

Marcellus Historical Society News

Volume 22 Issue 1

Winter 2017

Marcellus 50 Years Ago

Father Harnett Retires; Named Pastor Emeritus of St. Francis

The Rev. Daniel C. Harnett, whose retirement from the pastorate of St. Francis Church was announced last week, has been named pastor emeritus of the Church by the Most Rev, Walter A. Foery, bishop of the Syracuse diocese, and will remain in Marcellus in that capacity.

The bishop announced the appointment Tuesday. St. Francis was thronged with worshippers last Sunday when hundreds turned out to pay homage to Father Hartnett, whose retirement was announced last Thursday.

Father Hartnett, who has spent a third of a century as pastor of St. Francis, was visibly effected by the display of affection on the part of his parishioners.

The new pastor of the church has been announced as the Rev, J. Robert Quigley, pastor of Our Lady of Holy Rosary Church, Hannibal, and St. Joseph's Church in Oswego.

Father Hartnett's assistant, The Rev. Martin James Lutz, who came to St. Francis in 1965, also moves out of the parish, going to the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul in Syracuse as an assistant.

In appointing Father Hartnett pastor emeritus, Bishop Foery said: "As pastor emeritus, Father Hartnett has the right to choose his place of residence, and it is wish that he stay at St. Francis Xavier in Marcellus." The bishop assured him that he would receive every care and every welcome from Father Quigley.

"Since Father Hartnett has baptized and administered the sacraments to the majority of the present parishioners of St. Francis," Bishop Foery continued, "he will always be their spiritual father and continue to have a place in their hearts.

Farther Harnett, who was born in Truxton 76 years last November, did not have any plans for his retirement when this paper went to press.

His parents were killed in an accident on their way to see him ordained at St. Bernard's Church, Rochester, nearly 50 years ago.

A complete stranger to Marcellus, he arrived on Armistice Day 1933. Before that he been an assistant in Whitesboro and then pastor in Hamilton.

Bishop Foerystoing Local People

For many years he was prominent in Marcellus Civic Affairs and is one of the recipients of the annual Citizens Club Award for outstanding citizenship.

The men of the parish about six years ago raised enough money to send him to Rome during the Martian Year, but he refused to leave Marcellus where he had spent so many years.

Years ago he bought the pipes for an old organ in Ithaca and with the aid of an organ mechanic built the organ which the church now uses.

Always useful with his hands, there were many occasions when helped with repairs of the church—not because the church couldn't afford the repairs but because he like to keep busy.

Generous in his charities, he spent much of his efforts in making sure that everything in the Altar was the best.

Fond of children, his affection was reciprocated and many of the children whom he had baptized were present at the service Sunday.

In his early years in Marcellus he liked to play golf and frequently scored in the 80's. In recent years his out door activities have been confined to his vegetable and flower garden. And the garden was in fact the cause of the illness which sent to the hospital recently. Apparently allergic to various pollen and mold, he was stricken with pneumonia and spent several weeks in the hospital.

The Marcellus Observer Thursday January 19,1967

In Accolades to Father Hartnett

A great many Marcellians paid tribute to the Rev. Daniel Hartnett when it was learned that he was retiring.

A non-Marcellian who has been associated with Father Hartnett, the Most Rev. Walter Foery, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse, also joined in the accolades.

The Rev. M. Dennis Lee, rector of St. John's Episcopal Church, wrote a tribute which appears on the editorial page of this newspaper.

The Rev. James LeGro, pastor of the First Methodist Church of Marcellus, said "I have known Father Hartnett only through the people of the church who love him. For his sake and the sake of the community, I can say how grateful I am for the many years he

Continued page 5

Events Schedule

The tentative schedule of events is as follows:

April 2, 2017

Meeting at the Marcellus Library Jeff Ludwig-Education Director of Seward House

Speaking on Alaska Purchase-Seward's Folly

May 21, 2017 Meeting at the Marcellus Library

John Curtin speaking on the Creek Walk

May 20, 2017
Antique and Primitive Show at the Marcellus
Park
9 AM-3 PM

From The President

We have had a very busy Winter. First we had many visitors to see the Steadman house decorated for Christmas. The Onondaga Historical Society board of directors and guests visited in December. Even with weather conditions not great, we continue to have visitors.

