
Locke, Rev. Ralph & Nancy
Mac Clurg, Ellen
Mahan, Alice T.
Manahan, Mrs. Dorothy
McCarthy, Henry & Gene
McNally, Jim & Peggy
Meiers, Agnes
Milne, James & Arlene
Mohn, Helen
Murphy, Francis P.
Murray, Edward S.
Nolan, Marni A.
Orzesck, Elizabeth
Palen, John
Paradise, Len & Family
Paul, Raymond
Phillips, John & Rose
Plumpton, Mike
Posecznick, Tom
Pryce, William & Joan
Quinn, James, Donna & Family
Reagan, Bill, Joanne & Alyssa
Reagan, Jim & Jean
Renner, Bill & Donna
Robinson, Lew & Martha
Schmidt, George & Bev
Schram, Glen
Scott, Art
Sherman, Don & Betty
Shoudy, Don & Val
Smith, Frank & Janet
Smith, Richard & Frances
Stock, Linda
Swenson, G. & Scroggs, Gayle
Tucker, Doug, Patricia & Family
Tuttle, Richard
Warrender, Joan K.
Whitman, Douglas
Wicks, Frank & Ruth
Wiles, Chris, Rene'e & Family
Winkworth, Mr. & Mrs. David
Winter, Kim & Gerald R.
Woods, Mrs. Mary Stalker
Zukowski, Anthony & Joan

EVENTS SCHEDULE

The tentative schedule of meetings, speakers and events is as follows:

Sunday, February 13.....2 p.m.
General Meeting. Michael Plumpton will provide a presentation on the Underground Railroad.

Sunday, March 122 p.m.
General Meeting. A history of the Marcellus fire Department from 1930 to 1950 will be provided, tentatively by John King.

Wednesday, April 12.....7 p.m.
General Meeting.

Wednesday, May 107 p.m.
General Meeting.

Wednesday, June 14.....7 p.m.
To be announced in next newsletter.

Meetings are open to anyone and are held at the Marcellus Fire Station unless indicated otherwise.

Historical Society Officers

President: Peg Nolan673-1765
Vice President: Bruce Widger.....673-9142
Treasurer: Hollis Abbott673-1753
Secretary: Joyce Murphy673-2528
Cor. Secretary: Kathleen Reagan673-3365

Trustees and Term End

Sidney Tuthill, 673-2990.....2000
John Curtin, 673-3660.....2000
Michael Plumpton, 673-34532001
Tom Reagan, 673-33652001
Mary Jane Domurat, 673-4896.....2002
Dick Smith, 673-15322002

The Marcellus Historical Society,
P.O. Box 165, Marcellus, NY 13108,
publishes this newsletter and mails it quarterly
to its members and advertisers and annually
to everyone in Marcellus Zip Code 13108.

Editor: Bill Reagan, 315 / 673-4929

SAMUEL C. HOOPER

Samuel C. Hooper, Marcellus, is the son of Charles and Esther Hooper, of Stroud, Gloucestershire, England, and was born January 23, 1819. He was educated in England and learned cabinetmaking. In 1848 Mr. Hooper came to this country and direct to Marcellus, where he has since resided, conducting during this period cabinet making and the manufacture of coffins and caskets.

He has seen many changes in the business, in the early days he made all his goods himself, but now much of it is purchased from large factories. His business has taken in Marcellus, and the bordering towns. There is only one man living in the corporation now who was an adult at the time Mr. Hooper came here.

Our subject married Clara Gallup, by whom he had four children: Charles, James, Henry, who died aged eight, and one who died in infancy. Charles is a cabinetmaker in Norfolk, Va., and James is a carpenter and joiner, also raises fruit, being located in San Diego, California. ~

From Onondaga's Centennial. Gleanings of a Century, edited by Dwight H. Bruce, Volume II. The Boston History Company, Publishers, 1896, pp. 205-206.

