



MARCELLUS

HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Volume 10, Issue 2

Spring 2005

Street Lighting in the Village of Marcellus

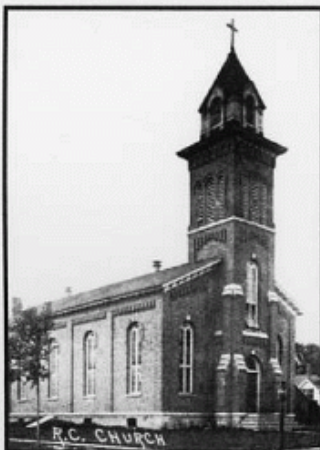
By John P. Curtin
April 2005

According to the Minutes of the Village Board of Trustees, as early as 1878, the Village Board agreed to install kerosene lamps and posts to illuminate Main Street. That same year, Michael Kennedy was hired to light the lamps, at a monthly salary of three dollars. In 1881, Belus F. North was hired to do the same and it appears that he continued in this role for a number of years. Several photos from the late 19th and early 20th centuries identify the location of several of these lamps



The Marcellus Observer
April 23, 1954
James Powell, 88, Dies At His Home On South Street

... Prior to 1899, the streets of Marcellus were lighted with oil lamps perched on posts. Mr. Powell was one of the last persons to have the job of making the rounds each evening, filling the lamps with oil and lighting them.



and posts, including that at the corner of North and Main as well as Cherry and Main. Another in front of the Alvord House is also evident.

It is said that the last person to light these types of lamps in the Village was James Powell, a long time employee of the Village who died in 1954.

In 1907, the Village Board of Trustees decided to add electric lighting to the Village and awarded a franchise, as well as a five-year contract, to Frank W. Knapp to light the Streets of the Village. Using arc lamps of modern construction and of twelve hundred-candlepower, Knapp agreed to light the streets from dusk until one a.m. and the first twelve street lamps were to be serviced for an annual charge of fifty dollars each and any additional lamps at a charge of forty dollars.

(Continued on page 4)

EVENTS SCHEDULE

The tentative schedule of events is as follows:

Sunday, May 15, 2005 **2 p.m.**

Meeting at the Library not the Fire Station

Doris Phillips

"Marcellus Artists"

Saturday, June 4, 2005 **10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Museum Open House

Sunday, June 12, 2005 **2 p.m.**

Rich Nojaim

"Nojaim Bros"

No Meetings during July and August

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

E-mail: pegenolan@hotmail.com

Vice President: Bruce Widger673-9142

E-mail: drbwwidger@alltel.net

Treasurer: Hollis Abbott673-1753

E-mail: habbott1@twcny.rr.com

Secretary: Carriebeth Pottinger673-3187

E-mail: cb90009@aol.com

Trustees and Term End

2005 Mary Jane Domurat673-4896

E-mail: mjdomurat@msn.com

2005 Dick Smith673-1532

2006 John Curtin673-3660

E-mail: jcurtin2@twcny.rr.com

2006 Mary Tuthill673-2990

2007 Tom Leonard673-4273

E-mail: TomLeonard35@msn.com

2007 Doug Nightingale673-2539

E-mail: djn0409@dreamscape.com

Correspondence Secretary: Joyce Murphy..673-2528

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

From The President ...

This year marks the 45th anniversary of the Marcellus Historical Society which through the years has preserved the history of Marcellus, thanks to volunteers and community support.

There is so much being accomplished now to beautify our village. I am really excited about the new lamp posts soon to be installed on Main Street. How great the old Schanzle building looks with the work the Marcellus Group has done. We will see murals being painted on buildings, beginning with Scott McClurg's building. After Olde Home Days, the village will be completing Main Street improvements in the village center.

Joe and I attended the Open House for the restored Civil War Flags at the Onondaga County Court House. What a wonderful project! Replicas of these flags are being made so that they can be taken to schools and organizations for educational purposes.

The book on Marcellus done by Syracuse University students will be on sale at the museum by Olde Home Days. There will be a limited supply available.

