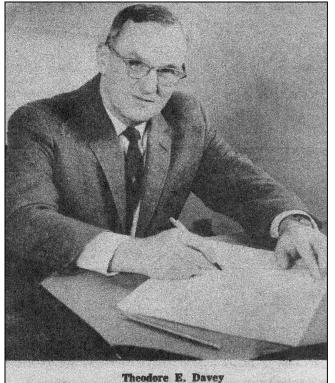


# Marcellus Historical Society News

Volume 21 Issue 2

Spríng 2016

Marcellus Observer, Thursday, May 12, 1966



## Marcellus Will Honor Theodore E. Davey Saturday for 23 Years' Dedicated Service

Saturday night, Marcellus will honor Ted Davey with a dinner, for 23 dedicated years to the youth of Marcellus. He came here in 1943 to teach chemistry and physics. In 1950 he became vice principle, and in 1960, to Administrative assistant. But all the "bus brats" remember his kindly herding them on the buses every afternoon.

Born in Rochester, he graduated from West High, there, and from Colgate University in 1927, where he majored in chemistry. He belonged to Theta Chi fraternity, and Alpha Chi Sigma honorary fraternity. In 1940 he received a Masters of Education from the University of Rochester. Before coming to Marcellus, Mr. Davey taught in Phelps..

Married to the former Gertrude Pillen, they have have two sons, Theodore E. Jr., of Owego, and James H. of East lansing Michigan.

Mr. Davey belongs to the First Presbyterian Church, the Citizens Club, and the Sincerity Lodge 200, in Phelps.

He says that he might be called an ex-gardner and an ex-fisherman, and has never missed a game at Marcellus Central.

The Daveys plan to stay in Marcellus, and perhaps go to Florida, after Christmas.

My first run in, literally, with Mr. Davey was when I was in first grade. My first grade glass was located next to the auditorium where Ken Simmons music room was. The teacher would take the attendance and make a note of students who were absent to be taken to the nurses office by two students. On one occasion, my name came up to take the note to the nurses office. I was one of those students who would rather be outside than in school. As we entered the hall I started to run to the hallway were the nurses office was located. Running full speed I came to the corner and make the turn up the hall, I ran into Mr. Davey. I do not know who was more scared. All I now, Mr. Davey grabbed me and gave me a good shaking. Lesson learned, not to run in the halls. I never ran in the halls again.

One other occasion I remember of Mr. Davey, was in my senior year, when the boys would do pranks in the cafeteria to rile Mr. Davey. He did not miss a thing. The one prank that still sticks in mind was the glass milk bottle full of water. They would fill the bottle full of water, then put a piece paper on top of the bottle and turn it over on the table. The bell would ring for your next class but we would wait in the hall to see Mr. Davey get upset and then try to turn the bottle over without spilling much water. His attempts were hilarious to us watching because water would go all over the place.

As much as they riled Mr. Davey, we all had respect for him. He taught us to respect our fellow students, our teachers, and of course the building.

When I see students of today walking on the grass near the buildings, I think of Mr. Davey and Mr. Driver. Detention was handed out if you got caught walking on the grass in front of the school. Both Mr. Davey and Mr. Driver watched every day to try and catch students.

Mr. Davey died July 1, 1992 at 88 years old in Charlotte, North Carolina.

## **EVENTS SCHEDULE**

The tentative schedule of events is as follows: Sunday, May 15, 2016 2 p.m. At Marcellus Park Welcome Center

## Our speaker is Mary Nowyj, the Historian of the Town of Onondaga.

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 2016

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President:	Doug Nightingale	673-2539
	E-mail: djn0409@	
Vice Presi	dent: Kathy McLaug	hlin
	E-mail: mclaughlir	nk@hotmail.com
Treasurer:	Patricia Sanborn	
	E-mail: pasanborn	@twcny.rr.com
Secretary:	Carriebeth Pottinge	r673-3187
	E-mail: cb90009@	aol.com
	<b>Trustees and Ter</b>	m End
2016 Jan	vie Johnston	673-1160

2016 Jamie Johnston	
2016 Harvey Eysman	673-3933
E-mail: heysman@wi	
2017 Carol Armstrong	673-
E-mail: carolart23@a	
2017 Jean Nightingale	
E-mail: djn0409@windstream	.net
2018 John Curtin	
E-mail: jcurtin2@windstream.	net
2018 Bob Wilson	673-2550 -
Correspondence Secretary:	
Jean Nightingale	

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. Email address: histsoc@windstream.net Telephone: 315-673-4839 Please direct comments or questions about the newsletter to Doug Nightingale at the above address or email: djn0409@windstream.net

Newsletters are sent via e-mail rather than regular mail to members who have given us their e-mail address. If you have not yet advised us of your e-mail address, please do so at: *histsoc@windstream.net*. We do not publish or sell member information. ~

## From The President

We have been busy at the Steadman House. We have had a number of guests this spring. Guests have come all the way from Rochester, looking for long lost family members. We did help locate them in our census records. Artifacts keep coming in and they all have be cataloged and put into a location.