THIS 'N THAT'S

We are looking for Marcellian Yearbooks from the year 1971 on for our museum collection. If you have any which you can donate please contact Peg Nolan or Bill Reagan. ~



We are also trying to acquire a Jaycee uniform. If you have one hanging in the back of the upstairs closet, won't you consider donating it? ~

ANNOUNCEMENT

A Marcellus Schools Alumni Homecoming weekend is scheduled for October 14, 2000. The committee is looking for a representative from each class. If you are interested in helping, call Chris Wiles at 673-2389 or visit <http://mcs.rway.com/>. ~

From: *A Gazetteer of the State of New York, 1824*

A Gazetteer of the State of New-York, by Horatio Gates Spafford, LL.D., 1824, pp. 305-306

MARCELLUS, a Post-Township of Onondaga County, 10 miles west of *Onondaga*, 60 miles west of *Utica*, and 157 west of *Albany*; bounded north by *Camillus*, east by *Onondaga* and *Otisco*, south by *Spafford*, and by *Sempronius* of the County of *Cayuga*, west by *Owasco* and *Brutus* of *Cayuga* County. Its extent north and south is 11 miles, and 9 1/2 east and west.

This town embraces about half the length of *Skaneateles* and *Otisco* Lakes, which discharge northward, in streams of a good size for mills, and abounding with fine sites. The surface is gently undulated with swells of a moderate elevation, and the soil is rich and fertile. There are ledges of fine blue limestone, of an excellent quality.

Skaneateles creek drives 4 grain mills, 4 saw mills, 3 fulling mills, 3 carding machines, an oil mill, and 2 trip hammers, in this town. On the *Otisco* creek, which runs north from *Otisco* Lake, through the east part of *Marcellus* into *Camillus*, there are 19 mills and 1 furnace. The land is held by right of soil, and well cultivated. The *Seneca* Turnpike, a part of the grand chain of good roads from *Albany* to *Niagara*, leads across this town.

The inhabitants manufacture much of their clothing in the household way. Near the north line of this town, a considerable proportion of the waters of *Skaneateles* creek disappear, and are lost in the chasms of the limestone ledges. In the next valley east of this, flows the *Otisco* creek, lying considerably lower than the *Skaneateles*; and in this creek are very large springs, near the east line of *Marcellus*, supposed to be fed by the subterranean passage from the larger stream. However this may be, the waters of the *Otisco*, for a short distance below these springs, possess strong petrifactive qualities, not observable above. The limestone of this country abounds with petrifications. There are 4 Post-Offices in this town, and 2 considerable Villages.

Marcellus, on the *Otisco* formerly called *Nine Mile* Creek, 6 miles east of *Skaneateles*, has a church, school-house, and 40 houses, with the *Marcellus* Post-Office. *Skaneateles*, a handsome Post-Village, on the outlet of the lake of the same

name, 145 miles a little north of west from *Albany*, has 100 houses, stores, offices, a handsome Presbyterian church, a library, several mills, and a good deal of business.

It stands on the *Seneca* turnpike, as does *Marcellus*, and here also terminates a turnpike, of 80 miles in length, from *Richfield* in *Otsgeo* County. They will shortly be intersected here by a turnpike from *Homer*, in *Cortland* County, to *Elbridge*, in *Camillus*. On the west shore of the Lake, near this place, is a Friends' Boarding School, of some celebrity. Its situation is pleasant and healthy.

Clintonville P.O., is on the *Hamilton* and *Skaneateles* turnpike, near the centre of the town, 4 miles east of *Skaneateles*. *Borodino* P.O., is on the east shore of *Skaneateles* Lake, 7 1/2 miles southeast of *Skaneateles*, on the road to *Spafford* and *Homer*. In some of the Post-Office Tables, a 'Marietta, Onondaga Co., N.Y.,' appears, but there is no such Post-Office, at this time. The place so called, is in this town, 2 miles from *Amber* P.O., in *Otisco*, and only deserves this explanatory notice. Population, 6503; farmers, 1044; 267 mechanics; 10 traders; 30 foreigners not naturalized; 8 slaves, 26 free blacks; taxable property, \$480,000; school districts, 33; schools kept 8 months in 12; public monies received in 1821, \$819.50; Number of children between 5 and 15, 2181; Number that received instruction in the schools that year, 2219; electors, 1161; 26894 acres of improved land; 6878 cattle, 1,420 horses, 16628 sheep; 68432 yards of cloth made in families in 1821; 13 grist mills, 15 saw mills, 3 oil mills, 10 fulling mills, 24 carding machines, 3 cotton and woolen factories, 1 trip hammer, 9 distilleries, and 3 asheries. ~