There have been many visitors at the museum and we welcome browsers, researchers and also volunteers to work on projects organizing our history.

The Olde Home Days Celebration will be June 3rd, 4th and 5th with the museum open on Saturday the 4th. We look forward to seeing everyone then.

Peg Nolan ~

Museum Hours:

Tuesday Evenings from 7 to 9 pm.

Thursday Afternoons from 1 to 4 pm.

Sundays 1 to 3 pm starting May 22nd.

In Remembrance

Pierre "Pete" Montague - January 15, 2005

Joy S. Siersma - February 12, 2005

Duane R. Cummings - March 4, 2005

Ethel W. Trendowski - April 15, 2005



The Village Cemetery

The Marcellus Presbyterian Church is appealing to the community to help in the maintenance of the Village Cemetery by contributing to the permanent fund for upkeep and also to donate time or funds for the repair of damaged stones.

According to Kathryn C. Heffernan's *NINE MILE COUNTRY* (pp. 196-199), the first burial in Marcellus was in 1801 in a plot on South Street but in 1804 the 20 graves at that location were moved to the new cemetery adjacent to the meeting house at Main and North Streets. Early records were scarce until William J. Machan, the first President of the Village, made a map of the cemetery about 1850. More land was added through the years and in 1899 the iron fence was completed. In the same year, Belus F. North made another map using Machan's chart as a basis and showing 500 lots in addition to three sections labeled public grounds.

During the town's bicentennial, the community came together to repair the neglected history in our midst with fund raisers and "the stone gang" was organized to contribute labor. Dr. Joseph Centrone and his daughter, Betty, used the previous maps to develop a scale map showing the location of 2100 graves.

Starting in 1980, a group of dedicated people undertook a reading of all the stones in the cemetery and in 1986, Florence Coville Brock and Mary M. Losky published their efforts: *THE MARCELLUS VILLAGE CEMETERY an Epigraphic Record 1980 - 1985*. Entire inscriptions of every stone found were recorded and the locations noted relative to the maps of Belus F. North and Dr. Joseph Centrone.

Work has been done by some Boy Scout projects but unfortunately, time, weather and vandalism have again taken their toll on this historic site and that is why attention is again being drawn to the need for added support. The Marcellus Presbyterian Church has contacted local monument companies about stone repair and advice on doing stone repair. Several descendants of those interred in the cemetery have offered assistance and additional help is needed for those monuments no longer having connections to people in the area.

Donations to the *Cemetery Permanent Fund MFPC* can be mailed to the Marcellus First Presbyterian Church, Corner of North & Main Streets, Marcellus, NY 13108. Contact the Church at 673-2201 for more information.

The following publications are available at the Marcellus Historical Society Museum and the Marcellus Free Library for further research about the cemetery:

NINE MILE COUNTRY by Kathryn C. Heffernan

PUCKER STREET The first 100 years by John P. Curtin

THE MARCELLUS VILLAGE CEMETERY by Florence Coville Brock and Mary M. Losky

NOTES ON DEATHS AND MARRIAGES by Rev. Levi Parsons

THE MARCELLUS CEMETERY MAP by Dr. Joseph Centrone can be viewed at the Historical Society Museum.

Information can also be found on the following web site:

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~nyononda/MARCELLU/MARCELLU.HTM>

Submitted by Hollis Abbott ~

Earlier, in 1899, Knapp had contracted to have a small electric generating plant at the site of Robert Baker's sawmill on Nine Mile Creek. With electricity generated from waterpower at Baker's dam, the plant made possible sixteen street lamps in the village, plus in some business places and homes (Heffernan 84-85). Using the poles and wires that had been strung through the streets of the village a few years earlier by the Marcellus Telephone Company, and yet another Knapp enterprise, electric lights, using incandescent bulbs, replaced kerosene lamps along the village streets.



