

# Marcellus Historical Society News

Volume 21 Issue 3

Fall 2016



Austin C. Marble.

Austin Charles Marble was born in the town of Marcellus, December 18,1879. When about 14 years of age he went to Syracuse and took up residence with his aunt an uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Loronzo Davis, where he finished grammar school, and then worked his own way through high school, being employed at Russoll's drug store before, and after school hours. After completing his high school work he entered the College of Pharmacy, Buffalo University, and graduated in 1900. He first came to Marcellus and entered the employ of A. E. Drake.

April 30, 1902 he married Miss Ethel Rutherford, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Rutherford of Marcellus village, who with one daughter, Dorothy, survives him. In 1903 they lived in Rochester for a time, but returned to Marcellus, where he began business for himself, December 1st of the same year, and by untiring efforts and industry, built up a very successful modern drug business. As a business man, Mr. Marble was always kind and courteous and his ever increasing circle of friends grew with his business. Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday Nov. 25th, while while at the store he complained of a numbness of his left side, but was able to walk home, and Dr. Weidman was called, but his illness was not considered serious until he lost consciousness Thursday morning at 9:30 o'clock, which he did not regain except for a few moments Saturday, and recognized his wife and child, but never spoke. Saturday afternoon two brain specialists were called from Crouse Irving Hospital, Syracuse, and slight hopes for an improvement were entertained. The end came suddenly and unexpectedly at 12:00 PM.

Besides his widow and daughter, he is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Marble and two sisters, Mrs. Eugene Wicks and Mrs. Joseph Lamers, all of Marcellus, and one brother, Arthur J. Marble.

He was a loving and devoted husband, an indulgent father, a kind and helpful son and brother. Funeral was held from the home at 2:00 o'clock Wednesday, December 2, where prayer was send by Rev. W. S. Tompkins. The local Masonic order, Morning Star Lodge of Marcellus, of which the deceased was a member, had proceeded from their rooms in a body to the house to act as honorary escort to the remains. The body comprised some sixty-five members, and was joined by a delegation of members, both local and from the city of Syracuse Lodge of Elks, some twenty-five in number, also the Marcellus school, the entire faculty and over a hundred pupils including schoolmates of the daughter, Miss Dorothy. Those bodies made a long procession on the sidewalk, led by Rev. Tompkins and the six bears as they accompanied the hearse and mourners carriages over Reed street, to North street, to Main street, to the Methodist Church, where service was held.

Half the church was reserved for this company, while the other half, gallery, aisles, and corridors were filled long before their arrival. Fully six hundred were send to be about the church to do Continued on page 4

# **EVENTS SCHEDULE**

The tentative schedule of events is as follows: Sunday, Sept. 11, 2016 2 PM Speaker will be Richard Linck a local bee keeper. Sunday, Oct. 9, 2016 2 PM TBA Sunday, Nov. 13, 2016 PM TBA

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**

President: Doug Nightingale	673-2539
E-mail: djn0409@windss	tream.net
Vice President: Kathy McLaughlin	
E-mail: mclaughlink@ho	tmail.com
Treasurer: Patricia Sanborn	488-3610
E-mail: pasanborn@twcn	
Secretary: Carriebeth Pottinger	
E-mail: cb90009@aol.com	n
<b>Trustees and Term End</b>	b
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2016 Jamie Johnston
2016 Harvey Eysman
E-mail: heysman@windstream.net
2017 Carol Armstrong
E-mail: carolart23@aol.com
2017 Jean Nightingale
E-mail: djn0409@windstream.net
2018 John Curtin
E-mail: jcurtin2@windstream.net
2018 Bob Wilson
Correspondence Secretary:
Jean Nightingale673-2539

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

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

Were has the summer gone. We have been vey busy at the Steadman House. Old Home Days was a huge success picking up new members. We have many guests at the house both for tours and genealogy research as well through our web page. Our face book page has taken a back seat for a while because Jean has been in the hospital for quite some time , hopefully in the month of September we will get the face book page and running again.

In the coming months we have to make some serious decisions on the proposed new building in the backyard of the Steadman House. It has been in the talking stages and now we have to get into the planning stage. More to come . Hope to see you at our next meeting.

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

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

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.

