

# Marcellus Historical Society News

Volume 17 Issue 2

Spring 2012

#### War of 1812 Bicentennial



June 18, 2012 will mark the 200th Anniversary of the beginning of the War of 1812. The above monument is in the Village Cemetery. *Notes: Capt. Eliphett (Eliphalet) Curtis was in the Revolutionary War and died in 1806.* 

**Col. Derastus (Dorastus) Lawrence** enlisted in Skaneateles but was listed in the 1820 federal census as a resident of Marcellus.

Andrew Henry (not Stone) See article on page 6.

#### **Absolute Charter Granted**



The Board of Regents of The University of the State of New York granted an Absolute Charter to the Marcellus Historical Society on March 20, 2012 in response to our application made in 2001. ~

# Marcellus Veterans of the War of 1812

Ezekiel Baker (died 1842, age 77)

Joseph Baker (died 1884, age 91)

William F. Bangs (died 1864, age 85)

Gideon Barnes, Adjutant (died 1844, age 71)

Bildad Beach, Doctor (died 1856, age 85)

Samuel Bennett (died 1864, age 82)

Amaziah Boyce, Major (died 1814, age 49)

Daniel Cobb (died 1852, age 76)

Stephen Cobb (died 1822, age 50)

Lyman Cook, Major (died 1837, age 57)

Joel Cornish (died 1887, age 95)

George Dunlap (died 1867, age 79)

John Eggleston (died 1858, age 84)

Solomon Farnham (died 1866, age71)

Samuel Forman (died 1852, age 64)

Andrew Henry (died 1867, age 82)

John Herring (died 1862, age 84)

Amzy Judd (died 1857, age 83)

Bigelow Lawrence, Colonel (died 1818, age 77)

Dorastus Lawrence, Colonel (died 1862, age 75)

Rufus Lawrence (died 1817, age 49)

Miles Mather (death date unknown)

John Miller (died 1856, age 72)

Rev. Levi Parsons, Chaplain (died 1864, age 85)

With Thanks to John Curtin & Peg Nolan ~

#### EVENTS SCHEDULE

The tentative schedule of events is as follows:

#### Sunday, May 20, 2012

2 p.m.

Mary Widger

"Grange Community Service"

Saturday, June 2, 2012 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. OPEN HOUSE - OLDE HOME DAYS

**Sunday, June 10, 2012** 

1 n.m.

# **Covered Dish Lunch at the Firehouse**

(See Notice this page)

#### No Meetings During July and August

# 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 2012**

E-mail: peganolan1@hotmail.com  Vice President: Doug Nightingale673-2539 E-mail: djn0409@windstream.net  Treasurer: Hollis Abbott673-1753 E-mail: habbott1@twcny.rr.com  Secretary: Carriebeth Pottinger673-3187 E-mail: cb90009@aol.com		
E-mail: djn0409@windstream.net Treasurer: Hollis Abbott		
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E-mail: habbott1@twcny.rr.com Secretary: Carriebeth Pottinger673-3187		
Secretary: Carriebeth Pottinger673-3187		
E-mail: cb90009@aol.com		
<b>Trustees and Term End</b>		
2012 John Curtin		
E-mail: jcurtin2@twcny.rr.com		
2012 Bob Wilson		
E-mail: 89rw@twcny.rr.com		
2013 Joy Buffan673-1832		
2013 Jamie Johnston		
2014 Mary Jane Domurat673-4896		
E-mail: mjdomurat@msn.com		
2014 Patricia Sanborn488-3610		
E-mail: pasanborn@twcny.rr.com		
Correspondence Secretary:		

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 ...

As we move into the summer months we look forward to welcoming more visitors to the Steadman House.

A new display has been added on the history of bowling in Marcellus. If anyone has a particular subject on Marcellus History that they would like put on display please let me know.

Thank you to Helen Newell for the family histories and scrapbook that she has donated to the Society. What a wealth of information she has given

We have received our permanent Charter from the NYS Education Dept.

Please stop and visit the history of our town and village at our open house on June 2nd.

Peg Nolan ~

#### June 10th Covered Dish Lunch

The June meeting will be a covered dish lunch at the Firehouse. The Society will provide hotdogs and table settings. Carriebeth will be coordinating the donated dishes so please call her at 673-3187 to let her know what you can bring.

# **Steadman House Hours (Weather Permitting):**

Sundays 1 to 3 pm (except meeting Sundays)
Tuesday Evenings 7 to 9 pm (starting June 5th)

Thursday Afternoons 1 to 4 pm Or By Appointment: Peg Nolan - 673-1765 John Curtin - 673-3660 Hollis Abbott - 673-1753

#### Steadman House Wish List

- 1 Help with wheelchair lift repair costs.
- 2 Top coating for the driveway & parking lot.
- 3 Security Cameras...

