

Marcellus Historical Society News

Volume 15 Issue 3

Summer 2010

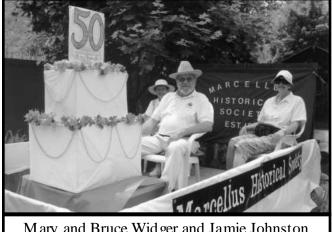


Celebrating Our 50th Anniversary!





Peg Nolan - Grand Marshal of the Olde Home Day's Parade



Mary and Bruce Widger and Jamie Johnston On the Historical Society Float







Marcellus School Students Tour the Steadman House

EVENTS SCHEDULE

The tentative schedule of events is as follows:

Sunday, September 12, 2010	2 p.m.
To Be Announced	

Sunday, October 10, 2010 2 p.m.
To Be Announced

Sunday, November 14, 2010 2 p.m.
To Be Announced

If you have a suggestion for a program, please contact Doug Nightingale.

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 2010

Trustees and Term End

Trustees and Term Paid		
2010 Joy Buffan	673-1832	
2010 Jamie Johnston	673-1160	
2011 Mary Jane Domurat	673-4896	
E-mail: mjdomurat @msn.com		
2011 Patricia Sanborn	488-3610	
2012 John Curtin	673-3660	
E-mail: jcurtin2@twcny.rr.com		
2012 Bob Wilson	673-2550	
E-mail: 89rw@twcny.rr.com		

Correspondence Secretary: Joyce Murphy..673-2528

The Marcellus Historical Society, P.O. Box 165, 18 North St., Marcellus, NY 13108, publishes this newsletter and mails it quarterly to its members and advertisers.

Please direct comments or questions to Hollis Abbott.

From The President ...

What a great old fashion summer we are having! Thank you Charlie Sanborn for doing the work around the flag pole with the brick and slate. It looks great!

In June we had 7th grade classes in to learn about the society and do volunteer work. The high school students came for earth day and did a wonderful job raking and taking the debris to the curb for pick up. The 4th grade classes toured the house and learned about Marcellus history. Thank you Pat, Charlie, Jean and Amy for being tour guides.

Open House during Olde Home Days was a success. Pat and Charlie did a super job designing and putting our 50th Anniversary float together. Thanks to them and also to Bruce, Mary and Jamie for riding on the float. To all our volunteers: Doug and Jean Nightingale, Pat and Charlie Sanborn, Bruce and Mary Widger, Joy Buffan, Jamie Johnston, Cathy North, Hollis Abbott and Amy North - a big **Thank You**, I couldn't have done it without you.

The Society has made a flower garden in back of the house and placed a bench in memory of Alma B. Steadman. The month of July flew by with tours of the house, requests for family history research and many donations of artifacts.

Thank you to the Village Highway Dept. for your help with the flag pole, memorial garden, and transporting artifacts. We appreciate all you do for us.

Many of you already know that our large sign in the front of the house was vandalized and damaged beyond repair. Thank you to Syracuse Blueprint Co. for donating a new sign. Others have donated money toward the sign and that money will be used to repair and replace the lighting that was also destroyed. A young fourth grader that visited the house in June approached me and wanted to know if she could do a bottle drive to help raise money for a new sign. I was very touched by this and all the people that responded. What a wonderful Village and Town we live in!

Peg Nolan ~

Steadman House Hours:

Sundays 1 to 3 pm (except meeting Sundays)
Tuesdays 7 to 9 pm
Thursdays 1 to 4 pm
Or By Appointment:
Peg Nolan - 673-1765
John Curtin - 673-3660
Joy Buffan - 673-1832

Our Thanks for Cash Donations from:

Robert & Alice Mahan Jov L. Buffan (In Memory of Dorothy Bartlett) Patricia Sanborn (Raffle Winner) Driver Middle School 4th Grade (Tour) Anne B. Hill (Research) Mary E. Tuthill Alan L. Gammon (Toward sign replacement) David F. Peatfield (Toward sign replacement) John T. Coyne (Research) Marcellus Community Baseball (Toward sign replacement) Roger B. Grinnell (Research) Jov, Kav & Ed Buffan (In Memory of Helen Bartlett Sherman) Gene & Ingrid Seymour

And in Memory of Alma B. Steadman from:

Joy L. Buffan
Peg & Joe Nolan
Katy & Dennis Gross
Hollis & Nancy Abbott
Robert E. Andrews
Calista A. Schwartz
David & Rae Carroll



Bench and garden in memory of Alma B. Steadman

Steadman House Wish List

- 1 Top coating for the driveway & parking lot.
- 2 New Gutters for east side of house (about \$600).
- 3 New Folding Chairs.

