

Marcellus Historical Society Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 30-2



Note from the President:

Dear Members,

We are thrilled to announce the launch of a new donation fund dedicated to expanding our Historical Society museum. As many of you know, the Steadman House is overflowing with Marcellus history - quite literally! We've lovingly preserved so many artifacts over the years that we've simply run out of room. Our dream is to build a second structure to serve as a dedicated research and reading space, giving our community and future historians a quiet place to dig into the rich past of our Town.

A special thank you to Mr. Craig Johnson's 6th grade class, who generously volunteered their time to clean and dust the inside of the Steadman House, while also raking leaves and pulling weeds in the garden beds outside. Their help made a big difference in getting the museum looking its best - inside and out!



In this newsletter you can expect:

Note from the President

65th Anniversary

Guernsey Pharmacy

In Memory of Bernard Reagan

Volunteer Spotlight & Wishlist

This season has been full of heartwarming community involvement. We had the pleasure of hosting the 3rd grade classes for their annual tour earlier in June. It's always such a joy to watch their eyes light up as they explore exhibits, ask thoughtful questions and make connections between their community and its history. One highlight of the visit—each class chose one student to ring the historic school bell out front! The bell ringers were Tristan B. from Mrs. MacLachlan's class, Peter Q. from Mrs. Vetch's class, Dylaine K. from Mrs. Driscoll's class, Emmett L. from Mrs. Dixie's class, & Brendan C. from Mrs. Welch's class.



We are also so grateful for all the time & heart our volunteers put into making Olde Home Days such a success. The Steadman House Museum welcomed 39 visitors through its doors, and we loved every moment of sharing Marcellus history with you all! We also had the chance to chat with several friendly faces at our table during the craft vendor event—thanks to everyone who stopped by to say hello! We're thrilled to welcome two new members who joined us during the festivities!

Lewis Steadman & Judge Bernard Reagan were dear friends & an unstoppable team in bringing the Historical Society to its home at the Steadman House. We are humbled as a society & deeply grateful to those who donated in Judge Reagan's memory. For him to include us in his bequest is an incredible honor we will carry forward with gratitude.

As always, thank you for your continued support. Whether you're donating, volunteering or just stopping in to say hello - you are a part of keeping Marcellus history alive.

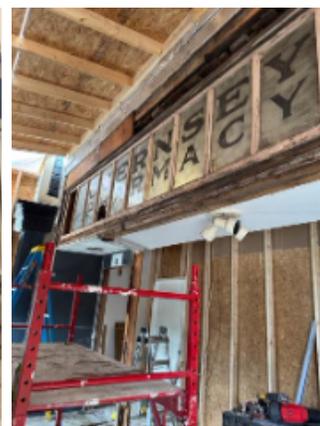
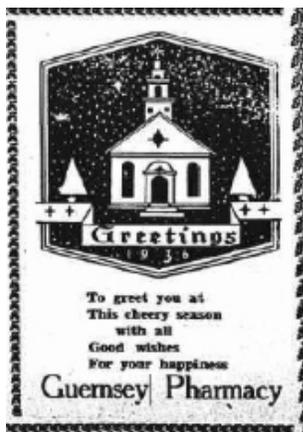
Warmly,
Linda Wilcox, President, Marcellus Historical Society

Minutes from the very first Historical Society Meeting

January 25, 1960

A group of people interested in the possibility of forming a Marcellus Historical Club met at St. John's Parish House in Marcellus to discuss the matter. Michael Plumpton and Lucy Sweet conducted an informal discussion. There seemed to be sufficient interest and enthusiasm, so it was decided to have another meeting Feb. 24th in the Parish House. Michael Plumpton was appointed to make the necessary arrangements. Minutes of the (first) meeting were taken by Mrs. Ruth Griffing. The 18 people present were Mrs. Charles Hopkins, Wallace Campbell, Jack Haley, Barbara Pittinger, Kate Webb, Henry E. Phillips, Michael Plumpton, Ruth Griffing, Robert Harrison, Sr., John Withey, Sr., Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Potucek, Mr. & Mrs. Emerson Patterson, Mrs. Eva Crysler, Mrs. Ethel Feeney, Frank Griffing, and Lucy Sweet. Refreshments were provided by Michael Plumpton and Lucy Sweet.