In 1912, the contract was renewed with Frank W. Knapp, and electric lights were evident on Main Street during the Old Home Days celebration of 1914. In 1917, after a period of ten years, Knapp assigned the lighting



franchise to the Marcellus Lighting Company, which would continue to light the streets during the 1920s. This company was merged with the Empire Gas and Electric, a holding company and predecessor of the New York State Electric and Gas Company in 1929 (Heffernan 85). It is this same company, commonly referred to as NYSEG, which illuminates the streets of the Village today.

In 1931, the Village Board agreed that the installation of about thirty ornamental lights throughout the Village would help to beautify the Main Street, and for about twenty years, these would remain in place.



While they may have been ornamental, by the mid 1950s, many thought that the lights did not provide enough illumination, particularly over the major highways through the community, and the Board agreed (c1954) to the replacement of the ornamental lights with overhead lamps. The change to overhead lighting might also have been at the insistence of State and County Transportation Departments. Main Street is not only a State Road (Rte. 175) but also a County Highway (Rte. 41) and concern for highway safety may have prompted this mandate.



In 1967, the overhead lights would be changed from incandescent to mercury lighting so as to provide enhanced illumination. In recent years, the use of sodium rather than mercury in the overhead lights has provided even superior lighting throughout the Village.

In the spring of 2005, the overhead lights on Main Street will be replaced with 36 ornamental lights of sufficient illumination to light the Village and the highway - a costly and significant project conducted by and completed through the efforts of the Marcellus Betterment Association. It is thought that this project might even be extended to include more ornamental lights on some of the major feeder streets of the Village of Marcellus, especially North and South Streets.

The lights will reinforce the feeling of many in the community that Marcellus is what it has always been, a welcome home - a place that, from the top of East Hill or West Hill welcomes them home each night. ~



Renewed Members: (since our last newsletter) (Sustaining members in bold print, New members underlined): **Dorothy C. Aitchison, Robert C. Atkinson**, Dave & Sally Bailey, Bruce & Helen Baker, Dave Ball, Timothy & Kathryn Barstow & Family, Joyce Beak, Christopher M. Bedford, John & Gerry Bednarski, Dr. Gary & Vanessa Belcher, Pat Blackler, **Doug & Bev Blanchard**, Ron & Betsey Bond, **Russ & Eva Briggs & Family**, Harold Brinkerhoff, Louis & Phyllis Budell, Joy L. Buffan, **Donald & Doris Buschbascher**, Michael & Tobey Casler, Victoria Clark, Phillip & Helen Clarke, William & Martha Cole & Family, Marsha Connor, William T. Cook, James & Vera Costello, Paul & Rita Costello, Jeff & Lisa Cryslar & Family, Lucille Culotti, Catherine D'Angelo, Beverly P. Dann, Andrew & Louise Dawson, John F. & Regina Dillon, Bob & Anne Dingman, Mary Jane L. Domurat, Mary Drexler, Joseph & Lyn Duffy, Francis Eibert, Fred & Pat Eisenberg, Barbara A. Fero, Sara H. Fogarty, **Rita Foster, Mark Friske, David & Lisa Gallinger**, Shirley Gallinger, Alan & Phyllis Gammon, Pat Gascon, Sharon Gibbons, **Jim & Peg Girard & Family**, Ellen M. Hall Guptill, Doris Haggett, Hubert & Earline Hall, James Hamilton, **Philip Hardy**, Helen Hopkins, **Jean S. Hughes**, Sterling & Ruth Jansen, Gary & Judy Kavney, Steve & Carol Keeler & Family, Frank & Doris Kelly, Eileen B. Kennedy, Francis & Mary Kishman, William Kolceski, Elizabeth Lathrop, Janet Linderman, Carolyn Longuil, Steven Wm. Mack, Raymond & Dora Masters, Jim & Peg McNally, Dorothy C. McRobbie, Agnes Meiers, James & Arlene Milne, Helen Mohn, Paul Jr. & Hazel Morgan, Ted & Judy Morton, Evan & Joanne Murdock, Vincent & Mary Murphy, Francis P. Murphy Jr., Robert Negus, Doug & Jean Nightingale, Joe & Peg Nolan, Marni Nolan, **Allen S. Odell**, Florence M. Odell, Elizabeth L. Olley, Raymond Paul, **Chuck Paul**, Donald W. & Anne Pelchy, Julia Pepperman, **Doris Phillips**, Leon & Julie Plochocki, Carrieth Pottinger, Florence Pottinger, Richard & Kathleen Powell, Ron Ramsden, Patrick Reagan, Robert, Manuela & Caroline Reagan, Bill & Donna Renner, Robert & Pauline Reynolds, John R. Roland, Gene Rowland, Margaret Ryan, C. Albert & Victoria Sabin, Isabel Sawtell, Steven & Lorraine Schneider & Family, Martin & Dorothy Sennett, James Jr. & Betsy Shake & Family, Donald & Betty Sherman, Helen Sherman, **Kurt Sherman**, Mark & Adriana Siersma, William A. & Kim Siersma, Dale & Joyce Sims, Lucinda W. Skinner, Kathy P. Smiley, Raymond & Janet Smith, Jeffrey & Mary Beth Smith & Family, Charles & Nancy Snyder, Garth Snyder, Harriet Spinks, Laurel Springstead, Carol Stalker, Lewis T. & Alma Steadman, Helen Snell Strich, Guy Swenson, Richard & Norma Tuttle, Evelyn Van Camp, Bill & Ruth Vinzant & Family, Robert Waters, John & Esther Weeks, Roberta M. Welsh, Leona Wilcox, Bonnie Wilson, Sally Wilson, David & Marla Winkworth, Eleanor Winslow, Marion Hall Zink. ~

