



Marcellus Historical Society News

Volume 17 Issue 1

Winter 2012

Marcellus Observer March 1, 1912

VISITS HIS ORE MINES.

S. G. Hooper Writes of Mexican Trip to His Investment, and Hunting Life.

Cuatro Cienegas, Coah, Feb. 19, '12.

To the Editor of the *Observer*:

When I contributed a short letter from Mexico you spoke of me as your war correspondent. You might like to offer my friends there something in time of peace. For accounts of the trouble here are greatly exaggerated and I think the present government will be a success.

I left New York Jan. 26 for this place of 4,000 people, houses of adobe, very cool in summer, as natives wet the dirt floors. In winter the misery is awful. My first few days here they had 3 inches of snow and very cold. They do not provide any way of heating nor bathing. This place is noted for its vineyards and fine wine, also as a buying center for Guayaie, a wild weed worth \$130 a ton, yielding 20 percent, fine rubber, and millions have been made in it.

I have just returned from a 3-day shooting trip in the mountains, worth describing. Mr. Alexander Floyd, born here, but an American, was my companion. He knows the country well. We left here after an early breakfast, our outfit a 4 mule team and driver, a moso (man servant), supplies, utensils, guns. After riding 35 miles, at "The Abra" (a cut) we camped for the night. Having little to eat during the day, when Floyd said supper I was ready. I did not know that cornmeal mixed with water and greases, baked in a covered pan, could be so good. After this we fed and "staked" the animals and about 9 got into our sleeping bags. It didn't seem to me I had been asleep 10 minutes when Floyd gave me a dig in the ribs and said, "Listen, have you ever heard a mountain lion scream? Well you have something coming to you." The few remaining hairs I have stood on end. It seemed to me I got about 10 minutes more sleep and was called to a red-hot breakfast.

Then we started up the mountain to see a mine we own, and incidentally to kill, if possible, a deer. To

describe this country is beyond me. I have never seen such a glorious sight. We kept going up, up, and by noon were 7,000 feet high. We stopped about an hour to rest and feed. Then after another 1,000 feet we had to leave the horses and go on foot. We found the ore deposit and brought samples with us.

The downward trip was, if possible, even more interesting, as the view across the valleys and canyons was wonderful. I took some fine photographs and will have the pleasure of showing them to friends there. We got back to the horses and were about an hour from camp when Floyd motioned to me to dismount. We left the horses and went around a point of rocks. There in the valley, about 200 feet below, were two deer feeding. We both shot at the buck, as we did not want to take chances of not getting any. Both shots took effect so we came into camp with a fine deer. Floyd dressed it and we had venison steak. I don't remember of ever eating a meal that tasted any better. The next day we went over other mountains but did not get near enough to shoot another deer. While exploring some caves I saw a big owl, so far away I had no idea I could hit him. I did, though, and the moso went after him, but Mr. Owl had dined on skunk so we could not save the wings as intended.

On the trip home we crossed a stream full of trout, and I expect to have a day or so fishing and then about two days duck shooting. This is certainly a wonderful country, lots of things waiting for Americans to develop. I want to go down the west coast of Mexico and expect to be in New York by March 1. With regards to you and my friends.

Sam. G. Hooper.

Note: Samuel G. Hooper was the grandson of Samuel C. Hooper who came to Marcellus in 1848 from England where he had been trained as a cabinet maker. His home and shop were on the west side of North Street. About 1880 he opened a furniture factory with William Gallup just west of the creek on East Main Street (Kathryn C. Heffernan's "Nine Mile Country").

Samuel C. Hooper also served as a village trustee in the 1870s (John P. Curtin's "Pucker Street"). ~

EVENTS SCHEDULE

The tentative schedule of events is as follows:

Sunday, February 12, 2012 **2 p.m.**

Ryan Riefler & Greg Crysler
“Composting at the Treatment Plant”

Sunday, March 11, 2012 **2 p.m.**

“Martisco Lion’s Club”

Sunday, April 15, 2012 **2 p.m.**

Meeting at the Marcellus Free Library
“Matilda Joslyn Gage”

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

President: Peg Nolan..... 673-1765

E-mail: peganolan1@hotmail.com

Vice President: Doug Nightingale..... 673-2539

E-mail: djn0409@windstream.net

Treasurer: Hollis Abbott 673-1753

E-mail: habbott1@twcny.rr.com

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

E-mail: cb90009@aol.com

Trustees and Term End

2012 John Curtin..... 673-3660

E-mail: jcurtin2@twcny.rr.com

2012 Bob Wilson 673-2550

E-mail: 89rw@twcny.rr.com

2013 Joy Buffan..... 673-1832

2013 Jamie Johnston..... 673-1160

2014 Mary Jane Domurat..... 673-4896

E-mail: mjdomurat@msn.com

2014 Patricia Sanborn..... 488-3610

E-mail: pasanborn@twcny.rr.com

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.