Guernsey Pharmacy



During the recent construction (redevelopment) at #2-6 West Main Street (once called The Knapp Block, and then the Gallup Block, and also The Post Office Block) in the Village of Marcellus, there was uncovered a relic from the past - a sign that was used about 90 years ago that featured the Guernsey Pharmacy! Leroy Guernsey came to Marcellus and in 1934, he purchased the Marble Pharmacy, which was next to the Post Office and begun in 1903 by Austin Marble, about 30 years earlier. Since many doctors provided medicines to their patients, Roy was able to supplement his income by putting in a soda fountain and making his own ice cream. He remained the proprietor of this business until 1967 when he sold out to Warren Rolan. At one time, a photography studio occupied the site as well as the L.K. VanKeuren Company. Today, Crow Hill Hardwood is a tenant next door.
(Compiled by John Curtin)

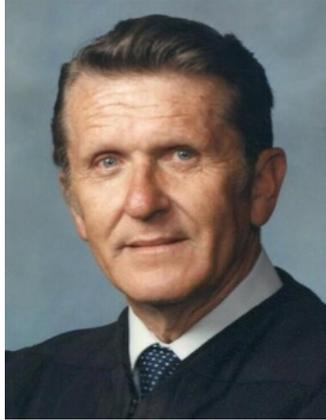


Historical Society Officers:

- President: Linda Wilcox.....315-430-7693
- Vice President: Chuck Paul.....315-673-4432/email: cpaul@twcny.rr.com
- Treasurer: Karen Pollard.....315-673-1309/email: karenpollard13@yahoo.com
- Secretary: Diana Spencer.....email: Sedagive007@yahoo.com

Trustees and Term End:

- 2026 Diana Spencer
- 2026 Mary Ellen Popyk.....315-407-9817
- 2025 John Curtin.....315-673-3660
- 2025 Dave Gallinger.....gallinger.dave@gmail.com
- 2024 Carol Armstrong.....315-673-3443
- 2024 Maria Catanzaro.....315-447-0645



Judge Bernard Lawrence Reagan - 1926-2025

Bernard Lawrence Reagan passed away peacefully on May 24, 2025 at the age of 98. A lifelong resident of Marcellus, NY, Bernie led a life dedicated to public service, family, and community.

Born June 3, 1926 in Marcellus, NY, he was a graduate of Marcellus Central School and served in the U.S. Navy from 1944 to 1946 during World War II. Following his military service, he attended Syracuse University, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1950 and a Law Degree in 1952.

In 1952, he married Ruth Anne Smyth, a music teacher at Marcellus Central School. Bernie began practicing law in Marcellus in 1953, sharing office space above the First Trust and Deposit Company with his mother, Mary B. Reagan, who ran the Reagan Insurance Agency. Later, he and his brother Jim constructed the building at 8-10 Main Street, where they relocated both the law practice and the insurance agency.

Judge Reagan served the Marcellus community in many roles: as Town Justice for 14 years, Town Supervisor from 1969 to 1973, and as a member of the Onondaga County Legislature. In 1976, he was elected Onondaga County Surrogate Court Judge, a position he held until 1986. He then served as a New York State Supreme Court Judge from 1986 to 1994. After retiring from the bench, he returned to private practice with his daughter, Mary Reagan Dailey.

Bernie was also a board member of Geddes Federal Savings and Loan and a dedicated member of his church and community. A lifelong communicant of St. Francis Xavier Church, he was a proud member of the Ralph Share American Legion Post #297 for 68 years and an avid golfer at Tuscarora Golf Club, where he and his brother developed their love for the game as teenagers.

Bernie was also a passionate supporter of preserving local history. He worked closely with his classmate Lewis Steadman to help the Marcellus Historical Society secure its home—an effort reflecting his enduring love for this community.

In lieu of flowers, the Reagan family asks that donations be made in Bernie's memory to the Marcellus Historical Society, PO Box 165, Marcellus, NY 13108.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

HUGE thank you to Marcellus Boy Scout Troop 166!!

