

Marcellus Historical Society Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 30-1



In Memory of Doug Nightingale

Doug Nightingale’s dedication to the Marcellus Historical Society was a gift to this community. As a past president, he worked tirelessly to preserve and share the history of Marcellus, ensuring that future generations would understand and appreciate the people and stories that shaped our town. His commitment went beyond leadership—he was always willing to lend a hand, research a question, or guide someone through the past with his deep knowledge and kind spirit. Doug had a special appreciation for the Find a Grave website, where he spent countless hours documenting and honoring those who came before us, weaving together the connections that make our history so meaningful.

Doug’s roots in Marcellus were strong, and he carried a deep sense of pride in his role as a steward of its history. As his time with us grew short, he selflessly stepped back from his leadership role, ensuring that the Historical Society was well-prepared for the future. His foresight and dedication set the foundation for its continued success, allowing others to carry on the work he held so dear. Though he is no longer with us, his impact remains in every story he preserved, every record he protected, and every life he touched through his passion for history.

**In this
newsletter
you can expect:**

In Memory
Doug
Nightingale

65th
Anniversary

Event Updates

Volunteers,

Note from The
President



Doug Nightingale - 1947-2025

It is with great regret that we announce that Douglas Nightingale, Jr., 77, of Borodino, long-time President of the Marcellus Historical Society, passed away peacefully Sunday, February 16, 2025, at the Francis House.

Born in Syracuse, NY to Douglas Sr. and Mary Eloise Swadling Nightingale on April 9, 1947, Doug graduated from Marcellus High School in 1967 and from OCC in 1996. In 1968, he married Jean Pelchy, who predeceased him in 2022. Doug is survived by his daughter, Elizabeth Alfreds (Frederick Jr), his sisters Linda Pierce, Judy Quiten, and his brothers Chuck of Arizona and Jim of Washington. Three grandchildren Alexis Nightingale-Stevens, Michael Stevens, Meghan Alfreds, step grandson Rick Alfreds as well as two great grandsons also survive him. He was predeceased by his mother, father, wife and brother Gary.

Doug retired from FW Webb in 2013 and worked part time at FW Webb until April 2024. He enjoyed researching his family history and the history of Marcellus. He has been a member of the Marcellus Historical Society since 1999 as a trustee, vice President and President, until he stepped down in December 2024.

His final resting place will be next to his wife Jean in Highland Cemetery, Marcellus. In lieu of flowers please send donations in Doug's name to the Marcellus Historical Society - Building Fund, PO Box 165, Marcellus NY 13108 and The Francis House, 108 Michael's Ave, Syracuse NY 13208.

Our 65th Anniversary!

The Marcellus Historical Society is celebrating 65 years of preserving our village's history! Since 1960, when local residents first came together—an event captured in the Marcellus Observer—we've been dedicated to keeping Marcellus' stories alive. Stay tuned for special events as we honor this milestone & look ahead to the future!

Marcellus Observer January 21, 1960

Historical Study Club First Meeting

The first meeting of the Historical Study Club will meet at the St. John's Parish House on Monday, January 25th at 8:00p.m. The speaker for the evening will be Frank Griffing, a life resident of Marcellus. Everyone is invited to attend.

Marcellus Observer February 18, 1960

Marcellus Historical Society Has 1st Meeting

On the evening of Ja. 25th a group of 18 local residents interested in the history of Marcellus and vicinity met at St. John's Parish House and took part in an informal discussion, asking questions and contributing information about their knowledge of Marcellus. Not all of the questions were answered, but each person learned some facts and enjoyed the humorous stories of happenings in former years.

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Griffing were special guests and everyone enjoyed Mr. Griffing's vivid description of buildings and activities of Main St as it was in the 1890's. Mr. Jack Withey, whose father came from England and settled in Clintonville, reminisced about events of that locality. The evening closed with the sharing of a birthday cake presented to Frank Griffing in honor of his 81st birthday which he was observing that day.

At the request of those present it was decided to have a similar meeting and continue the discussion on February 24th. Other interested people of all ages are cordially invited to attend the meeting and share knowledge.

