



MARCELLUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Volume 8, Issue 3

Summer 2003



OLD MARCELLUS BAND pictured on the Onondaga County Courthouse steps (in 1929) upon the occasion of a Sunday school parade. The players were, from left, front row: Charles Jones, William Masters, George Acklin, John Sagen, "Doc" Springstead. Second Row: Lorne Gallinger, Frank Longworthy, Victor Gallinger, **Roy Gallinger**, Peter Dunlop, Frank Sitko, Charles Acklin, mascot. Back row: Peter Murray, Walter Edmunds, Alfred Harding, unidentified, Rollo Wicks, Alfred "Babe" Taylor, Fred Woodbridge and Tom Emerton.

Syracuse Post-Standard Pictorial, March 22, 1959

See page 3 for article about Roy Gallinger.

WHAT'SIT?

This cast iron object was found by Dick Smith in a barn at Marcellus Park.

Do you know what it was used for? If so, let us know.

For a better look, come to the Museum on Sunday or Thursday afternoons from 1 to 4 pm or on Tuesday evenings from 7 to 9 pm.



EVENTS SCHEDULE

The tentative schedule of events is as follows:

Sunday, September 14, 2003 **2 p.m.**

William R. Farrell

“Classical Place Names in New York State”

Sunday, October 12, 2003 **2 p.m.**

Richard Linck (Linck Apiaries, Inc.)

“Bee Culture and Honey Extraction”

Sunday, November 9, 2003 **2 p.m.**

Ed White, Ph.D., Dean of Research,

College of Environmental Science and Forestry

“Research of Interest at our Local State College”

*Meetings are open to anyone and are held at the
Marcellus Fire Station unless indicated otherwise.
A short business meeting will precede each program.*

Historical Society Officers for 2003

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Dick Smith (2005) 673-1532

The Marcellus Historical Society,
P.O. Box 165, Marcellus, NY 13108,
publishes this newsletter and mails it quarterly
to its members and advertisers. ~

In Remembrance

Helen L. Paul -March 12, 2003

Francis J. Marcel -March 17, 2003

Joyce A. Ramsden -May 8, 2003

Homer F. Hunt ~July 28, 2003 ~



From The President ...

The Village celebration has been a big success! How wonderful to see the community gather together. We hope to see everyone at the **Blue Grass Festival** on **September 13th** from 6:30 to 10:00 pm on Main Street and the **Walking Tour** on **September 27th** from 1 to 4 pm. With any luck, the restored Parsons' carriage should be ready for display by the Walking Tour date.

The Olde Home Days Open House at the museum was also rewarding—with many people visiting that day as well as on our other scheduled times. Please continue to come and walk through Marcellus history on **Tuesday evenings from 7 to 9 pm** and **Sunday and Thursday afternoons from 1 to 4 pm** or by appointment any other time.

The Parsons family letters and documents are nearing completion. They are transcribed and typed and available for all to read. These papers contain much history of the Parsons family, the Presbyterian Church and Marcellus. Volunteers are now working on inventorying the museum artifacts.

For those of you who don't have **John Curtin's** book "**Pucker Street**", it's a must! The book is on sale at the museum and the village office. **Our thanks again to John for donating the proceeds to the Historical Society. We also want to thank Ruth Anne Reagan for donating the proceeds of her painting sales to the Historical Society.**

Our new colored postcards of Marcellus are for sale at the museum, Main Street Pharmacy and Angel Heart Gifts.

To anyone interested in tracing their family history we have many reference sources and would be happy to help you.

Enjoy the remainder of the summer and we hope to see you in September.

Peg Nolan ~

Roy Gallinger

Roy Gallinger, one time owner of the Marcellus Observer, was born in Kingston, Canada. His father, a brick layer and builder by trade, brought his family to the U.S. for better work opportunities. First they settled in Auburn and then in Syracuse before coming to Marcellus.

As a youngster, Roy's first paying job was playing coronet for a circus. He worked with his father to whom he attributed the skills he learned to build his own house in later years. Roy became involved with the Marcellus Observer when he was asked to write a column for it which he titled "The Ghost". In 1927, he purchased the paper and ran it through the difficult years of the depression and WW II. His weekly column "Rovin with Roy" was very popular. During WW II, Roy took a second job with the Baldwinsville Arsenal to support the paper and his family. He was a friend to all and especially to all Marcellus Veterans. Roy sent every veteran a weekly Marcellus Paper. What a morale booster that was!