Also, we are starting to get more members involved with keeping the Steadman House open. We have been receiving new members who are also willing to help at the Steadman House.

Our meetings for 2017 will be held at the Marcellus Library 2PM in the Community Room. Looking forward to seeing you at are meetings.

Doug Nightingale

Historical Society Officers for 2017

President: Doug Nightingale 673-2539

E-mail: djn0409@windstream.net

Vice President: Kathy McLaughlin

E-mail: mclaughlin_k@hotmail.com

E-mail: pasanborn@twcny.rr.com

Secretary: Carriebeth Pottinger............ 673-3187

E-mail: cb90009@aol.com

Trustees and Term End

2019 Jamie Johnston	673-1160	
2019 Harvey Eysman	673-3933	
E-mail: heysman@windstream.net		
2017 Carol Armstrong	673-3443	
E-mail: carolart23@aol.com		
2017 Jean Nightingale	673-2539	
E-mail: djn0409@windstream.net		
2018 John Curtin	673-3660	
E-mail: jcurtin2@windstream.net		
2018 Bob Wilson 6	573-2550 -	
Correspondence Secretary:		
Jean Nightingale	673-2539	
- -		

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

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. ~

Steadman House Hours (Weather Permitting): 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: 321

New:

Business Members: 25

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!

In Remembrance

W. Sterling Jansen-December 16, 2016 William J Schneider-February 20, 2017

Our Thanks for Cash Donations from:

Roger & Joan Field Jerry M. Wilcox **Carol Abbott** Jovce Glover **Town of Onondaga Historical Society George Schmidt Hollis & Nancy Abbott** Farrell's Auto Service Barbara & Richard Hildreth **Town Of Marcellus Carol Armstrong** Joe Edwards=Research Anne & Emiliano Bachar-Research

Kathleen Mullin Hoar-In Memory of Mary E. Orzesek

James & Laura Duncan-In Memory of Jean Moir Miller

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, Carol Armstrong, Bruce Widger for keeping the Steadman House open during scheduled hours; and the Village of Marcellus for keeping the driveway open during the winter. ~



A special thanks to Hollis Abbott. Hollis is our resident clock expert. The Ithaca Calendar Clock that was in the first National Bank (Key Bank) and now our current Town Hall was not working correctly. The clock shows the time, date, day of the week and the month of the year. The day of the week and the month were not working. Hollis took the clock home and made the necessary adjustments. The clock is back and working perfectly.

Marcellus Historical Society 2016 Financial Summary

Beginning Balance \$27,959.89

Income

Donations \$2,915.70 Dues Rec'd \$1,672.00 Gift Shop \$519.80 Grants \$5,250.00 Other Income \$107.01 Interest \$62.22

Total \$10,526.73

Expenses

Acquisitions \$508.03 Contributions \$50.00 Meeting Expenses \$26.62 Miscellaneous \$540.67 Occupancy \$5,351.93 Office Supplies \$506.72 Postage \$546.13 Telephone \$1,206.13 Web Site \$290.00 Total \$9,026.12

Ending Balance \$29,460.12

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 indexed 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.

Marcellus One Hundred Years Ago

EXTINGUISHER PAYS IN A WEEK

ATTENTION:

Camillus, Elbridge, Amber, Navarino, Onondaga Hill, South Onondaga, many other communities.

Marcellus Village took a two-wheel fire extinguisher on trial, and it was placed in the engine house Saturday Feb. 1.

Sunday, Feb. 17, at noon, a fire alarm called the department to the home of William Fikes. The heat of the fire was located and one blast from the hose finished it.

The extinguisher had saved a new dwelling and paid for the cost twice over within a week from its installation.

Why not go and do likewise?

The house is out of the corporation. Hose was strung from the last hydrant at Rossers and laid as far as the railroad track. The house was a half mile away. The extinguisher was hauled ahead of the hose cart and taken anywhere, and done the work.

