

WALWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

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Walworth Museum: 2257 Academy Street, P.O. Box 142, Walworth, NY 14568

WHS Website: www.walworthhistoricalsociety.org

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President's Message

By Jessie Keymel

The Walworth Town Board approved our annual allotment of \$2,000.00 for 2011. This money helps us to provide office for the Town Historian and with building expenses. Patti Marini was appointed by the town board as a liaison to the Walworth Historical Society; we welcomed Patti to her first board meeting on January 17.

Also, please note: there is a temperature-sensitive light at the museum that will go on if the temperature in the building is dangerously low. This red light is located by the glass door panels at the main entrance to the museum. When you are in town look to the museum and, if the red light is on, please call a board member.



Thank You, Walworth Highway Department

By Dorothy French

Tony Fiaretti (left) and Mike Ryndock (right) of the Walworth Highway Department installed a handicapped parking sign at the museum on Nov. 5. This designated parking area is located near the sidewalk entrance to the museum and will make it easier to access our building.

Donations and Thanks

By Jessie Keymel

Most people think the museum is closed for the winter. Not so - the desk in the museum is open for donations and they come even in winter. Just recently we have received the genealogy histories of the Youngman Family and the Triou Family, thanks to Howard Triou. Thanks also goes to Charlene Lawrence of Macedon who gave us information, newspaper clippings and photos of the 1957 open house tour of the Nortier all-electric farm on Route 441; we have created a new file for this information.

Mrs. Larry (Molly) Hill donated a wood plaque of the Walworth High School. This was created by local artist Edie Pasquini, who painted, then scanned, copied and fitted the image to a ¾ inch wood plaque. This gift brings our collection of significant buildings in town to a total of 10, including an image of our museum.

Murray Kellogg came in one Wednesday when the filing committee was working and attached knobs to our kitchen cabinets; thank you Murray for giving our kitchen a new look. Thanks also goes to Gene Bavis and Sonny French who have kept the museum accessible this winter by plowing and shoveling snow.

Did You Know?

By Jessie Keymel

During 2010 there were more than 515 people who visited our museum and signed the visitor roster. This included members of Cub Scout Den 2/Pack 167, our volunteers who keep the museum and grounds in tip-top shape, walk-ins, and scheduled visits.

Electronic Mailing Available

By Dorothy French

If you have an e-mail address, consider receiving our newsletter electronically. This would help us reduce the cost of paper, labels, envelopes, and postage needed to mail our newsletter six times a year. As a bonus, the electronic mailing includes two pages of photos in each issue. To give it a try, send your e-mail address to Bob Mogray at rmogray@rochester.rr.com.

A Little Info About Us

The Walworth Historical Society is a volunteer organization established in 1975. Our chartered purpose is to collect, preserve, and display items and artifacts of historical interest and importance to the Town of Walworth and its environs. Donations are tax deductible as we have 501(C)(3) status. Our newsletter is published six times a year. The newsletter committee includes Bob Mogray, editor; Gene Bavis, Mary Jane Devlin, Dorothy French, Jessie Keymel, and Joyce Finney.

Last year the Walworth Historical Society was fortunate to receive a \$600.00 grant from the Hoffman Foundation. We had applied for this grant with the hopes of transferring as many as possible of Charlie Pembroke's 8 mm home movies to DVD. These movies were generously donated to WHS by Charlie's family and they are a priceless time capsule of how things were in Walworth in the era of the 1950's and 1960's. They include movies of how the Walworth Fire Hall was built, many of the townspeople at the time, dedications of buildings, parades, and other events. Our goal was to complete this project by the end of 2010. This was accomplished.

Over 64 of Charlie's movies are now converted to DVD. Each reel of the original films contained about three minutes of video only. The ones chosen to transfer to DVD are those of the best quality and the ones that show a historical perspective of our town from years ago. It is particularly important to have converted these films because, as time goes on, these old 8 mm movies will further deteriorate as part of the natural aging process and eventually they will be unwatchable. Now many of these are preserved forever in the digital format of DVD. They are much easier to view and enjoy. All of the movies that we have converted to DVD total almost 200 minutes of video (over three hours) on three DVDs.

