



Marcellus Historical Society News

Volume 25 Issue 1-2 Winter-Spring 2020

60th Anniversary

The winter of 1960 a group of Marcellians started the Marcellus Historical Society. The original home of the society was in the Town Hall in a room upstairs, which is currently the Reagan-Dailey Law Offices. Next, was the meeting room of the Marcellus Fire Department, which is currently the Village Offices and the Marcellus Police Department. Our current location is 18 North Street at the Steadman House. The following list is the founding members of the historical society.

Wallace Campbell
Mr. & Mrs. Maynard Cark
Mrs. Eva Crysler
Mr. & Mrs. John Fishlock
Frank & Ruth Griffing
Jack Haley
Robert Harrison Sr.
Helen Hopkins
Mr. & Mrs. Emerson Paterson
Henry Phillips
Barbara Pittenger
Michael Plumpton
Stephen & Joyce Potucek
Marjorie Seeley
Mr. & Mrs. Amos Spinks
Lucy Sweet
Mrs. Roy Thompson
Kate Webb
John Withey Sr
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Wood

The artifacts that have been collected over the 60 years is astounding. The visitors we have at the Steadman House are amazed at the number of artifacts. We receive artifacts every month that can go back as far as the late 1800's and early 1900's.

Happy Anniversary

50 Years Ago

Principle Retires After Long Career

After serving for many years as Director of Elementary Education at Marcellus Central School. Miss Kathryn C. Heffernan will retire June 30.

Miss Heffernan graduated from Fabius High School, class of 1923: she was class president, valedictorian of her class and winner of a state scholarship. After graduating from Cortland Normal School in 1929 with honors, she completed summer courses and extension work at Syracuse and Columbia Universities, received her bachelor's degree in education, Magna Cum Laude. At that time, she was elected to Pi Lambda Theta, education honorary. Since then, she has done further study in Syracuse in the field of elementary education, supervisor and administration.

Miss Heffernan began her extensive teaching career in 1923 near Jamesville and Fabius where she taught grades 1-8. During most of the time from 1929-1941, she taught Jr. high school subjects in Fabius Central School, taught music and one year coached the girls basketball team. There she developed the first local history study which had been done in the community with an 8th grade class, after which the students published and sold copies of the history.

In 1941, Miss Heffernan came to Marcellus to teach social studies at the secondary level and to develop course in American History and World Backgrounds. In 1945, she became Supervisor of the Elementary School which involved 13 classrooms, guidance counselor for high school girls, in addition to responsibility for the A-V program, the K-12 testing program and college counseling. In 1955, she became the Director of Elementary Education.

Miss Heffernan has been an active member of the Marcellus community for many years and has received numerous awards.

Continued

Page 3

EVENTS SCHEDULE

*The tentative schedule of events is as follows:
Meetings*

Will advise in next news letter at the end of August.

Meetings are open to anyone and are held at the Marcellus Free Library unless indicated otherwise. A short business meeting will precede each program.

Historical Society Officers for 2020

President: Doug Nightingale315-673-2539
E-mail: djn0409@windstream.net

Vice President: Chuck Paul315-673-4432
E-mail: cpaul@wcnr.com

Treasurer: Patricia Sanborn315-488-3610
E-mail: pasanborn@twcnr.com

Secretary: Karen Pollard.....315-673-1309
E-mail: karenpollard13@yahoo.com

Trustees and Term End

2022 Charlie Sanborn.....315-488-3610

2022 Harvey Eysman.....315-673-3933
E-mail: heysman@windstream.net

2020 Carol Armstrong.....315-673-3443
E-mail: carolart23@aol.com

2020 Jean Nightingale.....315-673-2539
E-mail: djn0409@windstream.net

2021 John Curtin.....315-673-3660
E-mail: jcurtin2@windstream.net

2021 Correspondence Secretary:
Jean Nightingale.....315-673-2539

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

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 were having a busy winter and spring before the virus came along. We had a number of visitors and collecting artifacts. The last day, March 15th, that the Steadman House was open we received artifacts from the Lawless family the owners of the paper mills in Marcellus Falls. It is amazing that material from the late 1800's and early 1900's still exist.

These are trying times but we will get through this together. Please heed what the doctors are telling us about the virus.

Stay safe and healthy.

Have a safe summer.

Doug Nightingale

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: 259

New:

Business Members: 21

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.

\$10. a year is a small price to pay to help preserve our history!