We give below Elmer P Clark's version of the fire:

Last Sunday Marcellus Had cause to be pleased with the first practical work done by the new chemical engine recently purchased by the village.

The occasion was the breaking out of a fire in the house occupied by William Fikes across the creek opposite the upper Crown Mills. Volumes of smoke were pouring out and the blaze was eating its way rapidly inside the outer walls from cellar to roof, defying all means at hand to putting it out. Heroic work was done smashing windows, chopping through lathe and plaster and carrying out household goods until the heat and smoke drove them out.

Time was lost in sounding the alarm, but in five minutes after the bell rang the chemical hose was turned on. The engine responded performing its work in perfect way and completely subduing the flames in a very few minutes.

Much credit is due fireman for the long haul and the quick and effective work done, also to others of the company stretched two lines of hose

Ready for any emergency that might occur.

Continued

Crown Mills has told Mr. Clark they will build a hose for both a chemical engine and a hose cart, just north of the bridge. They owned the house which caught fire.

Marcellus Observer February 23, 1917

The Weather Man's Record

Last Saturday was the worst day of the winter season, wind howled for days before and after, traffic almost stopped, drifts were not so bad as snow was not plentiful but autos were stuck, Dr. Lowell being victim again, this time by Ed Cornwell's and near there also a big city rig was dug out. Morton Amidon also got caught. Phone lines were out of order. It ranged around 8 below Saturday morning, to 10 below that day and evening. It has been lower before this season. Wind blew right through houses, people finding greater difficulty than almost ever before to keep warm. Even Levi Parsons didn't have coal enough (or good coal or not enough) to keep his own home warm. (That's a hard story on a coal man, but a shoemaker's wives go barefoot.) Houses across lots could not be seen with the drifting and light falling snow. It was a teaser, a blizzard, Marcellus carriers (some of them—we presume others) could not make their full trip. When this occurs the last day of the week folks fail to get their papers for Sunday, most serious to them, leaving nothing to read but the Bible.

Marcellus Observer Friday February 7, 1917



It has been a pleasure to have Nicole Sandborn, a senior at Wells College, to complete an internship with us at the Steadman House. She was very helpful removing Christmas decorations by packing

and coding them for storage for next year. She greeted guests and gave tours. She learned our system of accepting, recording & cataloging our new artifacts. She keyed into our computer system our prior acquisitions for the years 2014 thru 2016. She was also very helpful by working on an index for one of our collections

Continued from page 1 -Accolades

has allowed Christ to work through him."
Lester Norris, mayor of Marcellus, said that the people of Marcellus, Catholic and Protestant, will miss Father Hartnett tremendously, "He has been a pillar of strength and a comfort to the whole community."

The Rev. Martin James Lutz, assistant at St. Francis Church said "The goodness and kindness of Father Hartnett will last to eternity. Many of his accomplishments will not be known, except to those who have benefited through them. Marcellus has been richly rewarded by his work."

Don Hickman, proprietor of Hickman's Grocery Store, and a long time friend of Father Hartnett, said, "One of the nicest men who ever drew a breathe," describing him.

And Mary Wybron, one of the oldest members of the parish and lives across from he church, said, "His old housekeeper, Miss Duffy, introduced me to Father Hartnett 33 years ago as a saint, and the fact has been proven to us."

By Most Rev. Walter A. Foery Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse

Father Harnett is one of the oldest priests in the diocese. He has served in various parishes, and since 1933 has been pastor of St. Francis Xavier, in Marcellus

He has been witness to the new growth and expansion of the parish, and has made an earnest and zealous attempt to meet the growing duties incumbent upon him.

He is respected and loved by his people, and as they look back over the past they know he has been their faithful Shephard these many years.

No one of us escapes the disabilities of advancing years. These are inevitable, not only in the lives of the laity, but in the lives of our priests as well.

It is my prayerful hope that Father Harnett, during the remaining years of his life, will find comfort in what he has done and in the knowledge that he has won the approval of his superiors, and devotion of his people.