From the *Onondaga* County website at:
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~nyononda/INDEX.HTM>

NEW OFFICERS START TERMS



Our newly elected *Marcellus* Historical Society

officers presided over our January meeting. They are: President, *Peg Nolan*; Vice President, *Bruce Widge*; Treasurer, *Hollis Abbott*; Secretary, *Joyce Murphy*. Three new Trustees were also elected: *Mary Jane Domurat*, *Dick Smith* and *Sid Tuthill*. We wish them well in the new year and ask our members to offer their assistance when possible. ~

OUR 40TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR!

That's right, the year 2000 marks the 40th anniversary of the Marcellus Historical Society. The Society was founded in 1960 by Michael Plumpton. Several events are planned in celebration of this milestone including a museum open house in June and the release of a historic anniversary painting of Marcellus which will depict the year 1874. Look for its release in late spring. ~

ROBERT M. BAKER

Robert was born in June 1848 to Benjamin R. and Thirza Baker. In 1873 he married Clara Stone. They lived in the former Sawtell home, now the Michael Delaney residence located on the east side of Station Lane. Robert was known to be a man that could fix or make anything. He had a machine shop just west of the M&OL Railroad station. He also ran a sawmill powered by Baker's Dam.

Baker's Dam also provided electricity for the first electric lights and telephone system in Marcellus. This dam was destroyed in 1978. In 1898, Robert built a car by installing a one cylinder motor in the front of his buggy which he steered with a tiller. The car did not have a lot of power but it ran. Eventually this car ended up in the antique collection of Margaret Lewis of Skaneateles and Harold Bertrand of Auburn. From there we don't know where it went, possibly to the Ford Museum.

Later, Robert built a two-seater gasoline powered car which ran on the railroad tracks. This was used by the superintendent of the railroad to inspect the tracks. Pictures of both cars can be seen at our museum.

Information from James Stone's diary dated April 29, 1901: Jim tells this story:

The railroad bought property from Robert and was to pay him \$5,000 cash. They were slow to pay their debt. One day when the train was coming from Martisco to the Marcellus station, Robert had Watt Matteson, with gun in hand, standing at the end of the road leading to the station to block the train, which was loaded with passengers. Needless to say, the train stopped on the north side of Main Street and let the passengers off there. Obviously he got his money as the train operated many more years.

Robert was an uncle to James & Horace Stone and Mrs. Carrie Corp of Marcellus. Robert died in 1925 and his wife Clara died in 1929. Both are buried in Highland Cemetery, Marcellus. ~

STORIES FROM THE MUSEUM

Editor's Note: This is the first in a series on the history behind some of the thousands of historic items in our museum. Contributed by Peg Nolan.

Among our many artifacts in the museum is a lovely quilt made by Hannah Poole Amidon, originally of Willington (Wellington) Connecticut. Hannah married Jacob Amidon of the same village. In 1805 they cut their way through the wilderness and settled in Navarino, New York and engaged in farming.

Jacob was the son of Cpt. Henry Amidon born in Massachusetts and served in the Revolutionary War.

The quilt made by Hannah included her wedding dress, a printed material, throughout the quilt. The lining is homespun linen, the filling is wool and both were produced on their farm.

Hannah and Jacob had ten children and descendants still live in the area today. Their first child was born in 1793, which dates this quilt at over 200 years old. ~

HUMOR FROM THE OLD DAYS!

Some of you may have heard this story before, but maybe not for some time now. If you know a good story or joke from the old days, please mail it to us.

Dear Cousin,

Your uncle has a job at last, the first time he has worked in 48 years. We are rich now, \$17.00 every Thursday. So we send to Sears and Roebuck for one of them new fandangled bathrooms like the pigs drink out of only you get in it and take a bath all over at once. Over on the other side of the room is a little gadget hanging on the wall called a "zinc." This is for light washing like face and hands. They also sent a roll of writing paper but it's kinda cheap, I think. It rips easily. But over in the corner--- wow! They got a thing that you can put one foot in and scrub till it gets clean then, you pull a chain and get fresh water for the other foot!