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Those attending the first meeting on January 25, 1960 were: Wallace Campbell, Eva Crysler, Ethel Feeney, Frank & Ruth Griffing, Jack Haley, Robert Harrison Sr., Helen Hopkins, Emerson & Mary Paterson, Henry Philips, Barbara Pittenger, Michael Plumpton, Joyce & Stephen Potucek, Lucy Sweet, Kate Webb and John Withey Sr.

Marcellus Observer January 18, 1960

Marcellus Historical Club Meeting

The second meeting of the Marcellus Historical Club will be at St. John's Parish House Wednesday, February 24th at 8:00pm at which time there will be an election of officers. All are invited to come.

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Those attending the second meeting on February 24, 1960 were: Maynard & Amelia Clark, Mr. & Mrs. John Fishlock, Frank & RUTH Griffing, Jack Haley, Robert Harrison Sr., Helen Hopkins, Michael Plumpton, Marjorie Seeley, Amos & Hattie Spinks, Lucy Sweet, Alice Thompson and Carl & Jennie Wood. Officers elected were: Michael Plumpton, President; Lucy Sweet, Secretary-Treasurer

Marcellus Observer March 17, 1960

Historical Society Meeting

The Marcellus Historical Club will meet at the home of Mr. Steve Hunt, 17 E. Main St. on Monday, March 28th at 8p.m. Mr. Richard Wright, president of the Onondaga Count Historical Society will be the guest.

A big THANK YOU to these loyal people who came to the Steadman House or otherwise share their areas of expertise to ensure the smooth running of the facility:

Carol Armstrong
 Maria Cantanzaro
 Dave Gallinger
 Joyce Glover
 Chuck Paul

Karen Pollard
 Mary Ellen Popyk
 Chris Spencer
 Diana Spencer
 Mallory Zabinski



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Meet Dave Gallinger, a village resident & volunteer who keeps the Steadman House in tip-top shape! Recently, Dave has been hard at work repairing the main staircase railing to the second floor. His care & commitment help preserve this historic gem - thank you Dave!

Also many thanks to Joyce Glover who has spent time sorting through and categorizing our large quantity of newspaper articles. She is having loads of fun and learning alot!

2024 Financial Detail
 1/1/2024 - 12/31/2024

Total Income: \$12,314.57
 Total Expenses: \$12,030.25



Meetings for 2025

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Meetings are scheduled for April 6, May 4, September 7, October 5, & November 2 at 2 PM at the Library (unless noted). There will be a brief business session followed by the Speaker.

Upcoming:

April 6 – Sophia Brandt, Marcellus Librarian on Libraries in the 21st Century

Got a topic or speaker you'd love to hear? This is YOUR society—bring your ideas!

Stay updated on Facebook for speakers & events.

Email address:
 histoc@windstream.net
 Telephone: 315-673-4839
 www.facebook.com/MarcellusNYHistorical/

MHS Updates



Recent Acquisitions

From Joyce Glover:
Hand-made egg transporter and sets of moveable type letters

Cash Donations

Barbara Egtvedt
Barbara & Tony Fischetti
Roberta & Glenn Gabriel
Barbara Mulvaney
Nightingale Mills

In Memory of Doug Nightingale:

Hollis Abbott
Carol Armstrong
Mark & Rebecca Nightingale
Gary & Linda Wilcox
Marcellus Rotary
Marcellus Smiles

Deceased Members:

Nancy Abbott
Doug Nightingale
"Gerry" Snyder



Hours of Operation

The Steadman House is now open Sundays from 1-4pm (except MHS Meeting Dates which are located on page 4 of this Newsletter) and Thursdays from 1-4pm. Guided tours are available or you can take in the great exhibits at your own pace. There will always be someone available to answer questions.

We are also available, by appointment (315-430-7693), to open at other times. The Steadman House is also handicap accessible for many of our exhibits.

We look forward to seeing some new faces and getting re-acquainted with long time members.



Volunteers needed!

Our Historical Society thrives because of dedicated members like you! We're looking for extra hands with tasks like computer work, data entry, grant writing, & more—no special skills required! Whether you're tech-savvy, highly organized, or just willing to help, there's a place for you here.