For last year's November 15 meeting we showed about half of these movies as part of the program. There was excellent attendance for this meeting and the WHS board and officers wish to thank the membership for their support. For our next meeting we plan to show the rest of Charlie's movies that we have converted. This meeting is on Monday, March 21, and we would appreciate your support again. The meeting will start at 7:30 pm at the museum. These films are very interesting because they show the way the town was about 50 years ago with respect to businesses, cars, houses, people, and events. Hopefully everyone who has lived in Walworth for awhile will see something or someone they will recognize in these films. Below are three frames from Charlie's movies.



Honoring the Boy Scouts

By Becky Appleman

Walworth Historical Society commemorated the 100-year anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America by decorating the large display case at the Walworth town hall during November.



Scout memorabilia was donated by Scoutmaster Scott Murtha from the Walworth Troop #113 and also by long-time Scoutleader Bob Plant. Boy Scout related items included badges and pins, old and new uniforms and hats, cars from the Pinewood Derby, handbooks, and a 1934 scout bible. There was a history of Boy Scouting in Walworth that was written by a former scout as a project, as well as photos from the original Walworth scout troop. Scott donated a large photo display of some of the projects and activities the troop has participated in locally. Bob also donated information on the Lone Scout Program. This program enables all boys to participate in scouting even if there is no troop available in their area. They complete the required projects and their parents act as scoutmaster for them; this allows all interested boys to become scouts.

Our thanks to past scoutleader Bob and current scoutmaster Scott for all your help with information and scout paraphernalia for this display.

Genealogy Corner

By Kathy Aeckerle, volunteer genealogist



Kathy Aeckerle (right) helps Von and Marilyn Smith research our cemetery records.

Marilyn and Von Smith of Ohio contacted the Walworth-Seely Public Library and the Walworth Historical Society looking for information on Hiram and Sophia Stevens, Von's great-great grandparents. Marilyn had searched and found census records stating that the Stevens family lived in the Walworth area for many years.

Marilyn and Von traveled here and met with Dorothy French and myself on Thursday, September 23, 2010, at the museum. We were unable to verify the census records with any of our town listings or maps. Marilyn also had searched and found that Hiram and Sophia were buried in the Marion cemetery. We were able to verify that data and gave her the phone number of Carolyn Adriaansen, Marion Town Historian. If anyone has any information regarding this family please call or email us.

The Roads of Lincoln: Part 1

By Mary Jane Devlin

Join us as we travel throughout the Lincoln area on the many roads leading to and from the hamlet. This project was originally started by Ethel Henning. In 1973, house numbers were changed county-wide; the new numbers and Ethel's information were combined in 2009. The * indicates the name of residents as of 1973.

If you can provide more information, please contact me at 315-986-1512.

<u>Old #</u>	<u>New #</u>	<u>Albright Road from Plank Road</u>
49	5125	*Andrew & Wilhamina Doles
50	5128	John & Mary VanHove; Eva, Estelle (Kerner); Marie (Fosdick) Jacob; August, John & _____ Ebert; William Harlan, Gordon, Kenneth, Elsworth; Winifred (Buys) Vivian, Evelyn, Molly, Geraldine *Harry & Barbara Bareham
51	5137	*William & Mary Kier – Julie, Tom
60	5148	Frank & _____ Damico – Michael, Vincent, Peter, Betty. *Joe & Josephine Colbert
72	5176	*Irving Van Slyke, Sr
98	5220	Carl & Grace Cook – 4 kids *George & Grace Murrell
110	5244	*Alexander & Betty Murrell
145	5319	*Lawrence & Malore Hill
156	5340	*Angelo & Margaret Barisone
159	5345	*Ellsworth & Nita Ebert – John, Randy, Cheryl
172	5346	*Todd Willard
191	5391	*Paul & Donna Blake
203	5425	*James & Susan Gianforte

<u>Old #</u>	<u>New #</u>	<u>Atlantic Avenue from Lincoln Road, going east past water tank</u>
4620	891	Harry & Barbara Crane – Oakley, Marie – son, Oakley was a sergeant in the Army and was killed in the Normandy Invasion. *Robert & Mary Earlandt
4624	905	*Robert & Patricia Salair