**Current Membership: 354** 

Not renewed from 2011: 53

New Members: 4

Business Members: 34 Not renewed from 2011: 3

**New Business Members: 4** 

#### In Remembrance

Francis "Bud" Eibert - February 22, 2012

Joseph B. Duffy - March 1, 2012

#### **Our Thanks for Cash Donations from:**

Kathryn Kelly
(in memory of Joseph Nolan)
The Reagan Companies
Jerry & Diane Hardwich
James H. Stone II
(in memory of Murray Helfer)
Karen Yuhas
George & Bev Schmidt
Kathy Whitehead
Raymond & Janet Smith
(in memory of Joseph Nolan)
Thomas Donovan
Judy Gilchrist
John Planinsheck ~

#### **Renewed Members**

Since our last newsletter with **Sustaining members in bold print** and <u>New members underlined</u>:

Bruce & Helen Baker, John & Gerry Bednarski, Dr. Gary & Vanessa Belcher, Eugene Billington, Mike Brilbeck, Harold Brinkerhoff, Louis & Phyllis Budell, Howard & Ann Carey, Kathleen Carroll & Family, Victoria M. Clark, Phillip & Helen Clarke, Karen W. Conley, William T. Cook, Lucille Culotti, Paul Decapio, Regina Dillon, Mary Drexler, Harvey & Donna Eysman, Bud & Peg Flitcroft, Patricia Gascon, Sharon Gibbons, Judy Gilchrist, Joyce Glover, Nancy & Philip Griffith, Jerry & Diane Hardwich, Sterling Jansen, Gary & Judy Kavney, Frank Kelly, Kathryn Kelly, Tom Leonard, Mary Mahagan, John Martens, Jim & Peg McNally, Sue Mezey, Doug Miller, James & Arlene Milne, Helen Mohn, Evan & Joanne Murdock, Francis P. Murphy Jr., Robert Negus, Bill & Joyce Nesfeder, Helen & Don Newell, Jon Nicholson, Doug & Jean Nightingale, Barbara Patrick, Donald & Anne Pelchy, Kathleen Powell, Robert & Manuela & Caroline Reagan, Pauline Reynolds, John R. Roland, Victoria Sabin, George & Bev Schmidt, William Schneider, Dorothy Sennett, James & Edith Seymour & Family, James Jr. & Betsy Shake, Matthew Shoff, Dale & Joyce Sims, Raymond & Janet Smith, Jeffrey & Mary Beth Smith & Family, Russell & Dorothy Snell, James H. Stone II, Mr. & Mrs. Guy Swenson III, Martha Taffaro, Mr. & Mrs. William G. Tallman, Janice C. Thornton, Patricia Vile, Lyle & Millicent Welker, Kathy Whitehead, Jerry & Nina Wickett, Bob & Kay Wilson, Cliff & Sally Wilson, David Wilson, Karen Yuhas. ~

#### TIME WOUNDS ALL HEELS!

#### **Steadman House Contributions**

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

Pat & Charlie Sanborn, Jean & Doug Nightingale and Joy Buffan for keeping the Steadman House open during the winter. Bruce & Mary Widger for Newsletter mailing. Village of Marcellus for snow plowing, mowing and lawn care. ~



# **Recent Acquisitions**

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

Florence Pottinger for Christmas decorations; Peg

Nolan for bowling trophy, man's fur hat, 1994 After the Ball T-shirt; Methodist Church Thrift Shop for First National Bank bag; Helen Newell for Azariah Hall family history, family histories for Henderson, Ramsden, Chapman, Ryan, Norris, Frost, Vile, Isbell, Fish, Legh, Redway, Bliss, Wiltsie, Gardner, 1940s scrapbook & newspaper articles, book of games, 3 photos; Trixie Arrain Miller for 1956, 1957, 1958 MCS class photos; Marcellus Town Clerk's Office for framed newspaper picture of Ruth Reed Cummings; Ed & Mary Lou Grant for L.D. Paul Lumber Co. yardstick, First National Bank yardstick, Girl Scout scarf/ belt/ badges/ pins; Michael **Plumpton** for 18 photos of Marcellus, 2012 Drama Club program & ticket; "Footloose" Marcellus Girl Scouts for NYS Legislative Resolution honoring 100th Anniversary of the Girl Scouts USA presented by Senator John DeFrancisco;

**Janice Bishop** for National Cash Register model 332, Swingline electric stapler; **Michael** Farrell for 10 photos (c.1943) of Marcellus. 1975 Marcellian.