In Remembrance

Sally Wilson February 26, 2020

Joyce Murphy February 26, 2020

Raymond F. Smith March 13, 2020

Tobey Lee Casler March 19, 2020

**Marcellus Historical Society
2019 Financial Summary**

Beginning Balance	\$33,999.93
Income	
Donations	\$2,589.00
Dues Rec'd	\$1,465.00
Gift Shop	\$139.00
Grants	\$5000.00
Interest	\$287.00
Total Income	\$9,480.40
Expenses	
Acquisitions	\$424.60
Contributions	\$50.00
Miscellaneous	\$385.00
Occupancy	\$6,673.23
Office Supplies	\$215.62
Postage	\$449.15
Telephone	\$1,089.62
Web Site	\$299.00
Total Expenses	\$9,894.01
Ending Balance	\$33,894.01

Miss Heffernan

To honor her many outstanding years of service to Marcellus Central School, the community of Marcellus and school staff members will hold a reception and dinner in her honor June 12th at the Springside Inn in Auburn.

Marcellus Observer June 4, 1970

Ask a friend to join our Society to help preserve the Steadman House and Marcellus History.

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, Carol Armstrong, and Chuck Paul for keeping the Steadman House open during scheduled hours; and the Village of Marcellus for mowing the grass~

Attention !!!

**\$10/ Person per year—\$15/Couple per year
\$15/Family per year (includes children under 18)
Sustaining membership = 5 years (dues x 5)**

The Board of Trustees have agreed that dues need to rise. At the November meeting, those attending voted to raise dues. The changes will go into effect as of January 1, 2020. The changes are above.

For those who have paid for multiple years your dues will not be raised until you have to renew at the end of the years you have paid.

We will notify those of you that receive the newsletter by email when your dues are due by email.

If you have any questions our phone numbers and emails are located on page 2 of the newsletter.

Doug Nightingale

President

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

887 Clothing articles

814 Books

13 Clocks

7,010 Photographs

68 Scrapbooks with **55,427** referenced items

Family files and genealogies

Gift shop with Afghans, Books, Prints, Cards, etc. ~

Our Thanks for Cash Donations

Roger & Dorothy Field
George Schmidt, Sr
Kathryn J. Coyne
Bernard & Ruth Reagan
Hollis & Nancy Abbott
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In Memory of Jean Moir Miller

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In Memory of Joyce R. Murphy

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Doug & Jean Nightingale
Hollis & Nancy Abbott
Jennifer L. Windsor
Otter Lake Fire Co., Inc.
Robert & Kathy Whitehead
Elizabeth Thorpe
Marcellus Fire Dept. Auxiliary
Emily Murphy
Pam Lavarney
Bruce & Eileen Freeman

In Memory of Wayne Helfer

James H. Stone II & Laurie Cleghorn-Stone

25 Years Ago**Microfilm reader is a popular addition**

The Marcellus Free Library received a new second-hand microfilm reader/printer on March 14.

Since that time, Librarian Marion McDonald said it has been in constant use.

"I don't know how word got around that it was here but somehow it did," said McDonald.

The research aid was made available after McDonald wrote a letter to the bicentennial committee saying she thought it was fitting for the committee to purchase or help fund a reader/printer for the library.

The committee agreed. The cost of the reader/printer was \$3,400.

The library has most issues of the Marcellus Observer, beginning in 1879, on microfilm, which totals about 85 reels. McDonald said the Marcellus Free Library is the only place with the collection of the papers. The library also has some town records on microfilm. The new reader/printer replaces an old machine that was just a reader. Copies could not be made from it. Now copies can be made and will cost 15 cents.

The old machine was an antique itself, McDonald said.

The new reader/printer can be used weekdays during regular library hours. McDonald said that because it is still new and not all the library volunteers know how to un-jam the machine or fully operate it, the printer can only be used during the week.

She explained that the printing capability of the machine is important. She said that often times hard copies, rather than just hand-written copied material, are needed for such things as applications for heritage societies such as the Daughters of the American Revolution.

McDonald said that the library has become quite a place genealogists this year. We have done a lot in that area, she said.

"We were thrilled to be able to help the library," said Peg Nolan. Nolan, along with Michael Plumptre, are co-historians for Marcellus and served on the bicentennial committee.