	921	Herb Smith tenant house
4635	922	Leander Baker, early, Werner & _____ Esley *Robert & Katherine Cooman
4684	1019	John & _____ Fulcrod – Ray – concrete block house *Brevort & Electa Wilson Pat & Kathy Stark
4691	1032	*John & Kathryn Scott
4703	1056	*George and Ruth Wiegand
	1130	Charles & _____ Freer – Harold
4743	1136	John & Marie Jaeger
	1148	Henry Burrow and son, George, operated a large dairy farm – registered Holstein – Fresian (Bob Place); other children: Ruth & Edna George & Otilda Burrow, Virginia, Evelyn, Linda *Robert & _____ Place

<u>Old #</u>	<u>New #</u>	<u>Intersection at Tiffany and Canandaigua Roads</u>
4800	1200	*Dolomite
4811	1264	*Claeys residence
4832	1311	*Johnson residence
4845	1336	_____ & Elsie Keyes – Daniel Murray & Ada Brion – Ann, Irene, Marie Murray & Elsie Brion – Elsie House burned by Dolomite

To be continued

Scrapbook Memories: 1960

By Dorothy French

Welcome to 1960. News events of local, area and national interest were captured by the Wayne County Mail and are reprinted with their permission.

- Jan. 29** Experimental Reading Center opened January 22 in Walworth and is located in Chamber of Commerce building on Marion Road. Hours are Fri. 7-9 PM and Sat. 10-noon. Mrs. George F. Leisten of Walworth is in charge of circulation of books. Service sponsored by joint efforts of Walworth Chamber of Commerce and Wayne County Library System. Mrs. Joseph C. Finley, Chairman of WCLS Board of Trustees, was instrumental in setting up this service. Approximately 200 books for all ages are available.
- Feb. 12** First mass movement of employees moved into the research plant of the Haloid-Xerox Company on Phillips Road, Webster.
- Feb. 19** Loblaws Grocery Store in Panorama Plaza, Penfield, offered 100 free S&H Green Stamps with coupon from current newspaper and \$5 purchase.
- Feb. 26** Blizzard caused closing of Rt. 104 east of Ontario. Fire trucks responding to chimney fire on Downs Road couldn't get passed stalled cars on the road; some emergency vehicles were stuck in the snow and had to be dug out.
- Apr. 8** U.S. Post Office observed centennial of the Pony Express.
- May 27** First new roller coaster to be erected in New York State in more than 33 years now running at Roseland Park, Canandaigua.
- Aug. 26** "Man on the Street" newspaper column: Chief reasons people plan to vote for Senator John F. Kennedy: "He's a Democrat, a good man, more capable, don't like Nixon."
- Sept. 2** "Man on the Street" newspaper column: Chief reasons people plan to vote for Vice-President Richard M. Nixon: "Has more experience, better qualified."

Editor's Note:

Senator Kennedy defeated Vice-President Nixon for the presidency in the November elections.

The November 2010 story about the Lincoln Cheese Factory prompted Stu Huntley to remind us there were two cheese factories located east of Walworth village on Walworth-Marion Road. Numerous sources contributed information for this story.

Walworth Cheese Factory: In 1986 Loyde F. Bassage wrote his memories of the Walworth area. One of the topics was the cheese factory behind the Baptist Church, located at the northwest corner of the present day Main and Church Streets. This information is also contained in a Hoffman Foundation Paper written in 1958 by Leslie George Hall and titled "Important Businesses in Walworth."

Leslie stated the factory was operated by Harry Brush around 1910; he moved it to a large building ¼ mile east of Walworth on the south side of Walworth-Marion Road. Harry operated it for several years before selling it to Earl Stevenson. Charles Pembroke included information about the cheese factory in his 1990 book, "Walworth, As I Remember It," and commented the building may have been erected by the Yeomans family. This site is now known as 2310 Walworth-Marion Road; Absolute Auto is located there.

According to Loyde, "Many of the farmers who had cows found the cheese factory a good place to dispose of their surplus milk and could get whey to add to the diet for the pigs. Harry Brush's brother, Arthur, had a cheese factory in Lincoln. The cheese from their factories was as good as any we get in the store today."

Stuart Huntley said Earl owned the factory until he moved to a neighboring town in Monroe County where he set up a dairy. According to Stuart and Charlie, Louis Duell bought this building when he started drilling wells and used it to store pipe. It was rented by the Duell brothers (Louis and Ernest) to store threshing machines and engines for power.