We're always looking for volunteers on Sundays and Thursdays. We are finding we can not get everything done in those few hours that we are here. Even if you only have an hour to give would help. We are also looking for new ideas on how to change the displays we currently have out.

We will have open house for old home days on Saturday June 4th from 10-2. We will also have a float in the parade.

Have a great summer! Doug Nightingale

<u>Steadman House Hours (Weather Permitting)</u>: Sundays 1 to 3 pm (except meeting Sundays) Thursdays 1 to 4 pm Or By Appointment: Doug Nightingale-673-2539 John Curtin - 673-3660

## **Meeting Times**

Regular meetings of the Marcellus Historical Society will be at 2 pm on the 2nd Sunday of the months of April, May, September, October and November except when Easter or Mother's Day occurs on the 2nd Sunday - in which case, the meeting will be on the 3rd Sunday of the month.

**Current Membership: 353** 

New:

**Business Members: 28** 

## <u>Remember: this is a non-profit organization</u> <u>supported by dues and donations!</u>

Yearly dues cover the *calendar year* and if your dues are not paid by the *end of March*, we must drop you from the membership list.

<u>\$5. a year is a small price to pay</u> to help preserve our history!

In Remembrance Frank Kelly – April 23, 2016 Our Thanks for Cash Donations from: Reagan Companies Marietta House Scott Tanner-Research

## **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 and Jean & Doug Nightingale for keeping the Steadman House open during scheduled hours; Bruce & Mary Widger for Newsletter mailing; and the Village of Marcellus for removal of brush and mowing the lawn ~

## **Proposed By-Law Change**

ARTICLE VII.

SECTION 2: Expenditures.

Only the Officers may make purchases with funds of the Society without prior approval, but only for items necessary to preform their duties, and not to exceed \$250. Approval of a majority of the Executive Committee shall be required for any expenditure over \$250 and not exceeding \$1,000. Any single expenditure greater than \$1,000 shall be approved by a majority of the Executive Committee and by the majority of the members present and voting at a regular meeting.

The change is the amount from \$100 to \$250.

**Recent Acquisitions** 

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

The family of Jake & Jean Schneider- Wool shirts and bolds of wool cloth from the Crown Woolen mill, Jean's wedding dress, Marcellus Auxiliary uniforms and misc. items from the fire department, and Jake's 50 year member plaque from the Mason's. Carol Armstrong-Time keepers book from the lower woolen mill, 1931 commencement book from Marcellus High School.

**Beverly Piekiel** for clothing from her mother Mrs. Epps and misc. items.

Driver Middle School staff for six boxes of the Marcellus Observers.

## Wanted:

Member(s) of the Historical Society to help produce the **Quarterly Newsletter**. An interest in researching appropriate articles and a knowledge of Microsoft Office programs helpful. The Society files and computer at the Steadman House are available for researching and compiling the newsletter (Microsoft Publisher software is presently used). Contact Doug Nightingale at 315-673-2539 or email djn0409@windstream.net ~

## **AVAILABLE AT THE STEADMAN HOUSE**

Have you visited the Steadman House recently? Our <u>indexed</u> collection (at last count) consists of: **3,475** Artifacts **826** Clothing articles **743** Books **13** Clocks **6,921** Photographs **68** Scrapbooks with **55,427** referenced items Family files and genealogies **Gift shop** with Afghans, Books, Prints, Cards, etc.

## **Special Thanks**

Jack and Pat Palen for donating a new microwave.

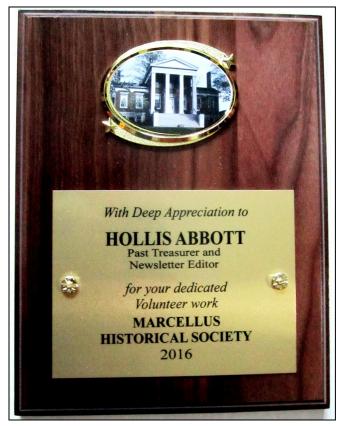
Chuck and Mary Jo Paul for donating a new Keurig coffee maker and the coffee, tea and hot chocolate.



Hollis Abbott past treasurer and past newsletter editor is presented a plaque by President Doug Nightingale for dedicated service to the Marcellus Historical Society.

Hollis has spend many hours keeping the society on the straight and narrow. He took the treasure's job to heart. He was meticulous that everything was done correctly. Now that I have become the President, I see the time he has spent over the years just as the treasurer.

Also I have found the time that Hollis spend on the newsletter. He took the newsletter from four pages to eight pages of today. Doing the newsletter was enjoyable to Hollis. It was a work of art to him.