In Remembrance

Helen Bartlett Sherman - August 2, 2010

Steadman House Contributions

We are grateful to the following people for their donations of time and labor at the Steadman House:

Charlie Sanborn for making the brick apron around the flagpole and hanging the Slate Hill school bell on the Bell Tower. Jack Stopyro for making and donating the brackets for the new bell. Village Highway Department for their help with the flagpole and memorial garden. Marcellus School Students for volunteering at the Steadman House.







Recent Acquisitions

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

Peg Nolan for 2 shaving mugs; **Mark Durgee** for old newspapers; Masonic Lodge for two 48-star flags; Linda Greenfield for pictures of 1990 Science Fair and 2010 4th grade visit to Steadman House; Helen Crysler Newell for autograph books, Navarino School journal, Pilot Chevrolet ashtray, book of obits, tribute to Ray Crysler, census records, death certificates; Don Newell for Methodist Episcopal hymnal; Buffan Family for Onondaga County map of fishing/ hunting/parks/boat-launching sites; Pat & Charlie Sanborn for picture frames, plate holders, file folders; Minerva Kepler & Karol Kepler Wothal for original Ruth Reed Cummings paintings of Main Street and Martisco Station, wood & propane stove; JoAnne Prue for multiplication cards, Lucy Sweet picture, school journal, eyeglasses, framed school & picnic pictures, octagon house book - Architectural Follies, Slate Hill school bell (in memory of Gay and Edna Prue); Grace Flock for 1885 crazy quilt with appraisal, Grace Chapman Hall picture and 1868 letters, family history; Sheila Schweitzer for Myrtle Seymour's high button shoes & wedding gloves, child's button shoe, white slip, white dress, Rosamond Withey Farrington picture; Pat Vile for com chopper used on Phillip Vile Farm on Otisco Lake Road (given in memory of Francis (Cy) Vile); JoAnne Burns for Onondaga Central School 75th Anniversary book; Tim Fenlon for Wilson Dairy pint bottle, Mulroy Dairy quart bottle, 4 Old Home Celebration books, 1931 Pictorial History of Early Marcellus, 7 Marcellians from 1930s, 1934 Class Picture; **James Dver** for letter written to Chester Moses, framed Ruth Reed Cummings print High bridge; Agnes Myers for Village cemetery book, clippings, scrapbook, Presbyterian Church programs, pictures of West Hill School, 1914 class picture, pictures of Marcellus and Otisco Lake, Camillus tunnel; Joanne Johnston for 1901 newspaper about President McKinley's assasination; Joyce Murphy for Fire Department sweater knit by her for her husband, James Murphy; (Anonymous Donor) for 38 Marcellians. ~



1885 Crazy Quilt given by Grace Flock



Slate Hill School Bell given by JoAnne Prue



Stove given by Minerva Kepler & Karol Kepler Wothal



Dress, Shoes and picture given by Sheila Schweitzer

You will find something different every time you visit the Steadman House!

Marcellus Observer February 18, 1960

WOOLEN CLOTH - Marcellus' Leading Industry

Cloth is such a basic necessity that in the early days of the United States small manufacturing units sprang up in many communities in order to exploit the newly invented machines that were replacing the spinning-wheel and the hand-loom.

The first woolen establishment in Marcellus was built on the site of the present upper mill by Robert and Thomas Dyer about 1812. Nine Mile Creek furnished the power.

Four years later the plant was sold to John Rhoades and Bishop N. Parsons. After changes of management, the company became Meachan and Parsons.

In 1847 the mill burned down. In the following year Mr. Meachan built the present plant, using brick. The company continued unsuccessfully for awhile and was then purchased by a group who began the manufacture of linen cloth after installing new equipment. Horace Greeley was a prominent stockholder in this venture, which failed in a short time.

In 1855 Chester Moses, James Fitton and James C. Sayre converted the mill back to woolens. During this period a great deal of cloth was supplied to the Union armies in the Civil War. After the death of Chester Moses, his son Lucius carried on, and in 1886 the Marcellus Woolen Mills Company was formed, which continued to 1890 when the organization joined the Crown Mills Corporation.