Please direct comments or questions to Hollis Abbott.

From The President ...

Thank you to everyone for their condolences and donations in memory of my husband, Joe.

Peg Nolan ~

Steadman House Hours (Weather Permitting):

Sundays 1 to 3 pm (except meeting Sundays)

Thursday Afternoons 1 to 4 pm

Or By Appointment:

Peg Nolan - 673-1765

John Curtin - 673-3660

Hollis Abbott - 673-1753

12/31/2011 Membership: 399

Current Membership: 244

Not renewed from 2011: 155

New Members in 2011: 15

Business Members: 24

Not renewed from 2011: 12

New Business Members in 2011: 2

Membership Dues

If the date on the address label of this newsletter does not read **2012** or later, then it is time to renew your membership. We will send one reminder before the May newsletter, at which time non-current members will be removed from the membership list.

We rely on dues to help pay our bills and to maintain our collection and the Steadman House. Our dues are less than most historical societies in our area and we depend strictly on volunteers for everything - including hosting house tours, cleaning, office work and odd jobs.

Our quarterly newsletter is mailed to all members and the address list is not used for other than Marcellus Historical Society purposes.

Thank you for your support.

Steadman House Wish List

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

In Remembrance

Marion Hall Zink - November 3, 2011

Dora E. Masters - November 9, 2011

Doris M. Haggett - November 17, 2011

Richard Perry - November 25, 2011

Joseph Nolan - November 28, 2011

Murray W. Helfer - January 24, 2012

William S. Abbott - January 25, 2012

Our Thanks for Cash Donations from:

James R. Hettinger
 (in memory of Marion Hall Zink)
 Ruth & Henry Gooden
 (in memory of Marion Hall Zink)
 Bruce & Mary Widger
 Kevin L. Patric for school desk
 (in memory of Donald C. Thornton)
 Roger & Joan Field
 Hollis & Nancy Abbott
 James & Laura Duncan
 (in memory of Jean Moir Miller)
 Leo & Helen Kelly
 Alan L. Gammon

And in Memory of Joseph Nolan from:

Shirley North
 Kathy Whitehead
 Bill & Janine Matteson
 Arlene Donald
 Emily North's Friends at
 Mental Hygiene Legal Service
 Hollis & Nancy Abbott
 Bruce & Mary Widger
 Charles & Patricia Sanborn
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 Kathryn J. Coyne
 Nancy K. Barreca
 Carl J. Thorpe
 Phyllis Kenigsberg
 James R. Hettinger
 Judith A. Dawes
 Alice Mahan
 (continued in next column)

James & Margaret McNally
 Dorothy Sennett
 Stephen North
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 Michael & Eileen Rourke
 John T. Coyne
 Laurel & Mark Kenigsberg
 John & Carolynn Longuil ~

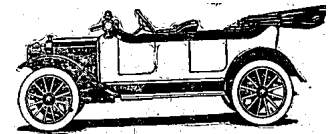
Steadman House Contributions

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 and for the Christmas Open House. **Cathy North** for helping with the Open House. **Bruce & Mary Widger** for Newsletter mailing. **Village of Marcellus** for mowing, lawn care and snow plowing. **Joy Buffan** for candy canes & tea lights for "Santa" night. ~

Marcellus Observer January 26, 1912

R. C. H. "Twenty-five"
 Touring Car.
 Price, . . . \$950



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Long stroke motor, three speeds, enclosed valves, Bosch magneto, long wheelbase, assuring plenty of room and comfort. The price of \$950 is for a fully equipped car with top, side curtains, wind shield, self starter, Presto-Lite tank, five lamps, demountable rims, one extra rim, 32x3 I-2 Q.D. tires, split dorf dual ignition.