Yours truly,
Mac

PS. Two lids came with the thing, but we ain't had no use for them, so ma's using one for a bread board and we framed grandpaw's sister's picture in the other. ~

NEW MUSEUM BUILDING IN THE WORKS

The new museum committee, consisting of Bill Reagan, Bruce Widger, Peg Nolan, Joyce Murphy, Mike Plumpton, Sidney Tuthill, Hollis Abbott & John Curtin has been meeting monthly to work on the museum plans.

Local architect, Jerry Ferro, has been working with the group to design initial conceptual plans of the new building and grounds.

Plans call for an attractive building of approximately 5000 square feet. The building will double the current size of the museum which is virtually filled to the rafters and soon will be at the rate items are being donated.

The building will consist of a lobby, museum and historian offices, giftshop and restrooms, large open display area and a large storage area to allow for rotating displays. Possible sites for the museum are still being discussed.

Our committee has also been researching grants and this looks promising. A significant amount of money will be needed and community members are asked to consider donations and the possibility of the facility being named in honor of a large contributor has been discussed.

If you have not seen our very significant collection, please contact any of our officers to arrange a visit and tour. Much more will be released on this project in the near future. ~

40 YEARS!

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF
PRESERVING THE HISTORY OF
MARCELLUS!

OH, TO BE SIX AGAIN!

- I want to spend my afternoons climbing trees and riding my bike, letting the grownups worry about time, the dentist, and how to find the money to fix the car.
- I want to think M&M's are better than money 'cause you can eat them. ~

THANK YOU!

A very special thank you to James and Laura Miller Duncan for a \$500 donation to our New Museum Fund in memory of Jean Moir Miller. The Duncans made a like donation last year as well. As a result, our membership passed a resolution at our January meeting to name the Duncans life members of the Society. ~



RECENT ACQUISITIONS

We wish to thank the following people for donating items to our museum collection:

Jean Stone Hughes for an early 1800s Marcellus made clock. Cy Vile for Murphy Dairy cardboard milk cartons. Peg Nolan for a homemade meat fork, memento from Lovell's Garage, Marcellus Fire Department pins and an old picture frame. Joyce Murphy for Marcellus Fire Department Auxiliary patches, firemen's patches, girl scout badges, old fire department bylaws, bowling T-shirts, crocheted soap holder, 1930-40 kitchen utensils and a 1950s purse. Bob Mahan for framed firemen's pictures. Ed Kopp & daughter Paula for a cradle from Davey Bros. Farm, W. Seneca Tpk. Mike Lamb of N. Syr. for a hand embroidered table cloth made by Anna Marie (Smith) Loftus, wife of George Loftus, Sr. Tom Leonard for photos of Bessey & Seymour family. D.J. Smith for a Mulroy milk bottle. Stanley Munro for 1873 Harper's Weeklies, 1895 Family Story Paper & 1893-97 People's Journal from the Malcolm family. Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Oldaker for a 100 year old Regina hand pumped vacuum cleaner. And Tom Reagan for collecting a window frame, bricks and photos of the Steve Hunt building. We also thank Joy Siersma for a filing cabinet and Ray & Mary Mahaghn for a metal cabinet. ~

INTERESTING FACTS?

This newsletter was mailed to everyone in Zip Code 13108 - that's 2,600 copies. In all, we have now mailed out 31,430 newsletters in four years. This issue contains 5,617 words. ~

HISTORIC MARKERS IN MARCELLUS

The following are the five historic markers which are presently standing in the village of Marcellus.

The location of each is also indicated.

SITE OF
FIRST FRAME HOUSE IN TOWN
OF MARCELLUS. BUILT BY DR.
ELNATHAN BEACH, WHO SERVED
IN AMERICAN REVOLUTION SHERIFF OF
COUNTY FROM 1799 TO 1801.

Located on north side of East Main Street.

SITE OF
FIRST SAWMILL
IN TOWN OF MARCELLUS.
BUILT 1796 BY DEACON
SAMUEL RICE AND JUDGE
DAN BRADLEY.

Located on south side of East Main Street.