Volunteering is a great way to give back, connect with fellow history lovers, & help preserve our local heritage. Even small contributions make a big impact. Interested? Contact any board member or stop by to see how you can help—we'd love to have you!

Business Member Directory

Please Patronize These Businesses

AUTOMOTIVE

FARRELL'S AUTO SERVICE INC

315-673-7333

#7106043 - Dave Farrell, Owner
State Inspections, General Auto Repairs, Oil Changes,
Brakes
3021 W. Seneca Tpke, Marcellus 13108

BOOKS

THAT'S WHAT SHE READ

315-494-1075

BOOKSHOP & BOUTIQUE
16 East Main Street Marcellus 13108
ThatsWhatSheReadBooks.com

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

BELLOWS CONSTRUCTION

315-476-4719

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

VAN DERHOOF ROOFING CO. INC.

315-475-9541

Roofing, Siding, Gutters, Windows, Trim, and Solar+
Over 75 years in business "Since 1939"
145 Ainsley Dr., Syracuse NY 13210
www.vanderhoofroofing.com

CONSULTING

OPTIMUM CONSULTING ASSOCIATES

315-314-7382

5711 W. Genesee St Camillus 13031
Jamie@optimumca.com

DENTAL SERVICES

MARCELLUS SMILES FAMILY DENTIST

315-673-1013

Dr. Jenn Merry & Dr. Taryn Jirousek
19 South Street Marcellus 13108
www.MarcellusSmiles.com

FUNERAL SERVICES

BURANICH FUNERAL HOME, INC

315-487-2412

5431 W. Genesee St, Camillus 13031
www.buranichfuneralhome.com

PLIS FUNERAL HOME, INC

315-673-2017

James M. Plis Jr.
Pre-Need, SSI and Medicaid Planning
33 North Street Marcellus 13108
www.plisfuneral.com

RYAN FUNERAL HOME

315-673-2345

Mary Ryan Carlton; Helping Families since 1955
Serving all faiths, Pre-Arrangements, Locally owned
44 East Main St, Marcellus 13108

GIFT SHOP

THE WREN'S DEN

315-952-5954

Unique Eclectic Gift Shop
2756 W. Seneca Turnpike Marcellus 13108

HARDWARE

CALLEY'S HARDWARE

315-673-2121

From hand & power tools to paint, rakes & shovels
Your hometown hardware store has it
15 North Street Marcellus 13108
www.calleyshardware.com

NIGHTINGALE MILLS

315-673-2001

Ace Hardware
4068 South Street Rd Marcellus 13108

INSURANCE & INVESTMENT

REAGAN COMPANIES

315-673-2094

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

LEGAL SERVICES

REAGAN & DAILEY, ATTORNEYS

315-673-4864

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

PHYSICAL THERAPY

REBOUND SPORTS & ORTHOPEDIC

315-673-1007

PHYSICAL THERAPY, PC
37 South Street Marcellus 13108 (Fax) 673-2008
go2reboundpt@gmail.com
Mon, Wed 7am-7pm, Tue-Thurs 8am-8pm; Fri 7am-6pm

RESTAURANTS/TAVERNS

AMBER INN TAVERN

315-636-1005

Amber Inn, on beautiful Otisco Lake, is a community
staple serving delicious food & drinks.
2424 Otisco Valley Road Marietta 13110
www.AmberInnTavern.com

THE MARIETTA HOUSE

315-636-8299

Receptions, Banquets, Private Parties, Seasonal Dining
& Pub.
2819 Marietta Road Marietta 13110
www.MariettaHouseNY.com

THE MILKHOUSE

315-494-1080

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Come check us out today!
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Marcellus NY 13108

PO Box 165

Marcellus Historical Society

Make Checks Payable to:

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Email:

Phone:

City: Zip:

Address:

Name:

*More details in next newsletter

*Donation to New Building Fund: \$ _____

Number Joining? _____ Renewal? _____

Sustaining Membership = 5 years (dues x5)

\$10/Person per year ~ \$15/Family per year

Join Our Society Today!

Marcellus Historical Society

P.O. Box 165, 18 North St.

Marcellus NY 13108-0165

Inside:

*In Memory of

Doug Nightingale

*65th Anniversary

*Event Updates

*Note from President

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