One other thing that Hollis has done for the society, is maintain all the clocks. The main spring in the banjo clock, above, broke. We thought that we would have to put a battery operated mechanism in the clock. Hollis took the clock home and found that he could fix the main spring. The clock is back in the Tefft room working just fine.



We received word the other day that the maple tree in front of the Steadman House needs to come down. We lost a large tree branch in the early spring from high winds. There is another large branch hanging in the upper half of the tree. We received a price for removal of the tree at our

board meeting of \$900.00. Any donations are kindly accepted to help us defray this cost. As with any property, there are always unexpected emergencies. We do not need to have people walking under the tree and get hit by falling branches 5

Marcellus Observer, Thursday, May 26, 1966

## Fifty Years Ago in Marcellus

John M Moir, Industrialist, Nears 90th birthday

Saturday, 28, will mark the 90th birthday of John M. Moir, who until 1961, was president of Marcellus's leading industry, the Crown Woolen Mills Corporation. It was those woolen mills which accounted for so many Scotchman coming to Marcellus to live, many years ago, and supported nearly two hundred families.

Mr. Moir's father, Edward Moir, was born in Tillacoultry, Scotland, but was taken to Canada when he was ten years old. Generations before him, had been engaged in the woolen business. Edward Moir went to Marcellus, as superintendent for the lower woolen mill in 1884. The family lived on Scotch Hill, where the Harry Welches live now, moving into the present Moir home on Orange street, in 1890.

Mr. Moir purchased the lower woolen mill, known as the Crown Mill, and purchased the upper woolen mill, known as the Moses Mill, and merged the two in 1890. The mills operated until 1955, when the upper mill closed, and in 1961 when the lower mill closed.

Mr. Moir, his son managed the mills from home.

Edward Moir was an authority on tariff legislation, and wool itself, which kept him away for a great deal of time. After his death 1n 1932, John Moir became president of the firm.

Mr. Moir was six or seven when his family moved to Marcellus, attended Bishop's College, in Lennoxville, Canada, where he played football, and was graduated in 1893.

But, the woolen business was in his blood, and he worked in the mills since he was a boy.

In1908, he built the home on Orange Street, where the Rev. and Mrs., M. Dennis Lee now reside. Mr. Moor and his wife, the former Louise Lyons of Indianapolis, Indiana, had four children. The oldest Roslyn, now Mrs. Harry Cramer, has two children and lives in Huntingdon, L.I.. There is two sons, Edward and James, who live with their father.

The second daughter, Jean, Mrs. Hidden Miller of Muskogee, Oklahoma, has four children.

The sons are planning a reception in their father's honor, for a few close friends, old colleagues. His sister, Mrs. Winifred Moir, is ill in the Dobson Nursing Home in Elbridge.

Mr. Moir himself, is in excellent health. He still fishes and gardens. Mr. Moir had a box of gladioli bulbs in his hand, and was asked if he intended to put them in himself. He said "of course, there are only 20." continued A favorite topic of his is injustices in the government, especially what the government, under President Roosevelt, did to the tariff on woolens.

#### Marcellus Observer Friday August 26, 1955 Memories of Marcellus By Frank Griffing

This week I will describe the DeCourdes store which was where the Kershaw Restaurant is, it was run by Thomas DeCourdes, his two sons, Fred and William. Fred was the druggist. They had a general store older people told me that the post office was in the store before John Seymour built the building that our bank started in.

The Decourdes closed out and Fred opened up a drug store on the south side of Syracuse, called at that time, Brighton. Then John Coyne opened up the barber shop and billiard and pool room. Later Coyne moved where the Legion rooms are and James Woodbridge opened up a paint and paper store. He had several men working for him. I can name a few, but I can't remember them all: Irving Beech, Clarence Woodford, Ed Bartlett, and Everett Higgins.

Woodbridge sold out to Roy Smith, then Roy after operating several years, closed out and Bud Fisher operated a clothing store. Joseph Miller opened up the Laundra-mat, then sold it to Ed Hayes, then Hayes sold to Jane Conley, Jane sold to Ed Tracy. He moved the business in back of Florence Gilmour's store. Then Kershaw's opened the restaurant.

## **Girl Scouts**

On May 5th we gave a tour of the Steadman House for the Girl Scout Troop 191 of Marcellus. We had 14 girls and 5 adults, which consisted of troop leaders and parents. We split them into two groups. The tour lasted just under an hour. The girls enjoyed the tour and asked many questions.

I would like to thank Charlie and Pat Sandborn, Jean Nightingale for conducting the tour.