Charlie remembered a whey vat located on the east side of the property adjoining DeWitt Tuttle's line fence. It was a large hole dug into the ground and staved up with silo stave lumber with the top sticking a foot out of the ground. The whey would feed into this vat from the floor of the plant. The cheese was pressed into a form or wheel and covered with cheese cloth and stored on shelves to cure or age. A steam boiler was used to make steam and heat the product produced.

During the 1968-69 timeframe, Joe and Marcia Englert purchased the area to the east of the factory from Emily Huntley so they could build a welding shop. They later purchased the property to the west of the factory from Gene East. The factory burned in the 1969-70 timeframe. The Englert's third purchase was the area to the west and south of the factory. This right-of-way provided access to Walworth-Marion Road from the farmland behind the buildings and was owned by Mrs. Clifford (Emily) Huntley.

Information about the Marion cheese factory on Walworth-Marion Road will appear in a future issue.

Editor's Note: Because the dairy industry was a prime source of revenue for the farmers, we believe there were other cheese factories in the area. If you have any information about the factories, please contact any officer or trustee listed on the front cover of this newsletter.

Walworth Hamlet Association

By Gene Bavis

The Walworth Hamlet Association held its first meeting on January 27 at the Walworth Fire Department. Steve MacNeal served as facilitator to a group of about 30 people who came to hear about and explore possibilities. Among the ideas was hosting a street dance similar to the one held last year, a National Night Out event, Neighborhood Watch, promoting business, and social events that would help us gain a new identity. It was agreed we will have a second informational/brainstorming meeting on Thursday, February 24, at 7 PM at the Walworth Fire Department. We hope to have more area folks and representatives of all the various community organizations get involved.

1963: Ground Broken for New Store – and More Info By Dorothy French

Editor's Note: The following information was obtained from a scrapbook of newspaper clippings compiled by Mrs. Elton (Anna) May and donated to the Walworth Historical Society's museum by Gordon Youngman.

WALWORTH – Ground was broken October 4, 1963, for a new grocery store, the first to be built in this town in over a quarter of a century – the first supermarket to be constructed in the township. Don Brockman, owner of Don's IGA, hopes to be able to move into this new location by the early part of December if the weather is favorable. The new store will have five times the area of the present location. Builder and owner is Norman Soucy.

According to Brockman, who will be subleasing from Super Food Services of New York (IGA), there will be a new dairy case, new produce counter and enlarged frozen food cases as well as more of everything. There will be two checkout counters with an auxiliary checkout for rush hours instead of the one presently in use.

There will be more parking spaces. The building, 40' wide by 110' long, will face Marion Road across from the Walworth-Seely Public Library with room for 40 cars stretching back from the road along the length of the building. There will be a 12' show window and entrance in the front with an automatic out door.

Post Script to above story:

A January 16, 1964, story reported ribbon-cutting ceremonies will be held on January 17. "Champagne will flow in this dry town, when Mrs. Norman Soucy, wife of the builder, and Mrs. Donald Brockman will break a bottle christening the new store."

Additional Information:

Don closed the store in January 1970; it remained empty until June 1970 when owner/operator Leighton Bel and silent partner Floyd Amsler opened the store as Walworth Foodliner. Leighton operated the store until a disastrous fire February 12, 1972.

During the summer of 1972, Joe and Marcia Englert purchased the property and rebuilt the fire-damaged store. On July 25, 1973, it reopened as Billings Foodliner, Inc., under the IGA brand. Owners were Rick and Lynda Billings of Marion; Rick's parents were Howard and Pearl Billings of Walworth. The store closed October 1974.

On March 29, 1977, Mel and Irene Draves, partnering with Connie Cosgrove of Newark, re-opened the store as Draves Food Mart, inc., Walworth Super Market. Later it was empty for a period of time until 1987, when the United States Post Office became a tenant.



Don's IGA 1964 – 1970



Walworth Foodliner fire: Feb. 12, 1972

Nominees Needed for Community Service Award By Jessie Keymel

We would like to have input from more people on the selection of the recipient for our Community Service Award. The award is presented at our May annual meeting. Last year the award was presented to the Quilts for Kids. In the past we have given the award to individuals, but the Quilts for Kids ministry is indeed an outstanding example of community service. If you know someone who has helped make the Walworth area a better place, contact me at 315-524-9205 by February 18.

