



MARCELLUS

HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Volume 10, Issue 1

Winter 2005



Cottage Saloon to Village Tavern

In the period after the Civil War, John Duggan's Cottage Saloon, situated on the site of the present Village Tavern, served fish fry and beer on Fridays for a nickel, and in 1910 underwent a major renovation. While a new three-story structure was built around it, the Cottage Saloon continued to be open for business. When the exterior was completed, the interior was renovated. Upon Duggan's death, his son took over the business, advertised in 1914 as "C.B. Duggan's Hotel, a metropolitan barroom". A wag commented later that Mr. Duggan had completed rebuilding his place of business "just in time for prohibition".

During prohibition, Edward Williams had a grocery in the building and in 1938, Louis Newell reopened the old Cottage Saloon under the name of Newell's Grill. The New York State law, after the repeal of prohibition, banned use of the term "saloon". To qualify for a liquor license, certain requirements

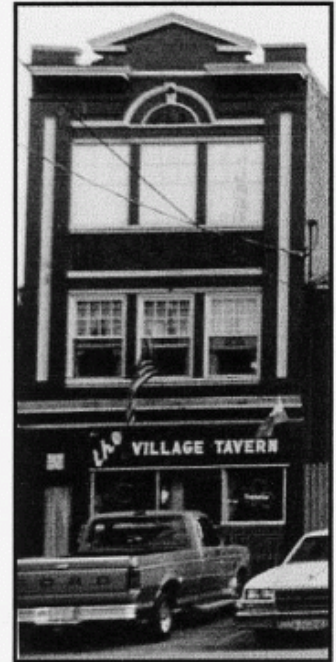
specifying the serving of food had to be met. Thus the terms "grill" and "tavern" came into common usage.

In 1959, Edward Sennett became proprietor, and Newell's Grill became Sennett's Village Tavern. In 1978, Sennett sold the business to Betty Manning, and in 1984, the Village Tavern became the property of Gary and Kate Demers. In 2004, the business was sold to three individuals: Greg Strait, Jackie Strait, and Ray Nesci.

Adapted from

Nine Mile Country by Katherine C. Heffernan, 1978

Submitted by Peg Nolan and John Curtin ~



Other Taverns in the Town

In 1828 Harvey Rhodes had acquired the site on the northwest corner of Main and Orange for the building of a store, and later Hugh Humphrey added a dwelling wing to the store.

Sometime in the late 1890's Bernard Powell purchased the old store and a half store building. He added a second story, a wing and porches, and opened another hotel, the Powell House, described in the directory advertisement as "heated by steam, fine cuisine".

In November 1913, the forces of temperance prevailed in Marcellus, and the town was voted "dry". The Powell House was eventually sold to Simon Conley, and for a time, the Newell brothers (Louis and Clarence) rented the barroom, which they

(Continued on page 3)

EVENTS SCHEDULE

The tentative schedule of events is as follows:

- Sunday, February 13, 2005** **2 p.m.**
 William Lucchetti
 "Visualizing the Future of Marcellus"
- Sunday, March 13, 2005** **2 p.m.**
 Rich Nojaim
 "Nojaim Bros."
- Sunday, April 10, 2005** **2 p.m.**
 Mark Clark
 "The Links at Sunset Ridge"

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 2005

- President: Peg Nolan673-1765
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- Vice President: Bruce Widger.....673-9142
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The Marcellus Historical Society,
 P.O. Box 165, Marcellus, NY 13108,
 publishes this newsletter and mails it quarterly to its
 members and advertisers.

**Museum Open Thursdays from 1 to 4 pm.
 (Weather permitting)**

From The President ...

Forty people enjoyed our Holiday Dinner catered by the Hilltop Restaurant and the Marcellus Irish Dancers did a great job in entertaining us. A special meeting was called to order by Peg Nolan to discuss the **Historic Street Lighting project**. The membership voted unanimously to sponsor a lamppost which will be installed on Main St. before Old Home Days.

Our village has a strong tie to Thailand through **Dr. Dan Beach Bradley** (see Volume 9, Issue 3). On Dec.21st our Society was honored by a visit from **Mr. Songsak Saicheua**, Minister-Counsellor, and **Rujikorn Saengchantr**, First Secretary, from the **Royal Thai Embassy** in Washington. Mr. Saicheua also brought his son and two other guests with him. A big *thank you* to **Doug and Bev Blanchard**, owners of the former Bradley home, for opening their lovely home so graciously for our guests. Our visitors very much enjoyed the house tour and visit to the museum and we look forward to another visit in the future.