The original lower mill at the north end of the village was erected at the order of J. C. Sayre in 1878. It passed into the hands of S. W. Barker, who organized the Crown Mills Company.

Edward Moir assumed charge in 1884 and became president in 1890. The two mills were merged under the name Crown Mills Corporation at this time. He took an ardent interest in the wool tariff and in particular, the struggle of the carded woolen mills against the more powerful worsted section of the industry in regard to tariff inequities.

John M. Moir continued in his father's place after the latter's death in 1932. He has made numerous improvements in his 65 years in the business. Under his direction the company came through the Depression without a major shutdown.

Crown Woolen Mills Corp. makes a great variety of carded woolen materials which are used both for men's wear and women's wear including such clothing manufacturers as Hart, Shaffner, and Marx in the men's wear field and Best & Co. for women's wear with about 75% devoted to men's wear.

The mill and office presently employs about 175 people, all local residents.

The mill is now 100% electrically driven with steam being used in dyeing processes and for heat.

The cloth manufactured at Crown Woolen Mills is made from wool, or wool blended with natural or synthetic fibers. The wool comes from many parts of the world, each type being suitable for a specific end-product. The principal sources are Australia, New Zealand, several South American nations, Canada and the United States.

Next the different colors of fiber are blended. At the same time an oil emulsion is applied to make the fibers more elastic and workable.

The blended wool is then carded, by passing through a series of revolving cylinders covered with wire teeth. The product that emerges is called roving, which is yam without twist.

The roving is spun into yarn on two different kinds of machines that accomplish the same end – mules and frames. At this stage twist is added to make the yarn strong.

Half of all yam produced constitutes the warps of fabrics and half, the welt or filling.

In the warping process, the yarn is wound in pre-determined patterns onto the loom-beans, which in turn are attached to the looms. \setminus

The cloth is woven (on 68 automatic looms) automatically, meaning that new bobbins are continually fed into the shuttles without stoppage of the machines.

In burling, knots are pulled from face to back of the cloth by hand. Sewers repair imperfections by hand.

The fulling process shrinks the cloth and makes it softer.

After the final operations of shearing and pressing, the fabric is inspected.

Note: The Lower Crown Mill was closed in 1961 (see Marcellus Observer October 12, 1961). The Upper Mill had closed in 1955.

MCS Yearbooks

The Historical Society has a collection of Marcellians but we are missing many years: prior to 1930, some 1970s, most of the 1980s, all of the 1990s and 2007. We accept donations of all years and sell any that we have an excess of for \$5 each to benefit the Society.

Marcellus Observer September 8, 1960

NEW KASSON ROAD SCHOOLOPENS WITH 323 STUDENTS

The new Kasson Road Elementary School of Marcellus Central District opened Wednesday with a total registration of 323.

This building for children from Kindergarten through Sixth Grade serves the area from Gay Road East, including part of the Howlett Hill area.

Mr. James Mordaunt is principal of the new school which has eleven full and part time teachers and is served by five bus routes. The cafeteria is expected to be ready in about two weeks. ~

Renewed Members

Since our last newsletter with Sustaining members in bold print and New members underlined:

Timothy Aherin, Dave & Sally Bailey, <u>Doug & Clara Clark</u>, <u>Kerri & Jeff Elderbroom & Family</u>, Cathleen Gallinger Ellinger, John & Carolynn Longuil, Kathy McLaughlin, Jim & Peg McNally, William Schneider, James & Edith Seymour & Family, Matthew Shoff, Russell & Nancy Striffler, John & Esther Weeks.

Current membership: 402 ~



Our Anniversary Cake May 16, 2010



The Bell Tower With the added Slate Hill School Bell at bottom center

Business Member Directory

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	PETER R. HAKES, ESQ., ATTORNEY AT LAW
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m our business member bricewry.	2527 Cherry Valley Tpke. (Rt. 174 & Rt. 20) Marcellus 13108 673-4858

Marcellus Historical Society P.O. Box 165, 18 North St. Marcellus, NY 13108-0165

Web Site: mhs.marcellusny.com

NEXT MEETING:

Sunday, September 12th, 2 p.m.

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

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INSIDE:

- Celebrating our 50th Anniversary
- * Marcellus Woolen Mill in 1960
- * MCS Student Tours & Helpers
- * Recent acquisitions

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