In 1947, he sold the paper and in 1948, he and his wife moved to Norwich, N.Y. He continued his writing and published three books, the first "Oxcarts Along The Chenango", then "Campfires In The Forest" and his last, "Smoke Rings Over The Valley". He was state editor for the Syracuse Herald Journal, a position he accepted in 1958 and held until 1969.

Roy passed away in December 1971 in Norwich. He was predeceased by his wife, Mildred, who died in May 1971. He was survived by three sons, John M., Donald R., and Robert E. and two daughters, Mrs. Jean Madden and Mrs. Dorothy Marving. Also surviving were his brother, Lorne, and sister, Edna Copp.

Roy left his mark on Marcellus with his columns, his generous acts of kindness and his involvement in the community.

Submitted by Peg Nolan ~

From John Curtin's book "Pucker Street"

(p.349):

"In 1941, Roy Gallinger, the editor of *The Marcellus Observer*, captured the history of the Village of Marcellus and the spirit of its people in a poem that he quoted and is as valid today as it was over sixty years ago. Entitled **The Bridge Builder**, it sums up the role that individuals and families play as they face the challenges and decisions of their own generation and prepare for those that will follow."

The Marcellus Observer, Thursday, June 26, 1941

The Bridge Builder

An old man, going a lone highway,
Came at the evening, cold and gray,
To a chasm, vast and deep, and wide,
Through which was flowing a sullen tide.

The old man crossed in the twilight dim,
The sullen stream had no fears for him;
But he turned when safe on the other side,
And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near,
"You are wasting strength with building here;
Your journey will end with the ending day;
You never again must pass this way;
You have crossed the chasm, deep and wide -
Why build you a bridge at eventide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head:
"Good friend, in the path I have come," he said,
There followeth after me today,
A youth whose feet must pass this way.

This chasm that has been naught to me,
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be.
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;
Good friend, I am building the bridge for him."

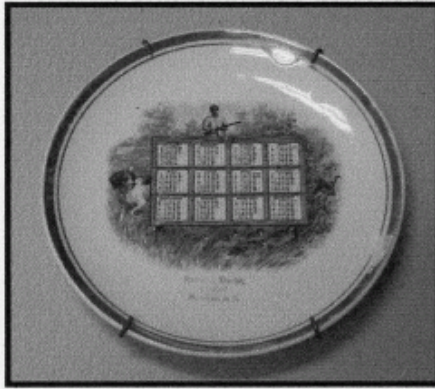
Author -Will Allen Dromgoole ~

Renewed Members (since our last newsletter) (New members underlined):

Jane C. Amidon, Robert C. Atkinson, Timothy & Kathryn Barstow & Family, Russ & Eva Briggs & Family, Marsha Connor, Pat & Mary Dailey & Family, Francis Eibert, Barbara A. Fero, Elizabeth Foster, Tim & Debbie Golick & Family, James & Cheryl Gonzalez & Family, Donald Hayes, Barbara Hildreth, Penny Husson, Robert A. Julia Sr., John & Nancy Knowlton & Family, William Kolceski, Steven Wm. Mack, Alice T. Mahan, Leon & Julie Plochocki & Family, Michael Plumpton, Carrie Beth Pottinger, Florence Pottinger, Robert & Pauline Reynolds, John R. Roland, Matthew Shoff, Lucinda W. Skinner, Kathy P. Smiley, Raymond Smith, Russell & Dorothy Snell, Garth Snyder, Patricia Sposato, Lewis T. & Alma Steadman, Russell & Nancy Striffler, Roberta M. Welsh, Stewart Zahn. ~

Marcellus Pharmacy

This 1911 calendar plate was originally given out by Austin Marble's pharmacy. It was donated to the Historical Society by Mr. & Mrs. Francis Kishman.