The inventory of our artifacts will be completed by May. We have just the backroom to finish up. Thank you **Leda Stopro** for the many hours you have volunteered for this project.

Hollis Abbott has put together a very informative **brochure** on the Historical Society. These brochures will be included in a welcome basket for new residents distributed by the Chamber of Commerce and also will be placed at other locations in the village.

Rich Nojaim has enlarged a number of **historical photos** and has them displayed in the store. The pictures are hung over the meat case and the dairy cases. Be sure to look for them.

Our request for a grant of \$1500 to be used toward the cost of having the Marcellus Observers put on CD's has been approved. This grant is made possible with funds from NYSOPRHP secured by **Senator John DeFrancisco's Heritage Grant Program**, administered by the Cultural Resources Council.

I hope your winter is mild and I look forward to spring and seeing everyone and continuing with projects at the museum.

Peg Nolan ~

In Remembrance

- Frank R. Wicks - December 2, 2004
 Shirley Z. Pierik - December 28, 2004
 Phyllis G. Schofield - December 29, 2004

(Continued from page 1)

converted into a soda fountain and confectionary shop. In the period before the Second World War, the Conley family occupied the residential wing of the structure and James and Rita Kershaw operated a lunchroom in the old grill section, which had been vacated by the Newell brothers in 1938. In the period after World War II, the Conley family sold the old Powell House and the site was cleared for the building of a super market, site of Nojaim's Market today.

Pat Ryan's saloon dispensed spirits in a small building, which stood on the site of what is now the old theater building, on the north side of Main Street. In the south wing of the old schoolhouse on Cherry (South) Street, George Hellganz offered a hot dog, and sauerkraut with beer for a nickel, at his Pig's Ear Saloon. When Marcellus went dry in 1913, George Hellganz and C.B. Duggan refused to rent to other businesses, and the Alvord House continued open.

The Newell brothers, Louis and Clarence, who had been selling ice cream confections and related items in a section of the old Powell House, expanded their business and secured a license to sell liquor, once the sale was again legalized.

In 1806 what was known as the Hamilton-Skaneateles Turnpike was laid out from Richfield, through Brookfield, Hamilton and Fabius, across the foot of Otisco Lake and northwest to join the Seneca Turnpike at Skaneateles. The hamlet of Clintonville grew up around a tavern stop on this route, a tavern built by Joseph Cody in 1806. In addition, along this route Jonathan Russell built an inn/tavern on the site now occupied by the Marietta House.

Fire destroyed the old Marietta House on May 28, 1935. Owned at the time by Mrs. Thomas Shea, the hotel had been rented to Donald and Ethel Dillon in August 1934, following the prohibition repeal. After the fire, the Dillons purchased the large L-shaped barn on the premises along with another three acres of land. The barn was converted into a restaurant and grill with living quarters for the family at the north end of the building. Dillon's father, James, served the first beer sold in the new establishment in June 1935. After Donald Dillon's death in 1957, Mrs. Ethel Dillon continued to carry on the business until May 1969 when it was sold to the present owner, Thomas Donovan.

Adapted from

Nine Mile Country by Katherine C. Heffernan, 1978

Submitted by John Curtin ~

Another Tour of Marcellus Village

By Harold Chapman – November 8, 2004

To: Mr. John P. Curtin, Marcellus Historical Society

I really enjoyed your tour with Marty Sennett. I have been in Marcellus almost as long as Marty, having come here in 1921 and growing up at 24 South St. I would like to make some comments and perhaps add something following the same route.

The house to the south of the former Kelly's Country Cupboard was the Green Lantern tea Room run by Frank and Caroline Miles. They also had Sunoco Gas and down in back, Frank had a blacksmith shop. It then became Bill Lovell's garage and he built on the front part. I think he also sold Plymouth. Next at #35 the Martens family ran a laundry. At #29, Ed Bartlett had a garage and he sold Durants.

Back up South Street to Bradley Place. That was the Town Garage and my cousin was killed there when a snowplow blade fell on him. When the garage was tore down, it became Alan Doig's Red and White. Down to the new Reagan Building. There was a house there and it was where the Lindsey family lived. Mr. Lindsey ran a trucking business hauling small freight around the countryside.