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

<u>In Remembrance</u> Catherine D'Angelo-May 27, 2016 Florence H Pottinger-July 26, 2016 Tim Coyne-June 18, 2016 <u>Our Thanks for Cash Donations from:</u> Philip & Gwen Olenych Kathleen Carroll & Family Brian Olley John & Rosemary Coyne Doug & Lois Satterlee-Research Kay Kershaw– In honor of Peg Nolan Kay Kershaw–In memory of Elsie Harrison Bruce & Mary Widger-In memory of Florence Pottinger Sally Wroe Martin Woodford-Research Marcellus Class of 1966 Marcellus Class of 1966 Marcellus Class of 1964-In honor of Melinda Mulroy Wax

# **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. Gloria Weekes for a women's hair dryer. Phil Thrall for Marcellian's. Larry Meade large picture frame with a certificate for The order of Unity for Perseverance Lodge #57 for Marcellus, NY March 23,1892. Terry Dixon for the 1939-1940-1941 Marcellians. Bob and Ardyce Lake for early 1900 post cards of Marcellus and Otisco Lake. Joy Buffan for Mary Noej;s book and 1938 Commencement book from Marcellus.. Janet Seymour for a picture of students at Baker Hill school 1896.

# 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**

Nightingale Mills for donating mulch for the gardens.

Doug & Jean Nightingale for donating flowers for the flower pots in front of Steadman House.

#### Continued from page 1

homage to the personal friends of each and all. None came through other than respect and regard.

The service was conducted by the pastor of the church, Rev. W. Scott Tompkins, with funeral sermon which was spoken of in highly commendatory terms. The Masonic order also held some ritual service, and the Marcellus Quartette sang selected hymns. An opportunity was given the public to view the remains and their filing past the gasket was a showing of sincere esteem for this youthful fellow citizen.

The bearers were Village President Frank H. Gillett, John M. Moir, Dr. J Russell Lowell, Eugene A. Cuddeback, Lewis W. Scott, all from Marcellus, and Louis J. Emory of Syracuse.

The full Masonic lodge escorted the brother to Highland Cemetery, held their impressive burial service together with the usual burial form by Rev. Tompkins. They sang Nearer My God to Thee, repeated the Lord's Prayer in unison, led by C. E. Jones gave the final rites of the order and after mourners had taken leave, these brothers lowered the remains to their resting place. Burial was made near the entrance, just northeast, near the highway.



Austin Marble standing in front of his drug store on main street just before he passed away.



One of our last great buildings is being torn down. The lower woolen mill is disappearing from our daily view.

Marcellus Observer August 1, 1963

Memories of Marcellus By Frank Griffing

Marcellus was a manufacturing town that provided work for the people living in the village and town. Woolen cloth was made for 150 years, but all the mills are gone now.

There was a woolen mill one time where thw old barley mill was. In my time in Marcellus, we had three paper mills at the falls. We had three flour mills, one at the falls, one in the village, one in Marietta.

Edmund Reed had a factory on Kelly Ave. where he made children's carts and wheelbarrows. At one time there was a clock factory at the Falls. A furniture factory once stood where the ford garage is now.

I have been told a man used to make windmills there also. At one time there was a wheelborrow o creek hill. We also had a brick yard on the Coon property an another one near Emerson Patterson Lives. They made brick from red clay. We had a cigar factory where they made hand made cigars. Samuel Dady had a soap factory and made tallow candles, located where the new post office is now. There was a tailor shop which made men and boys suits. Women were employed to make button holes and sew on buttons. There was a harness shop that employed seven men and a shoe shop that employed men. We had cider mills and three tanneries that tanned harness leather sole leather and calf skins, also sheep skins

Marcellus also had three saw mills, a cooper shop that made salt and pork barrels, and butter tubs. There also was a shop that shaved wood shingles, mostly in the winter.

Before the electric trolley carpenters and masons some time worked in the city but boarded there and came home on the weekends. As you may know, men worked sixty hours a week, but after the trolley started, more of them worked in Syracuse and were able to come home each day.

### Marcellus Observer, Thursday, July 3,1879 Destructive Fire

The Fulmer Block, Episcopal Church and Sheehan's store burned— Loss about \$15,000-Insurance about \$9,000.