From "Nine Mile Country" by Kathryn Heffernan:

In 1880 John N. Stearns, a native of Vermont, came to the village and opened a small drugstore in the Hooper block on North Street. Four years later, he moved into the new Gallup block, where a drug store continued to operate until the present building on East Main Street was built by Warren Rolen. (p.57)

Austin Marble was the proprietor of the pharmacy in the Knapp block (formerly the Gallup block) from 1904 until his death in 1914. Thereafter, Mrs. Marble carried on the business with the assistance of a pharmacist. (p.96)

In 1934 LeRoy Guernsey bought the drug business from Mrs. Austin Marble. Although there were four physicians in town at the time, Dr. C. E. Weidman, Dr. J. Russell Lowell, Dr. Joseph Walsh and Dr. Vernon Roth, Guernsey says there was little prescription business. The doctors supplied medication to their patients. Drug store records show that between 1884 and 1934 only three thousand prescriptions were filled, - an average of less than ten per month. To supplement his income from the sale of patent medicines and sick room supplies, Guernsey installed an ice cream machine. His soda fountain, with its marble counter and marble top tables, became a sort of social center. (p.108)

In 1967, Mr. Guernsey sold his pharmacy business to Warren C. Rolen, who continued to operate the store in the old post-office building until he moved into his new store at 11 East Main Street (in February 1973). (p.125)

Mr. Rolen closed the store in November of 2000 and Marcellus was without a pharmacy until the building was purchased by James Cataldi, who opened it as the Main Street Pharmacy of Marcellus in June of 2002. ~

Recent Acquisitions

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

Bill Burnette for 1973 Inaugural Guide, tickets to Inaugural Ball; **Shirley Gallinger** for Postcards, pictures, written articles; **Leon Biggs** for Scrapbooks, Orchestra advertisement; **Jane Amidon** for WW II seabag, slides, carousel slide trays; **Julia Pepperman** for Marcellus & Onondaga County maps, Amidon Family History; **Tom Leonard** for paper cutter; **Mary Tuthill** for sealing wax stamps, totebag, slides; **Helen Hopkins** for slides, projector; **Michael Plumpton** for pulley from District #9 school bell; **Brenda Reiss Hildman** for MCS memorabilia; **Florence Lawson** for 1955 Marcellian; **James M. Skvorak** for 1942 Marcellian; **Esther & John Weeks** for post card holder; **Charlie & Patty Sanborn** for pictures of Village Birthday Party; **Peg Nolan** for student chair from original 1937 school (now DMS); **Joy Buffan** for 1956 band hat; **Darlene Perry** for dress worn by Lucy Sweet in 1976 (made by Mary Tuthill), 1931 & 1933-35 Marcellians; **Hollis Abbott** for black wool suit, black cape, fur muff, picture of Benjamin Baker (on loan); **Caroline Terrill** for box of sympathy cards; **Steven Wm. Mack** for War bond sales, farmer instructions; **Janet Linderman** for 1927 Marcellus Atlas; **Leda Stopyro** for 1936 owner service policy from Pilot Chevrolet to Fred Lader; **Joyce Murphy** for sewing thread used by her mother, mugs received by Jim & Joyce as wedding present in 1964, mug tree made in Industrial Arts by Eddie Murphy in 1979, Scout mugs, Auxiliary bi-laws & membership list; **John Davis** for Social Party invitations to Davis Grove, book of poems possibly collected by Frank Davis, Alice Clary's invitation to her final dance presentation at the Alvord House; **Mr. & Mrs. Francis Kishman** for 1911 calendar plate given by Austin Marble Drugstore; **Jamie Pliss** for 1878 Methodist Episcopal Hymn Book that belonged to Mary Gallop; **Bruce & Mary Widger** for Book Stand to hold and display records of donations and memorials; **Bob Post** for slide projector and trays; **Unknown** for Wood Bros. Dairy cap, 1939 Olde Home Days booklets. ~

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 Permit Number 18

Web Site: mhs.marcellusny.com

Next Meeting:
Sunday, September 14th at 2 p.m.

Postal Customer
 Local

INSIDE:

- * **Marcellus Band 1929**
- * **Roy Gallinger**
- * **Marcellus Pharmacy**
- * **Whatsit**

(The date on the label is the
 Year your dues are paid through.)

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