Recent Acquisitions: *We wish to thank the following people for donating items to the museum collection:* **Michael Plumpton** for clippings; **John Curtin** for book "Salmon River Odyssey - The Town of Richland and its Hamlets", St. Francis Xavier Church 150th Anniversary Brochure of History; **Dick & Cathy Powell** for 1910 Alvord House Social Ball program, old Marcellus post cards; **Helen Hopkins** for newspapers and clippings; **William Lucchetti** for framed 9th Reg. Civil War memorial; **Mary Tuthill** for computer labels; **Fred Eisenberg** for 1878 Marcellus Furniture Co. Ledger, Lucius Moses Woolen Mill pictures, Marcellus History papers; **Carol Pierik** for 2 Marcellians; **Joyce Murphy** for thimble collection, child's gloves, Key Bank pencil; **Jan Clark** for hanging map.

And our thanks to the following people for cash donations:

Mark Friske; Robert & Alice Mahan; Thomas R. Schneider.

~

Business Member Directory

Please Patronize These Businesses

APPLIANCE REPAIR

JOBS UNLIMITED

Appliance repair and more, Mike Johnson, Owner.

1 Maple St., Marcellus673-2747

AUTOMOTIVE

WARNER'S AUTO BODY

Bob Warner, Owner - All major & minor vehicle maintenance & collision work, 24-hour towing service.

2650 Pleasant Valley Rd., PO Box 201, Marcellus673-3521

BOTIQUE

THE DUMP BOTIQUE & IMAGE STUDIO

Color Season Analysis. Free Eyewear Counseling by appt.

Karen Robinson, Certified Consultant. Tue - Sun 11 am - 5 pm

www.thedumpbotique.com E-mail: the_dump@thedumpbotique.com

22 South St., Marcellus673-DUMP

BUSINESS MARKETING

NEWMARKET STRATEGIES, LLC

Business Development Services designed to increase the legacy equity value of mid-market industrial companies. NMSGrowth.com

4433 Dublin Rd., Marcellus673-3900

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

MCCLURG ASSOCIATES

"We Build Dreams" www.mcclurgassociates.com

Custom Homes, Remodeling and Home Care and Repair Services.

60 East Main St., Marcellus (FAX 673-4987)673-2051

TOM SCHNEIDER CONSTRUCTION, INC.

Custom Homes, Residential Remodeling.