The R. C. H. "Twenty-five" English body Roadster stands on our floors ready for demonstration. Price \$700.

T. A. Young

207 Nexon Street,

Syracuse, New York

Marcellus Historical Society
2011 Financial Summary

Income

Donations	7,078.00
Dues Recd	2,009.00
Gift Shop	1,258.20
Grants *	5,000.00
Other Income	18.96
Investment Income	<u>163.85</u>
Total Income	\$15,528.01

Expenses

Acquisitions	613.00
Contributions	50.00
Meeting Expense	50.57
Miscellaneous	784.82
Occupancy	12,383.39
Office Supplies	206.62
Postage	422.04
Preservation	131.42
Telephone/Internet	<u>998.40</u>
Total Expenses	\$15,640.26

Grand Total **(\$112.25)**

* - A grant of \$5,000 was from the Town of Marcellus for utility and insurance costs at the Steadman House. ~



Revisiting Heath's Grove

Vacationing in Skaneateles years ago, my brother and sisters noticed a picture hanging on the Borodino General Store. "Margaret Ward Elected Queen at 54th Annual Six-Town Picnic Event" read the headline. A beautiful young lady with dark hair next to Miss Ward piqued the curiosity of my siblings. Peeking at the caption, they read the following: "Pretty Margaret Ward smiles her appreciation at being selected as Queen of the 1939 Six-Town Picnic. Shirley Bobbett, left, and Jane Hallas, right, were runners up for the honor." Stunned by the caption, they stared at each other in disbelief. It was a picture of our mother-Shirley Bobbett!!! She never mentioned this accolade, but given my mother's genuine humility, I am not surprised. Her memories of Heath's Grove fascinated me. Picturesque cabins on Otisco Lake... square dances.... beauty pageants... baseball games.... celebrity visits; It had a magical quality. My grandmother, Lena Heath Bobbett, reminisced many times about Heath's Grove. Hoping to make a profit and provide a source of recreation for Onondaga County residents, her parents, George and Ruby Heath, established Heath's Grove as a resort on Otisco Lake in the early 1900s. I am gathering historical documents and oral histories of Heath's Grove to recreate this magical history. Onondaga County residents willing to share their memories or memorabilia of Heath's Grove E-mail Craig Heath Blackman at craigblackman59@yahoo.com or call me at 757-382-7490 (H) 757-621-0665 (C). I will be returning to Skaneateles in July or August of 2012 to complete my research.

Craig Heath Blackman

Note: Information about Heath's Grove can also be given to Peg Nolan who will share it with Craig Blackman when he visits this summer. ~

Renewed Members

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

Brian & Debi Abbott & Family, Carol Abbott, Mark & Lynn Abbott & Family, **Carol Armstrong**, Harvey Bell, Ron & Betsey Bond, Edgar N. Buffan, Kay D. Buffan, Bill & Kathy Bush, William & Martha Cole, Kathy Coyne, Tim Coyne, **Roger & Joan Field**, Elizabeth Foster, Alan Gammon, James Hamilton, Beverley Haney, Muriel Horning, Jamie L. Johnston, Tyrone & Sylvia King, Elizabeth Lathrop, Robert Lee, James Lozott, Kathy McLaughlin, Marni Nolan, Peg Nolan, Mary Orzesek, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Perry, Carriebeth Pottinger, Florence Pottinger, Sheila Schweitzer, Ruth Slovenski, Kathy P. Smiley, Richard & Frances Smith, Garth & Gerry Snyder, Leda Stopyro, Roberta M. Welsh, Frank Withey, **Sally Odell Wroe**. ~

Marcellus Observer January 5, 1912



Marcellus Observer March 22, 1912

Talk to Your Horse

Talk to your horse and teach him to obey your voice as well as the reins. This may prove valuable if, as sometimes happens, the lines break or become unbuckled. Besides, the horse likes the sociability of it. He easily learns a dozen or more words, but be careful to use them only for exactly what you mean. For instance, "whoa" means to stop at once and stand perfectly still; "get up" to go straight ahead and at once; "back" to step backward; "easy" or "steady", to slow up.