3290 Sevier Road, Marcellus, NY and Isaac Clements By Dave Tucker

As an architect and Civil War Buff, I look at old buildings and more often than not I can fairly accurately tell when they were built and try to contemplate the history they witnessed. Company F, 122nd NYS Volunteer Regiment was recruited from Marcellus in 1862 and I came across a posted article a few years ago from the homepage of the 122nd reenactors that told the eye witness account of a Mr. Isaac Clements. He was born in England (1841), but eventually relocated to Tyler Hollow with his parents around 1850, specifically 3290 Sevier Road. He walked 4 miles into the Village to attend school then located behind the Catholic Church on South Street for 4 months each winter, but finally at age 17 moved to Cazenovia to obtain a more complete education at Cazenovia Seminary (Cazenovia College).

He enlisted in 1862 in Marcellus and moved out with his Regiment to Washington D.C. participated in many battles as a stretcher bearer including Gettysburg and was eventually wounded May 4th 1864 at Wilderness Va. Left behind by the Federals and wounded above the ankle he administered his own tourniquet. Struggling in captivity he had to have his lower leg amputated by overworked and perhaps indifferent Confederate Doctors. Enduring neglect, starvation and finally a lifesaving repatriation in late 1864 he was eventually berthed in a hospital outside Washington D.C. His mother and brother traveled from Marcellus to Washington to attend to him with his mother staying on and his brother returning to Marcellus to tend the farm. When he was strong enough, the young Isaac

and his mother traveled north by train to Watkins Glen and then to Geneva by steamboat. He describes the kindness of nuns who helped him board the train east to Marcellus. Arriving in Marcellus around 11:00 pm on December 1st 1864 at the old Martisco Station (on the other side of the tracks then) there was no one who could convey them to Tyler Hollow so they spend a difficult night on the hard wooden benches until Clements brother arrived the next day looking for the westbound train. He had come every day to meet westbound trains and never dreamed he and his mother would come from the west.

In Isaac's own words, "Home at last after an absence to two years and three months, filled with labor, fatigue, and suffering. No one can imagine the feeling of relief and comfort that came to me when I was again under my father's roof; the very consciousness of it gave me new vigor and life. As I anticipated, home was just what I need to enable me to improve. I was in want of no physician but simply the home atmosphere with all that it implied. Though extremely weak and emaciated I soon began to grow stronger and put on flesh. I had been without sufficient food for so many months that no amount of food would satisfy me and seemingly I was just as hungry after a meal as before, consequently it was necessary for me to exercise a great deal of self control in refraining from eating more that I ought, as suffering was sure to follow any indescretion in this respect. Reaching home about the first of December in the fall of 1864 it was nearly spring before I was able to get out of the house very much. However,

when physical strength began to return, courage and cheer came back for long bodily weakness had depressed my spirits. The coming of spring with its mild pleasant weather gave me an opportunity to be much in the open air and as a result I began to grow stronger more rapidly. The summer months were spent partly in the village of Marcellus and partly on the farms of my two older brothers who resided about four miles south of the village, doing light work which increased my strength and improved my health."

Isaac Clements went on to be Professor and then President of Cazenovia College. He served as a Trustee in that Village as well as on the Cazenovia School Board. And so the seeds of humble beginnings on a rural farm in Marcellus grew into good deeds as a citizen-soldier and then scholar. Every time I pass this house I think about the beautiful rolling hills that nurtured him and then healed him for the same reasons that drew me here years ago.

For Clements' complete recitation visit: http://www.122ndnewyork.com/clements.html. Thanks to Chris Piering of the 122nd NYSV re-enactors for posting the original article.

(Isaac Clements died in 1917) ~

# One Hundred Years Ago in Marcellus

Marcellus Observer May 10, 1912

#### Marcellus to Have Niagara Power.

That Marcellus will be lighted with Niagara power is settled upon by Mr. Knapp. He has closed the contract with the Syracuse Lighting Co., purchased poles with which to build the line from Camillus and the work will soon be under way, assuring this service, possibly before low water season this summer. His uncertainty has been in undertaking to utilize annually the minimum supply which they sell to a locality, but the Lawless Mills, A. V. Smith and Marcellus Paper Co. will take enough power so that with the lighting for Marcellus village and hoped for increased usage for local power purposes, the joint contract is made possible. ~

Marcellus Observer May 17, 1912

#### **Marcellus Falls**

The Smith barley mill is to have a newly built grain elevator. It will probably be operated by electric power from the Niagara line built to Marcellus village.