## **One Hundred Years Ago in Marcellus**

Marcellus Observer Friday, June 30, 1916

James Edwin Woodbridge

James Edwin Woodbridge died at 10 AM, Tuesday, June 20, 1916, at the home on Main street, Marcellus, after an illness of about a one year, before which he had always enjoyed excellent health and active in all affairs. He was thrown from a wagon on West Hill with Clarence Woodford, and they were so badly dazed that neither knew what happened to them during the accident, of the visit to the doctors office, nor finally taken to their homes. The shock Mr. Woodbridge seemed never to overcome, he failed from that time on until his confinement to the house and during several final months in a wheel chair.

Deceased was the son of George Woodbridge and Mary Ann Hopper, born in England, May 22, 1854, and came here as a child, having been a resident 59 years. The family came from England in 1857. His uncle, Joseph, preceded them by six years. They were seven weeks on the vessel. The father, George was a decorator and glazer and his son succeeded him in this work and business. Patronage through his ability and diligence until some 17 years ago he bought the de Coudres property and then carried a larger stock of paint, paper, etc., other lines were added and it became a leading local business. This was purchased by Roy P. Smith in 1915.

He was united in marriage to Viola H Beach, September 10, 1878. He had always been a leader in affairs of the Methodist church and a great worker in the ranks, always at services, and holding offices trustee, steward, etc., twenty years past. He has been superintendent of the Sunday school and taught classes of men and of women. He was always active in the Brotherhood, both in S.S. and the men's organizations. Honored with village office holding, he was village treasurer ten years, Trustee several terms, twice elected on the Board of Education and a member at the time of his death. His affiliation with Marcellus Lodge, No. 658, I.O.O.F., served as an outlet for his fraternal spirit of brotherliness, he was past grand of the order and regular attendant of meetings to the end. He was also a member of Tent 517, K.O.T.M., in good standing and took interest in the local hive.

The survivors are his widow, one son, J. Fred Woodbridge, and a sister, Mrs. Henry S. Jones. Funeral was held from home Friday, June 23 at 2:30 o'clock, Rev. W. S. Tompkins officiating. Rev. H. I. Rixon, comes as a friend, assisted Rev. Tompkins in making one of the prayers and also made remarks on the life of the deceased. Rev. Tompkins read from continued

various books of the bible, showing the progressive faith and assurance of eternal life. Floral offerings were many, including set pieces from the I.O.O.F., K.O.T.M., Methodist church Sunday School, the Brotherhood Class, the May Clift Memorial Bible Class, the school faculty and offerings from many friends, with large piece from his former employees as a body, and they acted as bearers. Interment was made in Highland Cemetery in the family plot.

#### Marcellus Observer Friday May 5, 1916 Moving Pictures Be Shown at Parson's Hall

"When Lin Came Home" Western Drama "Billie's Headache" Comedy "The Devil in Chief" 3 reel Drama "The Missing Mummy"

Show 7:30 Admission 15c-10c

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

MARCELLUS CONSIGNMENT 14 E. Main St., Marcellus, 13108
APPLIANCE REPAIR JOBS UNLIMITED Appliance repair and more, Mike Johnson, Owner.
2809 Route 174, Marietta 13110
DUCK'S AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE Brakes, Tires, Exhaust, Oil Changes and More!
4588 North Street Rd., Marcellus 13108
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#### TOM SCHNEIDER CONSTRUCTION, INC.

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Bernard L. Reagan & Mary Reagan Dailey (FAX 673-3438) 18 East Main St., PO Box 196, Marcellus 13108 ......673-4864

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www.armstrongtx.com (FAX 673-9972)	)
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~ GIFT SHOP & MEMBERSHIP ORDER FORM~					
Join Our Society Today ! \$5/ Person per year—\$9/Couple per year		Name:			
\$12/Family per year (includes children under 18) Sustaining membership = 5 years (dues x 5) Number joining? New Members?         Available Collectibles         The New Pucker Street, Since 1953 by John Curtin \$28         Pucker Street by John Curtin		Addr.:			
		City:			
		Phone:			
		Email:			
		<u>Qty</u> <u>Item Description</u> <u>Cost Ea.</u> <u>Total</u>			
Jan Debevic Prints\$10- \$13					
Official Marcellus Afghans: blue—green\$45					
Marcellus, When Wool was King, Pictorial\$ 5 Marcellus Through the Years; Chronology, Photos\$ 5		Make Checks Payable To:Total \$Marcellus Historical SocietyShipping \$PO Box 165Dues \$			
Index to Nile Mile Country; Names and more\$ 5 Package of 10 note-cards picturing Marcellus\$ 5		PO Box 165 Dues \$ Marcellus N.Y. 13108 Total Enclosed \$			
Shipping: \$5					

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

\*\*\*\*\*NEW Website Address:\*\*\*\*\*

www.marcellushistoricalsociety.org

<u>NEXT MEETING :</u> Sunday May 15, 2016 2 PM

## (Your dues are paid through Dec. 31st of the year on the label.)

## **INSIDE:**

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- \* John M. Moir
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- \* 100 Years Ago in Marcellus