



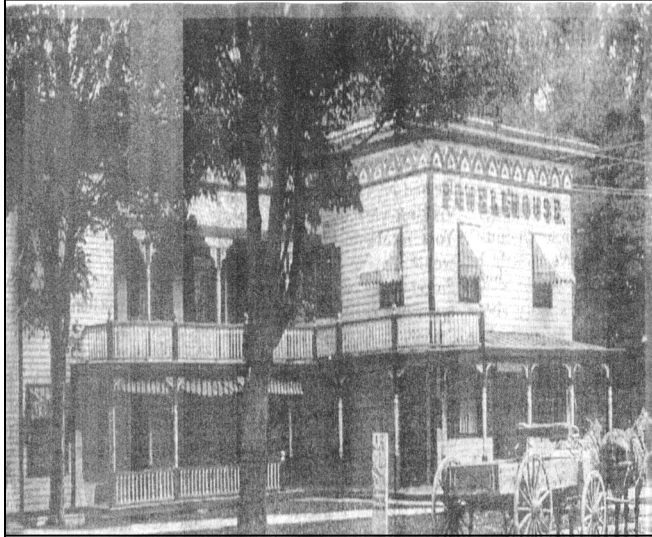
The Steadman House

Marcellus Historical Society News

Volume 29-1

Winter 2024

The Other Corner Store



Powell House

On the corner of Orange Street and Main Street back in the late 1800's stood a one story building. In the early 1890's Bernard Powell bought the property and added a second story as well as a wing off the left side of the building. He turned the building into a hotel called the Powell House. The front was divided between the hotel office and a confectionary store that Mr. Powell also ran. Mr. Powell also had his residence in the office side of the hotel. Bernard sold the property to his nephew Frank D. Powell in 1909. Frank ran the hotel until 1915 when Bernard bought it back. Bernard Powell was born in 1855 and passed away on December 15, 1916.

The Powell House was purchased by William Simon Conley and William Thornton in October of 1919. William Thornton had a grocery store on main street with his brother. William S. Conley opened up a funeral parlor, W. S. Conley Funeral Parlor, behind the office on the eastside and a confectionary store on the right side. After the confectionary store closed, he rented the store front to a lady who ran an apparel store for women and girls as well as a dress making shop. In 1928 Newell Brothers took over the front to run a

confectionary store as well as a soda fountain. In 1936 the Newell Brothers were granted a liquor license to sell and serve liquor and beer at the store. They then turned the store into a saloon.

After WWII Rita Kershaw and her husband Bill opened a restaurant where the Newell Brothers were located.

In 1949 Neil Fiske buys the grocery store three buildings west of the Powell House. The store was originally owned by Fred Schoonmaker, who sold to Steve Hunt who sold to George Harris who sold to Neil Fiske. Neil named the store Century IGA Foodliner.



Neil had a very successful business. In the mid 1950's Neil had an idea for a modern new store. He drew up a proposal to purchase the Powell House, tear it down, and build a modern new grocery store. He took his proposal to the Village board. The proposal did not go over very well with the village board or the residents of the village. After a number of meetings with both the board and the residents, the proposal was approved.

Neil buys the Powell House June 24, 1955. August 1955 the Powell House starts to be torn down. The process was slow. They finally finished in late De-

Continued on page 4

EVENTS SCHEDULE

The tentative schedule of events is as follows:

Meetings

April 14, 2024

Jim Farfaglia

Central New York Winters and Blizzard of 66'