2412 Amidon Dr., Marcellus (FAX 673-9563)673-2377

VAN DERHOOF ROOFING CO., INC.

Roofing, siding, trim & gutters. www.vanderhoofroofing.com
145 Ainsley Dr., Syracuse 13210 475-9541

WELCH CONSTRUCTION, INC.

General Contracting - Commercial Roofing
Rigging - Steel Fabrication - Masonry.
PO Box 228, 4331 Slate Hill Rd., Marcellus (FAX 673-3880)..... 673-2076

W. F. SAUNDERS & SONS INC.

All types of sand, gravel, stone and transit & mixed concrete,
Over 100 years of service, NYS approved materials.
5126 South Onondaga Rd., Nedrow 13120 469-3217

DENTAL SERVICES**EDWARD M. KANTOR, DDS**

Comprehensive dental services, ekantor@tweny.rr.com.
28½ East Main St., Marcellus (FAX 673-2252) 673-3102

MARCELLUS FAMILY AND COSMETIC DENTISTRY, P.C.

Katherine Hobert Rao, DDS
Give yourself a beautiful smile today.
28 East Main St., Marcellus 673-1131

FUNERAL SERVICES**BURANICH FUNERAL HOME, INC.**

Visit us at our website: www.BuranichFuneralHome.com.
5431 W. Genesee St., Camillus 13031 487-2412

NORRIS FUNERAL HOME

James M. Plis Jr.
Pre-Need, SSI and Medicaid Planning.
33 North St., Marcellus 673-2017

RYAN FUNERAL HOME

Mary Ryan Carlton
Serving all faiths ~ Pre-Arrangements ~ Locally owned.
44 East Main St., Marcellus 673-2345

GIFTS / CRAFTS / CANDY**ANGEL HEARTS GIFTS**

A fine selection of unique gifts from Pottery to Greeting Cards,
Angel Heart Gifts has the right gift, wrapped and ready to go.
Stop in and see!
16 East Main St., Marcellus 673-9457

THE CHOCOLATE PIZZA CO.

Famous "Chocolate Pizza and Peanut Butter Wings", Gourmet Foods,
Gelato (Italian ice cream), a variety of Chocolates and other Candy.
www.TheChocolatePizza.com
60 East Main St., Marcellus 673-4098

HARDWARE**NIGHTINGALE MILLS**

4068 South Street Rd., Marcellus 673-2001

INSURANCE**JAMES P. REAGAN AGENCY, INC.**

Personal and Business Insurance,
Bonding, Group Health, Financial Planning and Investment Services.
www.ReaganInsurance.com www.ReaganInvesting.com
8 East Main St., PO Box 191, Marcellus (FAX 673-4866) 673-2094

LEGAL SERVICES**REAGAN & DAILEY, ATTORNEYS AT LAW**

Bernard L. Reagan & Mary Reagan Dailey
18 East Main St., PO Box 196, Marcellus (FAX 673-3438) 673-4864

PAPER COMPANY**THE MARTISCO PAPER CO., INC.**

P.O. Box 198, Marcellus 673-2071

PHARMACY**MAIN STREET PHARMACY**

Transferring your prescriptions is easy - please call for more information.
Mon - Fri 8:30 am - 6:00 pm, Sat 8:30 am - 12:30 pm
11 East Main St., Marcellus (FAX 673-4668) 673-2410

PLUMBING & HEATING**DRC SALES & SERVICE**

David R. Card - Plumbing and Heating Service and Repair,
Water Purification Systems, Drain Cleaning.
4000 Rockwell Rd., Marcellus 673-0155

REAL ESTATE**YUHAS REAL ESTATE**

Babette Yuhas, CRS, LTG, Licensed Real Estate Broker,
Certified Residential Specialist, Leadership Training Graduate.
8 Wilson Dr., PO Box 188, Marcellus (FAX 673-2023) 673-1028