SITE OF
FIRST CHURCH EDIFICE
IN ONONDAGA COUNTY,
COMPLETED 1803; PRESENT
CHURCH BUILT 1851.

Located in front of the Presbyterian Church
at corner of Main and North Streets.

SITE OF
TAVERN KEPT BY DEACON
SAMUEL RICE 1800.
FIRST CHURCH SERVICES
WERE HELD HERE, ALSO
TOWN MEETINGS.

Located in front of the Catholic Church
at the corner of Main and South Streets.

SITE OF
OLD HOTEL KEPT BY
DR. BILDAB BEACH.
GEN. LAFAYETTE STOPPED
HERE JUNE 9, 1824.

Was located in front of the Alvord House on
East Main Street. Has been missing for some
time, is in the process of being remade. ~

ORIGIN OF COUNTY NAMES

CAYUGA, the name of the fourth tribe of the Iroquois League.

CORTLAND, in honor of Pierre Van Cortlandt, who was the first lieutenant governor of the state (in 1777 he was president of the convention at Kingston that framed the state's first constitution).

MADISON, named after James Madison, fourth President of the United States.

ONONDAGA, from the Onondaga Indians, who formerly occupied the region.

OSWEGO, from the Iroquois word meaning "the out-pouring," referring to the mouth of the Oswego.

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE

You can advertise your business right here for one low price per year. For information contact our Editor, Bill Reagan at 673-4929. ~

Marcellus Historical Society Member Business Directory

*Our member businesses help support
this newsletter. Please support them!*

ANTIQUES

WHITE & WHITE ANTIQUES & INTERIORS, 18 E. Genesee St., Skaneateles, NY 13152. Stephen and Beverly White685-7733

AUTOMOTIVE

WARNER'S AUTO BODY, 2650 Pleasant Valley Road, Marcellus. 24-hour towing. Bob Warner, Owner673-3521

AUTOMOTIVE ELECTRONICS, Two locations:

2560 Pleasant Valley Road, 673-9602; 3021 W. Seneca Turnpike, Ron Miller, Owner.....673-1101

BAKERY

THE PASTRY PALACE, 14 W. Main Street, Marcellus.....673-9941

BEAUTY / FITNESS

FIRST IMPRESSION, 2 East Main Street, Marcellus. Paul Mitchell products, Sherri Wagner, owner685-7733

THE DARK SIDE TANNING, 22 W. Main Street, Marcellus. Open M-F 8am-9pm; Sat 8am-8pm; Sun 9am-5pm673-0884

BOOK BINDING

JAMES MEYER, THE BOOK BINDER, 26 East Genesee Street Rd., Auburn, NY 13021. Commercial and private book binding and restoration. FAX and Phone258-3930

CHIMNEY SERVICES

ADVANCED CHIMNEY SERVICES, Chimney lining, gas logs, cleaning, inspections, repairs, full service, insured673-3669

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

END BAR FOUNDATIONS, P.O. Box 574, Cazenovia, NY 13035. Poured walls, fully insured. Bob Barrows662-7818

JOBS UNLIMITED, 1 Maple Street, Marcellus. Appliance repair and more. Mike Johnson, owner673-2747

W. F. SAUNDERS & SONS, P.O. Box A, Nedrow, NY 13120. Over 100 years of service. All types of sand, gravel, stone and transit & mixed concrete. NYS approved materials469-3217

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

DENTAL SERVICES

EDWARD M. KANTOR, DDS, 28 1/2 East Main Street, Marcellus. Comprehensive dental services. Hours by appointment. FAX...673-2252, Phone673-3102

FIRE, SMOKE & WATER CLEANUP

LOSS RECOVERY SYSTEMS, INC., Cleanup after any type of insured property loss. Estimates prepared and work performed by staff personnel. CEO, Leonard J. Paradise. Member MFD.....451-9111

FLORIST

IVY & LACE, 1 North Street, Marcellus. Flowers and gifts. Anita Williams, owner673-4923

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NORRIS FUNERAL HOME, INC., 33 North Street, Marcellus. Over 100 years of service to the families of Marcellus673-2017

RYAN FUNERAL HOME, 44 East Main Street, Marcellus. Serving all faiths ~ Pre-Arrangements ~ Family owned.....673-2345