Walworth Historical Society Awarded Two Grants

By Gene Bavis

The Walworth Historical Society owns two historically significant paintings of Holstein cattle that were brought to Walworth from Holland in 1879 by Theron G. Yeomans. As best we can determine, these paintings - which are prime examples of local folk art - were done in the 1880's by Clara Billings Yeomans (artist verified, exact date unknown).

Descendants of the Yeomans family donated the paintings to the Walworth Historical Society many years ago. Both paintings had been damaged somewhat by water (probably condensation) and are flaking. One painting also has four tiny tears. Because of their condition, they have not been on display.

The group of ladies who regularly work at the museum organizing our materials urged the Board to look into "doing something" with the paintings. Trustee Larry Ruth agreed to make some inquiries. He contacted the Memorial Art Gallery in Rochester and they advised us to take them to a professional art conservator, so we made an appointment with West Lake Conservators in Skaneateles. When he saw the first painting, art conservator John Sutton told us that this was a "good example of 19th century folk art" and that the painting could easily be restored. It would, however, take a considerable amount of time to do it.

At the initial meeting, we agreed to have the painting "stabilized" and to have a professional evaluation and documentation done. In doing so, we could then apply for a grant to get it restored. A few weeks later, we took the second painting for stabilization and evaluation. The total cost to do this much work would cost us \$550. We applied for and received a grant from the Wayne County Antique Dealers Association to cover that expense.

In late December, I was notified that the Hoffman Foundation had several thousand dollars of income that they needed to give away before the end of the year. I quickly put together a grant request to cover the cost of restoring the paintings. We were awarded \$3,135 from the Hoffman Foundation. This was the amount required to cover the larger of the two paintings. Within a couple of days after receiving the check, we contracted with West Lake Conservators to do the work. It will take about three months.

After restoration the paintings are likely to be worth several thousand dollars. Of course their monetary worth is less significant than their historical significance. Mr. Yeomans was the first President of the Holstein Fresian Association when it was established in 1885, and this is one of the early Holstein herds brought to the United States from Holland. As stewards of these folk art pieces, we felt it was our obligation and responsibility to bring them back to display condition. The cost of restoration was beyond the ability of our small historical society's budget but because of the availability of grant money we are able to do this project. We plan to apply for yet another grant to cover the cost (\$1,400) of restoring the second painting.

Once restored, we will need to frame and display these key paintings. We don't know yet how much framing will cost, but that can be done later. Of course we'll also have to figure out how to cover those costs, but I am confident that we'll be able to do so.

Walworth Historical Society 2011 Events Calendar

Date	Time	Subject	Location
Mon., Mar. 21	7:30 PM	General Meeting: Program – "Life in the Walworth Area" – as viewed in Charlie Pembroke's movies: Part 2	Museum
Sun., April 10	2-3:30 PM	Walworth Memories: Theme – "Characters We Have Known"	Town Hall Mtg. Rm.
Sat., May 7	9-noon	Spring clean up	Museum
Sat., May 14	9-noon	Spring clean up	Museum
Mon., May 16	6:15 PM	Annual meeting, pot luck supper, election of officers, community service award.	Lodge at Ginégaw Park
Mon., Sept. 19	7:30 PM	General Meeting: Program to be announced	Museum
Sun., Oct. 2	2-5 PM	Open House. Subject to be announced	Museum
Sun., Oct. 16	2-3:30 PM	Walworth Memories: Theme to be announced	Museum
Mon., Nov. 21	7:30 PM	General Meeting. Program to be announced	Museum

Board of Trustee Meetings: Mondays: 7:00 PM at the Museum. January 17, February 21, April 18, June 20, August 15, and November 7.

Open House Hours: The museum is located at 2257 Academy Street and is open June, July, August, and September on Sunday and Wednesday afternoons from 2 to 4 PM. Contact Jessie Keymel at 315-524-9205 or Nancy Bel at 315-986-1164 for an appointment for other times.

February 2011 WHS Newsletter Bonus e-mail Photos

More frames from Charlie Pembroke's movies