On Main Street, in the lower corner of Nojaim's was a coffee shop run by the Cornwell family. Later I think it was run by Jim and Rita Kershaw. On the Orange Street side at one time was a dry cleaning business run by George and Marion Hall. I believe Ed Bartlett's garage was down further where Chocolate Pizza is. He sold Ford there. Later Cliff Hayden ran a heavy-duty equipment business there. At #28, before Tom Dyer, it was the home of Philetus M. Helfer who was the principal at the high school.

On East Main Kenyon must have rebuilt after the fire because when my wife and I ran Marcellus taxi from 1956 to 1962, one of our steady customers was a Mrs. Lukins who lived in Rose Hill and worked for Kenyon. You could always tell when she got in the car where she worked. Down to the town hall, which was the bank. Upstairs was the library and then it became Dr. Kissane's dental office.

#19 North St. was Pilot Chevrolet and where the hardware is was a garage run by Frank Gillette. South of that was the Observer Building where the Observer was printed by Roy Gallinger. The two-story house of Louis Austin is where my wife grew up. The Wing house was next door. Where the pump house is was the Arnold and Seymour houses. On the west side, back south a bit, was the home of Jim Stone, Horace

Stone's brother, who raised purebred Holstein cattle. He owned most of what is school property.

The west side of Main was not covered. Starting at the corner was the Post Office, next was Roy Guernsey's drug store, then a small place tucked in between Roy and Masters Store that was George Manahan's barber shop, then Masters, then Betty Long's gift shop, then the entrance to the Strand Theatre, then Jones ice cream, then a combination grocery and clothing store run by Phil Schanzle. Where Java Juice is was a hardware run by Al Palmer.

Now up to the old school. My wife, Marjorie Austin and I along with her sister Janice, Hugh Dawson, George Manahan, Clifford Buffan, Liz Riggall Lathrop and others were members of the last graduating class on June 22, 1937. The big house to the east where Mulroy Dairy was located belonged to Abraham Lincoln Travis who was the founder and headmaster of the Travis Preparatory School in Syracuse. Facing the Grange Hall is a big house that belonged to Howard Clark who ran a creamery. He donated the land for the Grange Hall. The members built the hall. Some of the builders were my father, Henry Chapman, Albert Seal, George Hollenbeck, Frank Gay and others I can't remember. Before they built the Grange, they met over the Strand Theatre.

Harold C. Chapman ~

Renewed Members *(since our last newsletter)*
(Sustaining members in bold print, New members underlined): Bill & Carol Abbott, Brian & Debi Abbott & Family, Mark & Lynn Abbott & Family, Margaret Aherin, Timothy Aherin, **Dolores J. Austin**, Mike Brillbeck, Kathleen Carroll & Family, Harold Chapman, Kathy Coyne, Linda Goshen, Phyllis Huckle, Kristin Keegan, Tyrone & Sylvia King, Tom & Sue Leonard, Pat Marcel, James & Grace Maynard, Henry & Gene McCarthy, Jon Nicholson, Ruth B. Oliver, Mary Orzesek, **John & Rose Phillips**, Robert L. Post, Frances Randall, Bill Reagan, Richard & Frances Smith, Janet Starr, Leda Stopyro, Don & Jan Thornton, Helen E. Tierney, Polly Weigand, Kathy Whitehead, Dr. Bruce & Mary Widger, Bob & Kay Wilson, David & Linda Wilson.

Recent Acquisitions

We wish to thank the following people for donating items to the museum collection: **Jan Clark** for 4 shoemaker forms with stand; **Francis Calandra** for photo of Presbyterian church; **Fran Randall** for early postcards of Marcellus Park; **Jim Campbell** for 5

post cards of Marcellus; **Bruce Widger** for 3 pictures of Reagan Bldg. addition; **Leda Stopyro** for Historical Cleveland, NY book; **Helen Hopkins** for pictures of Marcellus Falls School 1923 & 1936; **Melonie Unger** for books that belonged to Florence Armstrong; **Jean Hughes** for picture of West Hill School 5th grade c. 1923; **David Winkworth** for man's & woman's naval uniforms; **Fred Eisenberg** for journal belonging to Elizabeth Jay Davey; **Bob Post** for Handitax container with tacks; **Mary Widger** for Godey's Lady's book 1859 and Fashion Quarterly 1887; **John Curtin** for article on Nine Mile Creek by Julie Sabattis; **Michael Plumpton** for MCS 1929 Class Will by Norma Marshfield.

And our thanks to the following people for cash donations:

Polly Weigand; Roger & Joan Field; James & Laura Duncan. ~

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Marcellus Historical Society
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Marcellus, NY 13108

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Next Meeting:
Sunday, February 13th at 2 p.m.

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