The saw mill is still busy up on the Lavey place, where he has gotten out lumber for his new barn,

sawing in all about 35,000 feet. Before this, Michael Lawless had this saw in operation down on the flat near the old Walker mill, where he sawed a big lot of lumber and 150 cords of stove wood. The lumber is to be used in his new barn and in bulding an addition to the finishing room of the brick mill. This timber came from trees cut during the winter all along the high bank west of the creek road, which is now almost entirely cleared, improving the view and general appearances greatly. ~

Marcellus Observer May 24, 1912

#### **Action on Martisco Tunnel.**

The Syracuse Automobile club has taken up the work of securing better conditions along the Camillus -Marcellus State road. Last week a committee was appointed by the club to confer with S. R. Payne, general superintendent of the N.Y.C. lines, in regard to widening the tunnel under the tracks of the Auburn road at Martisco.

This tunnel, built many years ago, has been considered one of the most dangerous spots on any of the roads around Syracuse and that there has not been an accident there is regarded by automobilists as little short of miraculous.

The tunnel is very narrow, there being only space for one vehicle to pass. The turns in the road at each end make it impossible to see anything approaching.

This road is much traveled. Hundreds of machines pass over it daily as it is the favorite route to Skaneateles and Auburn and is one of the prettiest drives around Syracuse. The road construction between Camillus and Elbridge has diverted a great number of cars to this road, so during the summer great care should be exercised in passing through the tunnel lest some serious accident occurs. ~



Original tunnel under the railroad at Martisco (Still visible east of the present tunnel)

#### **Andrew Henry**

Andrew Henry and his wife, Aseneth, are buried in a plot in the northwest section of the village cemetery (next to North Street) with their daughter, Miriam Henry Stone and her husband, Benjamin Franklin Stone. Aseneth Gilmon Millen was the widow of Samuel Millen who died of typhus fever in 1807 at the age of 30. Aseneth and Samuel Millen were married in 1804 and had one daughter, Electa Millen (born in 1806), who married Reuben Lothridge.

Aseneth and Andrew Henry were married in 1811 and Miriam Henry Stone was born about 1814. They had a child who died in infancy in 1816 and another daughter, Jane A. was born about 1817. Other children on the Henry census records have not been identified. Andrew Henry died in 1867 at the age of 82 and Aseneth Henry died in 1862 at the age of 81.

Benjamin Franklin Stone (1812-1890) was the son of Amasa and Clarrisa MacKeys Stone and the brother of Horace M. Stone (1815-1895).

According to Dwight Stone's records, Amasa Stone (born 1786) had a brother, Cyrenus Stone (born 1790), who was a soldier in the War of 1812. He was taken sick at Sackets Harbor, NY in 1812 and died in 1815 in Burlington, Connecticut. In 1820, he was awarded a posthumous grant of 160 acres in Arkansas for his service.

Submitted by Hollis Abbott ~

Submitted by Peg Nolan ~

# Honest-to-Goodness Friends By Ella Olmstend

Someone spoke a pleasant word. Was that someone you? Someone lightened someone's load With a heart sincere and true. Someone lent a helping hand -With laughter bright and gay, And surely you could understand, Then work would seem like play. Someone sent a little prayer Into the azure blue. And the answer of that prayer Made one life bright and true. All have friends that light the road, All have friends that pray. All have friends that say kind words To help us on our way. They say that we are very poor When we have no money to spend. But the richest man I ever knew Had an honest-to-goodness friend.

# **One Hundred Years Ago in Marcellus**

Marcellus Observer May 31, 1912

#### Grand Opening at Long Branch.

The leading summer resort in Central New York. The resort is equipped this season with every convenience and is a delightful place to enjoy the summer season. Plenty of amusements, fine music, good boating, etc. For a day's outing go to Long Branch on Onondaga Lake, Syracuse. Electric cars every 15 minutes from Syracuse terminal. Picnic committees will do well to see Prop. Maurer before making arrangements for their annual outing this season. ~

# **Business Member Directory Please Patronize These Businesses**

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DENTAL SERVICES	REAGAN & DAILEY, ATTORNEYS AT LAW Bernard L. Reagan & Mary Reagan Dailey (FAX 673-3438)
EDWARD M. KANTOR, DDS Comprehensive Dental Services, E-mail: ekantor@twcny.rr.com.	18 East Main St., PO Box 196, Marcellus 13108
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Marcellus Historical Society P.O. Box 165, 18 North St. Marcellus, NY 13108-0165

Web Site: mhs.marcellusny.com

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# **NEXT MEETING:**

Sunday, May 20th, 2 p.m.

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

# **OPEN HOUSE:**

Saturday, June 2nd, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Postal Customer Local

# **INSIDE:**

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Available Collectibles	Discussion
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Centennial History of the Town of Marcellus\$15	
Olden Day Stories by Lawrence F. Mahoney\$10	
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