They helped us sort through a long-overdue stash of forgotten odds & ends—just in time for Town/Village Dump Days.

Thanks to their hard work, we filled a dump truck with non-historic clutter and made great progress in keeping our museum organized, welcoming & focused on preserving the pieces of the past that matter most.

We are so grateful for your time, energy and can-do spirit. You guys are amazing!

Wishlist Items/Services:
 Landscaping/Mulch for garden beds
 Painting/Paint for Garage and Porch
 Mannequins

Current Members: 179
 New: 2
 Business Members: 22



Meetings for 2025

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Our next Meetings are scheduled for 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.

Sept 7: Take a stroll down memory lane with us as we sift through old photos & try to spot familiar faces & places!

Oct 5 - the board will discuss dues, potential upgrades, & bylaw revisions, with a guest speaker still to be confirmed.

Membership vote is Nov 2nd

Stay updated on Facebook for speakers & events.

Email address:
 histoc@windstream.net

Telephone: 315-673-4839

www.facebook.com/MarcellusNYHistorical/

Donations In Memory of Bernard Reagan: Hollis Abbott, Carol Armstrong, Brenda Bresadola, Joseph & Janice Charles, John & Maureen Curtin, James & Lisa Dailey, Thomas & Kathy Dailey, Margaret Delaney, Gerald & Anne Ferro, Roger & Dorothy Field, Geddes Federal Savings and Loan Assn., Penney Gentile, William Hemmerlein, J. Ford Huffman, Kathleen Karlovitz, Robert Kemper Jr., Marcellus Rotary Club, Blake & Susan Marson, Susan Mezey, Joanne Pallo, Monica Rappazzo, J. Michael & Jane Reagan, Rebecca Saiff, Kurt Sherman, John & Betty Siglow, Tuscarora Golf Club, Betsy Whitmore, Gary & Linda Wilcox

Hours of Operation:

The Steadman House is open Sundays from 1-4pm (except MHS Meeting Dates which are located on page 5 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 handicap accessible for many of our exhibits.



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 BOOKSHOP
 & BOUTIQUE.....315-494-1075**
 16 East Main Street Marcellus 13108
 ThatsWhatSheReadBooks.com

CHIROPRACTOR

**CRUSE C. HOWE, DC
 HOWE CHIROPRACTIC.....315-468-2436**
 75+ years of conservative care. "You're only as young as
 your spine is flexible" - Joe Pilates
 600 W Manchester Rd, Syracuse 13219
 drcruse911@gmail.com

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

**BELLOWS CONSTRUCTION SPECIALTIES
 LLC.....315-476-4718**
 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 13210
 www.vanderhoofroofing.com

DENTAL SERVICES

MARCELLUS SMILES FAMILY DENTISTRY.....315-673-1013
 Dr. Jenn Merry & Dr. Taryn Jirousek
 19 South Street Marcellus 13108
 www.MarcellusSmiles.com

Business Member Directory

Please Patronize These Businesses

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

HAIR STYLISTS

CHARISMA HAIR DESIGN.....315-488-0990
 Jewel (Pfeifer) Killoren, Marcellus Native
 Making people look their best for 59 years!
 515 Charles Ave Solvay 13209

HARDWARE

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)

OPTIMUM CONSULTING ASSOCIATES.....315-314-7382
 5711 W. Genesee St Camillus 13031
 Jamie@optimumca.com

LEGAL SERVICES

**REAGAN & DAILEY,
 ATTORNEYS AT LAW.....315-673-4864**
 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 PHYSICAL
 THERAPY, PC.....315-673-1007**
 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 MUSTANG DELI.....315-494-1058
 Local Deli serving up Breakfast, Lunch & Ice Cream Daily
 2 East Main Street Marcellus 13108

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
 Once known as the "Valley Inn" Diner, new & improved.
 Come check us out today!
 2574 US Route 20 Marcellus 13108

SAND & GRAVEL

SMITH SAND & GRAVEL INC.....315-636-2010
 Serving the Community since 1951
 Sand, Gravel & Stone
 2650 Otisco Valley Rd Marietta 13110

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:

*Note from President

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Reagan

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