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ANGEL HEARTS GIFTS, 16 East Main Street, Marcellus. M-F 10-6, Saturday 10-4. We have beanie Babies.....673-9457

THE CHOCOLATE PIZZA COMPANY / A TOUCH OF SPICE 37 South Street, Marcellus. Famous chocolate pizza, chocolate covered potato chips, made right in Marcellus.....673-4098

DEBEVIC HOMESTEAD, 2527 West Seneca Turnpike, Marcellus. Art & craft gallery. Open May - December, weekends 12-5 and lots of by-chance-times. Frank & Jan Debevic.....673-9447

PEDIGREED PLANTS, 8 Reed Avenue, Marcellus. Mary Lou Grant, owner. Gift shop with large assortment at affordable prices. Operating for 20 years.....673-1889

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HARDWARE

HEALTH

FAMILY PRACTICE MEDICINE, 28 1/2 East Main St., Marcellus. From birth to old age - body, mind and spirit. Hours by appointment. 24 hour coverage. Saturday hours available..... 673-4906

SKANEATELES FOOT & ANKLE CENTER, 27 Fennell Street, Skaneateles, NY 13152. Sebastian Bentivegna, DPM. Hours by appointment. FAX...685-6076, Phone685-FEET

HOME, GARDEN & LANDSCAPING

HILLSIDE GARDENS, 2768 West Seneca Turnpike, Marcellus. Landscaping, nursery, garden center. Patrick J. Koloski 673-2005

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REAGAN & DAILEY, Attorney at Law, 8-12 East Main Street, P.O. Box 196, Marcellus. General legal services. Mary Reagan Dailey. FAX...673-4856, Phone673-4864

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MARTISCO PAPER COMPANY, INC., 4747 Route 174, Marcellus. 100% recycled paper. Maker of "Bogus" for economical packaging and product protection. FAX...673-4963, Phone673-2071

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CREEKSIDE INN, 67-69 North Street, Marcellus. A fine local family restaurant. M-TH 11-11, Fri-Sat 11-midnight. Sundays 1-10673-3430

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LAKE COUNTRY VETERINARY CLINIC, 2527 Cherry Valley Turnpike, Marcellus. Servicing your large and small animals. Wayne Beitman, DVM, Peter M. Kraai, DVM.....673-4858

MARCELLUS VETERINARY HOSPITAL, 4240 Slate Hill Road, Marcellus. Complete small animal services. Hours by appointment. 24-hour client emergency service673-2025

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call Bill Reagan at 673-4929, or
email at <breganl@twcny.rr.com>

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Local

~ GIFT SHOP ~ MEMBERSHIP ~ ORDER FORM ~

Please use this form, or a copy of it, to join the Marcellus Historical Society and to order society collectibles. Some collectibles are also available at society events and at the Marcellus Village Hall during business hours.

Join The Society Today!

\$5 per person / \$4 per senior citizen

\$12 per family / \$25 Patron

Basic Membership = 1 yr. / Sustaining membership = 5 yrs.
(Multiply dues by 5 for sustaining membership.)

Number joining? _____ New member? _____

Collectibles:

- ~ Official Marcellus afghans; green, cranberry or blue; \$45
- ~ Images of America, Otisco Lake Community; \$17
- ~ Centennial History of the Town of Marcellus, 1878; \$15
- ~ Marcellus Through The Years, 1794 - 1996;
Chronological history with photos; \$5
- ~ Marcellus 1794 - 1994, When Wool Was King;
A collection of photographs; \$5
- ~ A Pictorial History of Early Marcellus; 53 photos; \$5
- ~ Index to Nine Mile Country; \$5
- ~ Marcellus bicentennial mugs; \$4
- ~ 1960s black & white postcards; set of four; \$1
- ~ Color postcard of the Talbot-Case home on Main Street; \$1

Prices include tax. Shipping add \$4.00 per afghan; \$2.00 per mug;
\$2 first book, \$1 each additional; 50 cents per postcard set.

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Make check payable to and mail to:
Marcellus Historical Society
PO Box 165
Marcellus, NY 13108

Total: \$ _____
Shipping: \$ _____
Dues: \$ _____
Enclosed: \$ _____