May 18, 2024

Charlie Smith

Rotary Club

*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 2022

President: Doug Nightingale315-673-2539

E-mail: djn0409@windstream.net

Vice President: Chuck Paul315-673-4432

E-mail: cpaul@twcny.rr.com

Treasurer: Patricia Sanborn315-488-3610

E-mail: pasanborn@twcny.rr.com

Secretary: Karen Pollard.....315-673-1309

E-mail: karenpollard13@yahoo.com

Trustees and Term End

2026 Charlie Sanborn.....315-488-3610

2026 Mary Ellen Popyk.....407-494-9817

E-mail: me@maryellenpopyk.com

2024 Carol Armstrong.....315-673-3443

E-mail: carolart23@aol.com

2024 Maria Catanzaro.....315-447-0645

2025 John Curtin.....315-673-3660

E-mail: jcurtin2@windstream.net

2025 Linda Wilcox.....315-430-6073

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

Another year has past. We have lost more members of the historical society. We are going to concentrate this year on trying to motivate people to join the historical society. If you know anyone who is thinking of joining, send them our way.

We have some new people who our willing to do some maintenance and also help us with our computer. We have the sixth graders coming in May to clean up the yard. The second and third graders will visit in early June. If you haven't visited the Steadman House, please do.

Stay safe and healthy.

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: 177

New: 3

Business Members: 15

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

Helen Hudson January 4, 2024
George Schmidt January 15, 2024

Our Thanks for Cash Donations

Judy Gilchrist

William Farrell

Marcellus Class of 1958

Beverly Mulvaney

Farrels Auto Service Inc.

Agnes Kennedy

James P. Reagan Agency Inc.

David & Patty Gallinger

Mathew Shoff

Barbara Egtvedt



Upper Crown Landing Apartments April 2024



Marcellus Free Library April 2024

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 ~

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, Doug Nightingale, Linda Wilcox, and Chuck Paul for keeping the Steadman House open during scheduled hours; and the Village of Marcellus plowing snow~

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 Books, Prints, Cards, etc. ~

The Other Corner Store



In the process of being dismantled, is shown the former Conley block which was purchased by Neil Fiske and is coming down to make way for a modern Supermarket.

December and started the under ground pipes for water, sewage and gas in January 1956. They started the foundation in February 1956.

Neil wanted to open May 1, 1956 but there was a delay in getting the steel for the roof. The store opened in late May.

Neil ran the new store very successfully from 1956 until 1963. In 1963 he decides to lease the store to Ben Lamanna.

Ben takes over running the store August 26 1963 and names it the Big M.



1956



Nojaim's 1982

Ben runs the store until July 1969 when Ben's assistant manager Jack Connors takes over running the store. Jack runs a successful business until July 1982.

Nojaim's Brothers buys the store. Rich Nojaim will run the store. In the fall of 1984 he expands the store to where it is today.

The corner has a long history from the 1890's until now. That history continues.



Nojaim's February 2024

Doug Nightingale

75 Years Ago

Griffing Hardware Sold to Webb, Orr and Masters, Monday

One of the oldest businesses in Marcellus has been placed in achieves of time. Griffing's Hardware which was established in 1899 just 50 years ago has been sold to Roy Webb, Don Orr, and Raymond Masters.

Frank told us that he started in the harness and shoe business in what is now the Marcellus Liquor store. (Building was torn down in the 1980's.) proof of his knowledge on these articles has been proven by the many shoes he has repaired and sold and fields that have been plowed with the help of the harnesses he has sold and mended.

About 1906 Frank moved into what is the Town Clerk's Office to carry on his business. (Today that building is the Reagan and Dailey Law Offices.) In 1917 he merged with W. R. Curtis and they moved to the present location. (Today it is where the Holy Cow is located.)

In 1934 frank bought out his partner and has on the business by himself until completion of the sale this week.

Many of the old timers and some of us newcomers have bought many of those "best that money can buy" items from Frank. He is going to continue with the new owners as an employee, for Frank says, "I am not old enough to retire yet."

The name of Griffing's Hardware will be changed to Marcellus Supply Co. with the new owners Roy Webb, Don Orr and Raymond Masters. These men will sell, in addition to present supply, plumbing, wiring, roofing electric stoves and refrigerators. They will also have supplies for gutter work repairing and a number of other things vital to the necessities of their customers.