Marcellus Observer June 22, 1995

Continued page 5

50 Years Ago

St. Francis Xavier Center to be dedicated Saturday

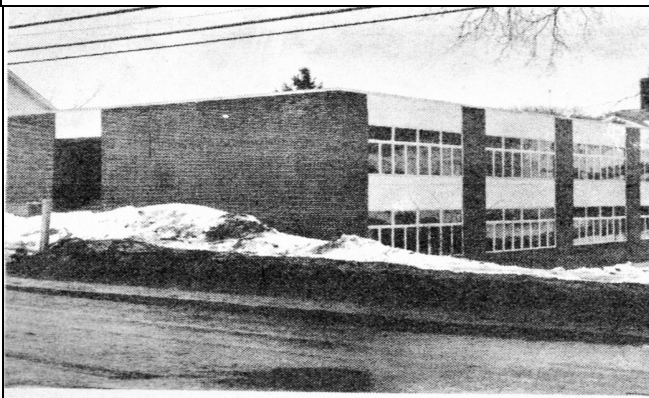
The Most Reverend Walter A. Foery, Bishop of Syracuse, will dedicate the new St. Francis Xavier Instruction Center in Marcellus on Saturday Morning, Feb. 28. A Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated in the parish church at 10:30, followed by the blessing of the new building on North Street.

The recently completed facility will provide for the religious instruction of eight hundred Catholic students residing in the Marcellus area. The two story structure contains eight 20 x 30 foot classrooms. Two of the classrooms on the upper level are divided by a folding partition permitting the spaces to be combined into one large room of 1200 sq. ft. for assembly. All of the classrooms are fully carpeted for ease of maintenance and sound control. Separated from the classrooms by the circulation corridor, are the administration facilities consisting of an office, a small faculty lounge, kitchenette and necessary storage for teaching materials.

Because of the location in close proximity to the public school grounds, the new structure has been designed to complement the buildings of the school district by harmonizing the brick exterior and color of window trim. The Center contains a hot water heating system and complete mechanical ventilation system. Lawrence Gray of Elbridge, New York was the contractor for the building and Quinlivan, Pierik & Krause/Architects-Engineers the architects.

The faculty of the instruction program consists of the Sisters of St. Francis, Skaneateles, the Franciscan Missionary Sisters, Onondaga Hill, several parishioners of St. Francis Xavier Confraternity of Christian Doctrine and priests of the parish.

An open house will be held at the Center, Sunday, March 1st from 2 to 5 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.



Marcellus Observer Thursday, February 26, 1970

Microfilm

The historical society has copies of the microfilm from the library on the Marcellus Observers. In 2009 we took the microfilm to Tom Tryniski in Fulton New York. Tom has a machine that takes microfilm rolls and transposes the images to PDF files. These PDF files then can be loaded into a computer. Tom has a web site: fultonhistory.com, that has many newspapers from central New York as well as throughout the United States and Canada. It is a fantastic site. There are instructions on how to use the site and it is free. He does accept donations.

Doug Nightingale

Remember when?



Atlantic station corner of Orange and Main Street. 1950's

Recent Acquisitions

Bill Farrell a picture of Jim Sawtell.

Jack & Gail Murphy Marcellus after the ball material from 1990-2019.

Joan Warner picture of Shepard Settlement School.

James Farrell a 1852 map of Onondaga County map.

Mickey McHugh Lawless family artifacts.

75 Years Ago

Protestant Churches To Unite for Emergency

Unessential Stores Close In Coal Emergency

School Has Coal

Town Plow Crews Work Day and Night To Keep With Terrific Storm

The three Protestant churches of Marcellus will unite in a single service each Sunday morning until the coal emergency ceases. This was decided at a meeting of local pastors Wednesday.

The services next Sunday will be held in the Presbyterian church at 10:45 with the Rev. A.D. Stearns in the pulpit. The following Sunday the service be in the Methodist church with Rev. Charles W. Fryer in charge. The third Sunday the local churchgoers will gather at St. John's Episcopal church, where Rev. Joseph O. Roberts will preach the sermon. Each church will follow its own form of service. Sunday school sessions are cancelled.

The Lenten services, scheduled to begin February 14 have definitely cancelled for this year. The pastors hesitated in doing this, but it is thought that if the coal shortage continued it might be wise to conserve this coal in case of acute need in local homes.

Marcellus Central School has a two month supply of coal on hand, and will continue to operate. Having already lost nine days from storms and seven days from infantile paralysis, school should stay open as many days as possible. This belief is carried by the greater portion of local parents. It is also pointed out that children whose homes are running on reduced heat are sure of warmth in school.

Commissioner of Education G. D. Stoddard, in a form letter to school superintendents and newspapers, resents the inclusion of schools in the emergency order which covers taverns, motion picture houses and bowling alleys. Mr. Stoddard says that where coal is available schools should be kept open, but suggests that afterschool activities which require heated buildings should be reduced.