These words the horse readily learns and takes kindly to. "Walk", means to change at once to a walk; and "all right", spoken in a calm, reassuring tone, means "don't be afraid, that won't hurt you", and it is wonderful to see what a calming effect it has. Speak firmly but not sharply to the horse, for they are nervous creatures. Talking to your horse will make him more intelligent and more friendly.

—Spirit of the West. ~

Marcellus Observer October 28, 1998

Ode to a Senior Citizen

by Glen Schram

When I was young and in my prime
I never thought there would come a time
When all the girls that were such fun
Would out number me three to one.

So now the one who cuts my hair
Is none other than a lady fair
She trims my locks with the greatest of ease
My every wish she aims to please.

...And Mary Jane whom I love so much
is now Dr. Jones with a gentle touch
She pounds my chest and gives me pills
And says that they will cure my ills.

Then there is Betty Ann - I can't forget
A ride in the rumble seat and we got wet
She smiled and said, "That's all in life"
And now she is a judge's wife.

I meet each week for lunch and fun
Thanks to PEACE for a job well done
I salute the flag and say a prayer
Then greet the ladies - oh so fair.

The topic of my conversations
Has now become my operations
What with by-pass artificial hips and knees
Its got to where I dare not sneeze.

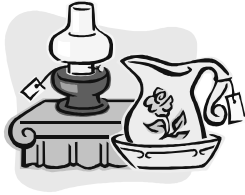
My blood pressure has hit the sky
And my sight is failing in one eye
My throat is sore and I have the flu
So please don't ask me, "How I do."

Hearing aids are a common thing
And what a blessing they can bring
So when I think I've heard it all
I just turn it off and have a ball.

Now growing old is not all bad
They can't take away what I already had
For I can dream of days gone by
And look to the future for pie in the sky.

So now each day I wake and pray
Thanking the Lord for another day
And all the blessings he will give
For another day that I may live.

(Our Friend, Glen Schram Sr. died in 2004 at age 93) ~



Recent Acquisitions

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

Nancy Skye for MCS jacket from the late 1950s; **Carol Armstrong** for various

Christmas decorations; **Peg Nolan** for Christmas decorations; **Bill Bush** for pictures of: garage on North Street, garage on Main Street, senior class of 1955, champion basketball team 1953-54, baseball team 1954, Otisco Lake map 1955; **Kay Kershaw** for glass bell, wooden spearhead, teasel knife, ink bottle, Christmas boxes, small cup (all found in walls of Woodbridge Bldg. on Main Street); **Florence Pottinger** for Christmas decorations; **Sam Murphy** for Christmas bulbs; **Leda Stopyro** for business ads for Snyder's and Bishop Building Supply, wooden board game, metal sign for Stopyro & Son Welding, John P. Stopyro bowling shoes & bowling ball; **Leo, Helen & Frank Kelly** for hat & 2 scrapbooks from Tuscarora Golf Club ; **Marcia Ramsden** for class of 1903 graduation pamphlet; **Gwen Abbott & Abbott Family** for town zoning ordinance book, Georgia Abbott picture, wall dial phone; **Ray Masters** for Ruth Anne Reagan painting of Jeremiah White House at 16 East Main Street (see below), seed planter; **Linda Greenfield** for pictures of Suzanne Alexander's 4th grade tour of the Steadman House in 2011; **Joy Buffan** for Christmas decorations; **Cathy North** for Christmas pictures, Girl Scout memorabilia, "I Love G.S. Volunteers" green frog, Marcellus Brownie Troop #384 banner; **Mary Tuthill** for 2 hand painted ducks; **The Buffan Family** for Cliff Buffan's 1953-54 bowling trophy. ~



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Web Site: mhs.marcellusny.com

Address Service Requested

NEXT MEETING:

Sunday, February 12th, 2 p.m.

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

INSIDE:

- * *Sam. G. Hooper's trip to Mexico*
- * *2011 Financial Summary*
- * *Heath's Grove*
- * *Glen Schram's poem*
- * *Talk to Your Horse*

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 Number Joining? _____ New Members? _____

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 Pucker Street by John Curtin \$26
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 Marcellus Through the Years; Chronology, photos... \$ 5
 Index to Nine Mile Country; Names and more..... \$ 5
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 Package of 10 note-cards picturing Marcellus..... \$ 5
Shipping: \$3 per book, \$4 other.

Name: _____

Addr: _____

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Qty	Item Description	Cost Ea	Total
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_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
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