Shortly after 4 o'clock this morning the alarm of fire was sounded, and people rallied to the scene of the conilegration, which started in the Fulmer block. The store was built of brick, and was three stories heigh with basement. The first floor was occupied by D. M. Fulmer & Co., who kept a large stock of general merchandise. The second floor was occupied by Mrs. Rosser and family, and M. L. Case and family, who had barely time to escape with their lives, losing all their clothing and household effects. The third floor was used as a public hall, while the basement was occupied by the Y.M.C.A., who loose all their furniture. The fire spread very rapidly destroying the whole contents of the block, even Mr. Fulmer's books and papers which were of considerable value. The fire ran rapidly to the Episcopal church on the corner of Main and North streets, which was soon enveloped by the flames, although the carpets, seats and all moveable articles were taken from the building. The structure to the West was the building of M. Sheehan, which he had lately purchased and fitted up as a store, and was stocked with complete line of dry goods, groceries, boots and shoes, etc.. The second floor was occupied by Mr. Sheehan's family. The goods were removed from the store, but in damaged condition. It was thought that the fire could be stopped if the building could be torn down, and accordingly the axe was applied, ropes attached, and the building fell with a crash, towards the church, and was soon enveloped in flames. Thus the residence of A. W. Beach was saved, although it was badly scorched. The front of Mr. Beach's building was occupied by Mrs. Bicknell, as a millinery store, who lost considerable by the removable of her stock. The building North of the Fulmer block was occupied by Samuel Hooper as a furniture and undertaking store, who lost considerable by the hasty removal of his stock. The building was only saved in a badly scorched condition by the prompt efforts of various citizens.

The following are the losses sustained by the various parties: D.M. Fulmer & Co., loss of

building \$5000- insured \$3000, loss stock, \$4000- insured \$2000. M. Sheehan loss of building \$1000- insured \$1000, loss of stock \$2000insured \$1000. St. John's Church Society, loss on church and organ: \$3500- insured for \$2000. M.L. Case loss, \$200- not insured. Mrs. Bicknell looses by the removal of household goods \$50– insured. Y.M.C.A. loss about \$75-not insured. Samuel Hooper looses by removal, \$50-\$100insured. John Fulmer looses by removal of household goods, \$50-\$100-not insurance. A.W. Beach looses by removal of goods and damages to building, \$200- fully insured. The parties all have their claims in good reliable companies, and will probably receive the amount their policies call for, in due time.

Te origin of the fire is not known, although the persons that first discovered it, think that it originated in the basement. This is altogether the mot disastrous fire that has visited this village in many years and greatly shows the necessity of apparatus for fighting fire, and with present natural facilities, no place could be prepared in a better manner at as moderate a figure.

Mr. Fulmer, and also Mr. Sheehan desire to extend many thanks to the public in general, who so kindly gave their assistance in the time of trouble.



Another of our old buildings will be torn down in the coming weeks. The Martisco Paper Mill.

# Class of 1966

On August 6, 2016 the Class of 1966 toured the Steadman House. We had approximately twentyfive people. Everyone had a good time. Reminiscing about the 1960's was enjoyable.

I would like to thank Charlie & Pat Sandborn and Doug Nightingale for conducting the tour.

# **One Hundred Years Ago in Marcellus**

Marcellus Observer Friday, August 4, 1916

# Weekly Crop Report

The cool wave struck here the fore part of the week very much appreciated, put new life and courage into most of us. Rain is needed very much, the long continued dry weather and intense heat has taken most all moisture out old Mother Earth. Some wells and springs have dried up and the ground, which was water soaked during the fore part of the season was in no condition to withstand protracted drought. While most of the hay crop, which was immense in this locality, has been secured in fine shape, there is still some to cut this week is over ripe and dried up. We believe the large hay crop is entirely local for it is said that in adjoining counties the very little hay.

Here the oat crop will be practically a failure, except an occasional piece that was sowed early, and these are very few.

The corn crop will also be very light. With a late fall and favorable weather some of it that has been well cared for may mature., but the bulk of the crop will not amount to much.

Cabbage was set late and the 1st of Aug just where they should be at the 1st of July. If the dry spell lasts much longer there isn't a ghost of a show for any cabbage crop whatever.

Alfalfa is being cut the second time. The dry hot weather has forced this crop into bloom very rapidly and the result is short growth of the young shoots and the second cutting will be below normal on most fields.

One man reports that he and his little boy had put in 60 loads up to August 1 with the aid of a hay loader. A number of new hay loaders have been purchased by farmers this season and prove a decided success, as it is impossible for farmers to get help.

We understand the wages paid by the State Department of Highways is \$2.50 per day for common labor for eight hours and the town pays \$2.25. This to a certain extent fixes the price of farm labor, and any old man or boy expect \$2.00 to \$2.50 and board on a farm because " they get on the road," just like they were real workers.



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

> 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

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The Town He Loved So Well by James Quinn\$20 Around Marcellus By Leslie Church Kraus\$20	Email:	
Nine Mile Country by Katherine Heffeman	QtyItem DescriptionCost Ea.Total	
Olden Day Stories by Lawrence F. Mahoney\$10 Otisco Lake Community by Roger Trendowski\$23 Otisco Lake Map 1868\$13		
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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 Sept. 11, 2016 2 PM (Your dues are paid through Dec. 31st of the year on the label.)

# **INSIDE:**

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