Marcellus Strand Theater closed after the Monday night show and most of the stores, other than food stores are dark. Local taverns were open as we go to press, Stone's Department Store, Hickok's and Marcellus Hardware are closed, the latter two to reopen Saturday. Beauty shops are undecided Thursday, saying that appointments make it necessary to remain open, but expressing a willingness to close later if necessary.

Never in local history has the town road crew been

75 Years Ago

worked so hard as in the present winter. The plow trucks are taking a severe punishment, but are being kept in trim as well as humanly possible. Supt. Albert Griffin and his men are giving Marcellus a service that should redound to their credit for a long time. These men put in long and sleepless hours and this, coupled with the discouraging fact the roads fill in from day to day, makes the job one that, although necessary, seems to get nowhere.

If one follows these men he soon sees that this is no simple truck driving job. It is a nerve wracking, tough, thankless and discouraging task that goes on day after day, night after night. Yet they keep doggedly at it, until finally a break in the weather comes and they make noticeable gains. Besides directing the work of plowing roads, Mr. Griffin has the unpleasant job of answering complaints from well meaning, but impatient taxpayers, who feel that they have been slighted, or have an emergency job. The Town Superintendent's evenings at home are largely taken up with this.

(This newspaper commends Mr. Griffin on the wonderful job he is doing against such overwhelming odds. Unless one acquaints himself with the gigantic task that the road crew is up against in these days of continual snow and small manpower, he cannot understand the effort that this crew is making for the community. These are unusual times, and residents should hesitate before making the job more difficult by complaining. If you have an emergency, you may be sure that Mr. Griffin will do all in his power to alleviate it, but don't complain just because you are a taxpayer and it snowed again last night. Our men are working hard at a hard job. They need your good word, rather than unnecessary complaint.)

Marcellus Observer Friday February 2, 1945

Business Member Directory
Please Patronize These Businesses

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Bob Warner Owner
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Bernard L. Reagan & Mary Reagan Dailey (FAX 673-3438)
 marydailey@reagananddailey.com
 18 East Main St., PO Box 196, Marcellus 13108.....315-673-4864

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 37 South St., Marcellus 13108 (FAX 673-2008).....315-673-1007

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Re/Max Masters Amber Spain-Mosher

2 Scotch Hill Marcellus, New York 13108.....315-579-4555
 amberspain@remax.net
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 2527 Cherry Valley Tpke. Marcellus 13108 (FAX 673-1864)..315-673-4858

Become a Business Member of the Historical Society for \$25 a year and have your business listed in our quarterly newsletter.

~ GIFT SHOP & MEMBERSHIP ORDER FORM~

Join Our Society Today !

\$10/ Person per year—\$15/Couple per year
 \$15/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.....\$26
- The Town He Loved So Well by James Quinn.....\$20
- Around Marcellus By Leslie Church Kraus\$20
- Nine Mile Country by Katherine Heffeman.....\$20
- Centennial History of the Town Of Marcellus.....\$15
- Olden Day Stories by Lawrence F. Mahoney.....\$10
- Otisco Lake Community by Roger Trendowski.....\$23
- Otisco Lake Map 1868.....\$13
- Farewell Old Girl By J. Michael Kelly.....\$15
- Ruth Anne Reagan (Autobiography).....\$15
- Ruth Anne Reagan Prints of Marcellus.....\$20
- Ruth Anne Reagan Prints Framed.....\$28
- Ruth Reed Cummings Prints.....\$8
- Jan Debevic Prints.....\$10- \$13
- Official Marcellus Afghans: blue.....\$45
- Marcellus, When Wool was King, Pictorial.....\$ 5
- Marcellus Through the Years; Chronology, Photos...\$ 5
- Index to Nile Mile Country; Names and more.....\$ 5
- Package of 10 note-cards picturing Marcellus.....\$ 5
- Shipping: \$5

Name: _____

Addr.: _____

City: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

<u>Qty</u>	<u>Item Description</u>	<u>Cost Ea.</u>	<u>Total</u>
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_____	_____	_____	_____
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Make Checks Payable To: **Total \$** _____
Marcellus Historical Society **Shipping \$** _____
PO Box 165 **Dues \$** _____
Marcellus N.Y. 13108 **Total Enclosed \$** _____

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

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

NEXT MEETING :

Will advise in August news letter.

- INSIDE:**
- *25 Years Ago**
 - *60th Anniversary**
 - *75 Years Ago**
 - *50 Years Ago**

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