RECREATION**THE LINKS AT SUNSET RIDGE**

2814 West Seneca Tpke., Marcellus (FAX 673-1329) 673-2255

RESTAURANTS**J & J PIZZERIA & NY DELI**

Brick Oven Pizza Beyond Compare, Giant Deli Sandwiches & Subs,
Fresh Wings, Hot Sandwiches & Wraps, Pastas, Fresh Seafoods & Salads.
24 West Main St., Marcellus (FAX 673-1975) 673-1940

MARIETTA HOUSE

Receptions - Rehearsal Dinners - Banquets - Weekend Dining
www.MariettaHouse.com E-mail: tdonovan01@aol.com
2817 Marietta Rd., Marietta 13110 636-8299

SUBWAY

Preserve our history while our community grows.
19 North St., Marcellus 673-8180

THE BEANERY CAFE' AND COFFEE LOUNGE

24 West Main St., Marcellus 673-2599

RESTAURANT SUPPLIER**RESTAURANT PROFIT SYSTEMS, INC.**

Distributor for Taylor Freezer of Central & Western New York.
4291 Slate Hill Rd., Marcellus 673-1048

TENTS & PARTY RENTALS**MARCELLUS TENT & PARTY RENTAL**

Graduation Party? Wedding Reception? Family Reunion?
MAKE YOUR NEXT EVENT SPECIAL! www.MarcellusTent.com
4634 Cranapple Dr., Marcellus 673-3339

VETERINARY & PET SERVICES**LAKE COUNTRY VETERINARY CLINIC**

Small Animal Practice - Wayne Beilman, DVM; Shawn Baskin, MVB.
Office hours by Appointment, 24 hour Emergency Service.
2527 Cherry Valley Tpke. (cor. Rt. 174 & Rt. 20) Marcellus 673-4858

**Call Hollis Abbott at 673-1753 to include your Ad
in our Business Member Directory.**

Marcellus Historical Society
P.O. Box 165
Marcellus, NY 13108

Non-Profit Organization
 U. S. Postage Paid
 Marcellus, NY 13108
 Permit Number 18

Web Site: mhs.marcellusny.com

Next Meeting:
Sunday, May 15th 2 p.m. at
Marcellus Free Library
2 Slocombe Avenue

Postal Customer
 Local

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

INSIDE:

- * *Street Lighting in Marcellus Village*
- * *The Village Cemetery*
- * *Museum Open House June 4th*

~ GIFT SHOP & MEMBERSHIP ORDER FORM ~

Please use this form or a copy of it to join the society and to order our historic collectibles.

Join Our Society Today!

\$5/Person ~ \$9/Couple ~

\$12/Family (includes children under 18)

Basic Membership = 1 yr. ~ Sustaining = 5 yr.

(Multiply dues by 5 for sustaining membership)

Number Joining? _____ New Members? _____

Name: _____

Addr: _____

City: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Available Collectibles

Pucker Street—The first 100 years.....	\$26
Ruth Anne Reagan Prints of Marcellus.....	\$20
Official Marcellus Afghans: cranberry,blue,green	\$45
Centennial History of the Town of Marcellus.....	\$15
Otisco Lake Map 1868.....	\$10
Marcellus, When Wool Was King, Pictorial.....	\$ 5
Marcellus Through the Years; Chronology, photos	\$ 5
Index to Nine Mile Country; Names and more.....	\$ 5
New Colored Postcards of Marcellus.....	\$ 1
Postcards(5), 1960's B&W, 4 churches, post office	\$ 1
Package of 10 note-cards picturing Marcellus.....	\$ 5
T-Shirts: Child, \$6; Adult, \$7 (2X, \$9) Specify Size	
Sweatshirts: Adult; S,M,L, \$11 (2X, \$13) Specify Size	
Hats, \$7; Tote Bags, \$8 Shipping: \$2 per book, \$4 other	

Order Form

Quantity	Item Description	Cost Ea	Total
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Make Checks Payable to:	Total	\$ _____
Marcellus Historical Society	Shipping	\$ _____
PO Box 165	Dues	\$ _____
Marcellus, NY 13108	Total Enclosed	\$ _____