No one will deny that he is entitled to be freed from the heavy responsibilities that are his. Father Harnett is a good priest, and therefore anxious that his work of his church, advance and grow. He wills a rich inheritance to his successor, Father Quigley.

It is my hope and prayer that the good Lord, through the intercession of St. Francis Xavier, will bless him and his people.

The Marcellus Observer Thursday, January 19,1967

50 Years Ago in Marcellus

Marcellus Opens New Gymnasium: 1937 Varsity And JV's Honored

Despite the cold, snow and wind Marcellus and Tully played to a full house last Friday night for the first game in the just completed Marcellus Central School gym.

One of the highlights of the evening came at half time when the varsity and junior varsity basketball team of 1937, marched in to the tune "The Gallant Men" played by the MCS band.

The 1937 varsity members present were John Ward, George Manahan, Cliff Buffin, Harold Chapman Hugh Dawson. Mr. Dawson, on be half of the School Board, later spoke saying that he hoped that future generations would enjoy the gym, and also that "this might be a turning point for the team and Coach Mert Raner."

The 1937 junior varsity attending were Donald Pitman, Paul Fitzpatrick, Earl Macholl, Jack O'Shea, Butch Hunt, George Taylor, Jack Mullens and Glen Garvey.

Mr. Bailey, senior high principal, on behalf of the administration, bade everyone welcome and thanked the community for being as patient as they had, waiting for the completion of the gym.

"Once you saw the new gym, I am sure that you feel that it is well worth the wait," said Mr. Bailey.

Mr. Bailey also announced that there will be an Open House in the new high school, Sunday afternoon, March 19, 3-5p.m., so that the public may visit the school's facilities.

Mr. David Martin, English teacher at M.C.S., acted as master of ceremonies.

The Marcellus Observer, Thursday, March 2, 1967

A Country Antique and Primitive Show

"Offerings in the Park"

In cooperation with the Marcellus Historical Society / Marcellus Park

Saturday May 20. 2017

Marcellus Park

9AM-3PM

Volume 22 Issue 1 6 March 2017

One Hundred Years Ago in Marcellus

Three Garages For Marcellus

Frank H. Gillette has purchased Dr. J. C. Parsons the property next north from The Observer office, the entire frontage on North Street, including the Bee Hive and land on which John Grimes shop stands. Mr. Grimes owns this little building, he has paid annual ground rent many years past, has become a fixture, our only cobbler of the old school, probably the oldest business in town. It is understood this building may be moved. Mr. Gillette is to build a modern garage on this site somewhere. His plans are not certain, whether he will build on the Grimes site, leaving the Bee Hive front unobscured, or build in front of this tenant house, in which event th Grimes building could remain as it is. Mr. Gillette has agency for Ford cars.

This follows the announcement of James Pilot that he would build a garage south of his shop. He broke ground for this before the extreme weather. He is local agent of the Chevrolet cars. If Mr. Gillette plans mature as well as Mr. Pilot's, it will place two modern garages almost side by side, fronting the same and within fifty feet of each other. This will make three in Marcellus, with the present Bowen garage. The auto business is rushing.



Frank Gillette garage Currently this location is 15 North Street at Calley's Hardware.



James Pilot Garage

Currently this is 19 North Street. Pilot's Garage would be the in the South end of the of the current building.

All 2017 meetings for the Historical Society will be held at the Marcellus Library at 2PM in the Friends Community Room.

Business Member Directory Please Patronize These Businesses

Ticase Fationize These Businesses		
Marcellus Commons 16 E. Main St., Marcellus 13108		
MARCELLUS CONSIGNMENT 14 E. Main St., Marcellus, 13108		
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Marcellus Historical Society P.O. Box 165, 18 North St. Marcellus, NY 13108-0165

*****NEW Website Address:*****
www.marcellushistoricalsociety.org

NEXT MEETING: April 2, 2017 at The Marcellus Library. 2PM (Your dues are paid through Dec. 31st of the year on the label.)

INSIDE:

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