In our interview with Frank we learned so many interesting things about old Marcellus, that we hope at a later date to get more information for another story on that subject.

Mr. Griffing said, "I wish to thank all of my customers for all their wonderful patronage during the past 50 years. I do not want to retire, but a time comes in every man's life when he should. I cannot in words express my feeling upon retiring, but can only say thank you from the bottom of

my heart.

Good luck, Frank , may all your stories be as interesting to others as they are to us.

The Marcellus Observer

Memories of Marcellus

Marcellus has a beautiful post office building and we have home delivery. It is a big change and us older folks who have been meeting down to the post office in the morning are going to miss seeing each other. The corner post office was a good place to wait for the bus in cold weather.

When William Henry Harrison was elected, John Seymour built the little building where the bank is. He was appointed Post Master and that building was the post office from 1889 to 1909.

Grover Cleveland was elected and Morris Donahoe, being a Democrat, was appointed Post Master and served four years. Then the Republican appointments were W. J. Matteson and Frank Lawless.

When E. V. Baker Sr. was appointed Post Master in the Fall of 1909 he moved the office up to the corner of North and Main Street and remained until October 1962.

When Grover Wilson was elected, James hogan was appointed Post Master, When Harding was elected Mrs. Clarence Woodford was appointed. When Roosevelt was elected, Robert McHale was appointed Post Master and he served until William Conley was appointed. Following William, his brother Emmet was appointed and Jane was acting Post Master for her brother.

I believe the present Post Master is under Civil Service so it won't change when there is a different President.

Prior to the time in the little building at the site of the bank, the Post Office was in different stores. The last was Thomas DeCoudres store where Rita Kershaw's Restaurant is. (Today where Kay Kershaw's consignment store is.)

In the older days, mail was brought in by horses from Martisco Train Station, now it comes by truck from Syracuse.

Frank Griffing

The Marcellus Observer
Thursday, December 6, 1962

75 Years Ago



St. John's Episcopal Church

Church celebrates 150th

One of the oldest churches in Onondaga County, the historic St. John's Episcopal Church at Orange and Maple Streets, Marcellus, is observing its 150th Anniversary during 1974.

The first official recognition will be at 8 and 10 a.m. Sunday, January 6, with Communion Services being conducted by the Rt. Rev. Ned Cole, Jr., Episcopal Bishop of the Diocese of Central

75 Years Ago

New York.

Following the 10 a.m. service, there will be a buffet luncheon for the congregation and friends, it was announced jointly by the Rev. M. Dennis Lee, rector of the church and Thomas H. Dyer, chairman of the sesquicentennial committee.

St. John's was founded in 1824 at the old school house, and was relocated to its present site in 1924. The first pastor was Rev. Augustus Converse of Skaneateles.

Prior to its establishment, Marcellus residents attended either the Zion Church in Onondaga Hill, formed in 1803, or St. James Episcopal Church in Skaneateles, which came into being in 1816.

A number of other special events are scheduled during 1974, including a mission retreat and ecumenical program on February 25 and 26, and a national recognition weekend, with a dinner on May 4 and special services on May 5.

Committee members working with Rev. Lee and Mr. Dyer are: Mr. and Mrs. Donald Paul: Mr. Arthur Wilson, Jr.: Mr. and Mrs. David King: Mr. Francis Hyatt: Mr. and Mrs. Martin Helfer: Mr. Belford Thompson: Mrs. Thomas Dyer: J.G. Tierney, Jr.: Mrs. Gary Kavney: Mrs. Lyndon Bishop: Mrs. George Arthur: Mrs. Alan Gammon, and Chris Donovan.

Marcellus Observer

Wednesday, January 2, 1974



Marcellus Condominiums April 2024

Business Member Directory
Please Patronize These Businesses

AUTOMOTIVE

FARRELL'S AUTO SERVICE, INC.
 #7106043 - Dave Farrell, Owner
 State Inspections, General Auto Repairs, Oil Changes, Brakes
 3021 W. Seneca Tpke., Marcellus, 13108.....315-673-7333

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

BELLOWS CONSTRUCTION SPECIALTIES, LLC
 Email:Karen@BellowsConst.com
 213 West Adams St., Syracuse 13202 (FAX-315-476-6552)....315-476-4719

VAN DERHOOF ROOFING CO., INC.
 Roofing, Siding, Gutters, Windows, Trim and now SOLAR
 Over 75 years in business "Since 1939" www.vanderhoofroofing.com
 145 Ainsley Dr., Syracuse 13210.....315-475-9541

DENTAL SERVICES

Marcellus Smiles Family Dentistry
 Jennifer Merry, DMD
 Taryn Jirousek, DMD
 www.marcellussmiles.com
 info@MarcellusSmiles.com
 19 South St., Marcellus 13108.....315-673-1013

FUNERAL SERVICES

BURANICH FUNERAL HOME, INC.
 Visit us at our website: www.buranichfuneralhome.com.
 5431 W. Genesee St., Camillus 13031.....315-487-2412

PLIS FUNERAL HOME INC.
 James M. Plis Jr.
 Pre-Need, SSI and Medicaid Planning. www.plisfuneralhome.com
 33 North St., Marcellus 13108.....315-673-2017

RYAN FUNERAL HOME
 Mary Ryan Carlton Helping Families since 1955.
 Serving all faiths ~ Pre-Arrangements ~ Locally owned.
 44 East Main St., Marcellus 13108.....315-673-2345

Gift Shop
 The Wren's Den
 2756 West Seneca Turnpike
 Marcellus 13108
 Unique Eclectic Gift Shop.....315-952-5954

HARDWARE

CALLEY'S HARDWARE
 From hand and power tools to paint, rakes and shovels -
 Your hometown hardware store has it. www.calleyshardware.com
 15 North St., Marcellus 13108.....315-673-2121

NIGHTINGALE MILLS ACE HARDWARE
 www.truevalue.com/nightingale
 4068 South Street Rd., Marcellus 13108.....315-673-2001

INSURANCE & INVESTMENT SERVICES

REAGAN COMPANIES
 Risk Management and Investment Services
 www.ReaganCompanies.com (FAX 673-1121)
 8 East Main St., PO Box 191, Marcellus 13108.....315-673-2094

LEGAL SERVICES

REAGAN & DAILEY, ATTORNEYS AT LAW
 Bernard L. Reagan & Mary Reagan Dailey (FAX 673-3438)
 Estate Planning and Probate
 marydailey@reagananddailey.com
 18 East Main St., PO Box 196, Marcellus 13108.....315-673-4864

PHYSICAL THERAPY

REBOUND SPORTS & ORTHOPEDIC PHYSICL THERAPY, PC
 E-mail: go2reboundpt@gmail.com
 Hours: Mon, Wed 7 am -7 pm, Tue, Thu 8 am - 8 pm, Fri 7 am - 6 pm
 37 South St., Marcellus 13108 (FAX 673-2008).....315-673-1007

RESTAURANTS/TAVERNS

THE MARIETTA HOUSE
 We are History! Same name business and site since 1830. Weddings -
 Banquets - Friday, Saturday Dining 5 pm. www.MariettaHouse.com
 2819 Marietta Rd. (Route 174), Marietta 13110.....315-636-829

Sand & Gravel

Smith Sand & Gravel, Inc.
 2650 Otisco Valley Rd.
 Marietta 13110.....315-636-2010

**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 Heffernan.....\$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

- 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: \$10

Name: _____

Addr.: _____

City: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

<u>Qty</u>	<u>Item Description</u>	<u>Cost Ea.</u>	<u>Total</u>
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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 :
April 14, 2024

May 18, 2024

INSIDE:
***The Other Corner Store**
***Marcellus Memories**
***75 Years Ago**
***50 Years Ago**

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