

WALWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

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Stained glass windows in the West Walworth First Baptist Church

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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

Our annual meeting in May is the election of officers and board members; if you would like to serve or can make a suggestion please get in contact with any board member. There are many other opportunities to contribute to our organization that do not involve being a trustee or officer, including taking your turn when the museum is open during the summer months to host a Wednesday or Sunday open house, cleaning inside and outside the museum, gardening, or making cookies for meetings. We are always looking for stories for the newsletter and need help with genealogy searches, filing, and setting up displays. Our thanks go out to the members who currently assist in these areas and other projects that are ongoing.

Next Walworth Memories: April 10

By Jessie Keymel

On Sunday, April 10, from 2:00 – 3:30 PM we will be meeting for our 15th time to share our memories of Walworth. This gathering will be held at the town hall, hosted by our partner in this venture - the Walworth-Seely Public Library. Refreshments will be provided by the Friends of the Library. Our theme is "Characters We Have Known". Everyone has people from their lives who have left lasting impressions. Each town also has characters who add color and substance that makes it unique. Do you remember someone special? When we watch the second part of Charlie Pembroke's movies on March 21, I am sure you will be reminded of some of the people who added importance to Walworth.

As I look back, I remember Dr. Newman, Annie Balzar Young, George Duell, Ellwood Baker, Herb Smith, and Charlie Pembroke. When I bring each name to mind, other names and events come to the forefront, but mine is a very narrow view of Walworth. I am sure you have known many interesting people who have added much flavor to our little corner of Wayne County. I hope you can join us on Sunday, April 10; if you cannot attend, send us a written memory to be included.

Walworth Hamlet Association

By Gene Bavis

The dream of a Walworth Hamlet Association is rapidly becoming a reality. On February 24, the second informational meeting was held. Proposed bylaws, organizational structure, a list of committees and projects, and a dues structure were agreed upon by consensus of those present. A nominating committee consisting of Donna Stalker, Linda Pembroke and Barb Heald was appointed and charged with coming up with 10 candidates to serve as the Board of Directors. Like the Walworth Historical Society, there will be a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and 6 trustees. Trustees will be elected for 3 year terms and officers for 1 year. All officers and trustees will have voting rights on the Board.

Joyce VanHaneghem agreed to serve as Treasurer, so as soon as she can get a bank account opened, the Walworth Hamlet Association will begin accepting memberships. Anyone who believes in the mission is welcome to join no matter where they live. Basic annual dues will be \$25 for individuals/households and \$50 for businesses/organizations. It is the intention for this group to become a 501(c)(3) organization. At the Walworth Historical Society Trustees meeting on February 21, a motion to join the Walworth Hamlet Association for \$50 was approved. Trustees believe that our participation will be mutually beneficial to both groups.

Also at the meeting, Kelli Craig was appointed to chair a Street Dance in mid to late August. Last year's event was well received and everyone is enthusiastic about continuing that event. The association hopes to have at least one social event each season to help us all get to know each other better and to build pride in our hamlet.

At the next meeting on March 24, members will first adopt the proposed bylaws and then elect the Board. The WHA has secured both a mailbox (PO Box 157, Walworth, NY 14568) and website URL (www.walworthhamletassociation.org). The website may take some time, as we do not yet have a volunteer to set it up for us. It's only been 2 or 3 months since the ball started rolling on this, so great progress is being made.

Our Collection Continues to Grow

By Jessie Keymel

We have received a framed 1933 Walworth High School Diploma belonging to Francis Lillian Bush, the wife of Ray Pembroke. Ray operated the Red and White grocery store where Cleary's Insurance is now located. We thank their son Ralph for this donation and Helen Triou for delivering it.

Richard Luety has given us a copy of "The History of the Ontario Fire Company, 100 Years." The book records many of the activities of the fire department from 1907 to 2007, and was created by Richard Luety and Jerry Becker. The book will be added to our collection of local fire department histories. Part of the dedication says "An oath to save lives and property is backed up with action". We are indeed fortunate to have volunteers in our local communities who are willing to put their beliefs into action for our safety.



What Are They Planning?

When Judy McMillan (left) and Liz Bavis (right) get together, you can correctly assume they are planning something. What are these two lovely ladies discussing? They are discussing the upcoming garden tour on June 18 from 1 to 5. So far 8 families have agreed to open their gardens, but we have room for a couple more if you would like to invite us. We also are looking for artists and craftspeople to display either at the Museum or at one of the gardens. Contact Judy McMillan or Liz Bavis for more information.

Cheese Factories (and School): Part 3

By Dorothy French and Friends

Our tour of the area cheese factories takes us to a location near the Walworth-Marion township line. We previously wrote about the cheese factories in Lincoln and at 2310 Walworth-Marion Road.

Marion Cheese Factory: The second cheese factory on Walworth-Marion Road was located a slight distance to the east of the Walworth factory in the township of Marion. According to Richard Roland, there originally was a "T" in the road where Walworth-Marion Road and Maple Avenue met. Walworth-Marion Road continued to the left for a short distance and then made a right-hand turn, headed east again. The cheese factory was located on the east side of Walworth-Marion Road, just prior to the right-hand turn.

Several people mentioned the nearby big hill on Walworth-Marion Road. At the bottom of the hill was a sharp curve to prevent cars from running into the cheese factory wall. However, some people went too fast, missed the curve, and smashed into the wall. For this reason the hill became known as Cheese Factory Hill. The curve was removed when the road was remodeled in the early 1950's.

Richard said that Robert Wignall operated this cheese factory. Robert and Emma Wignall, parents of George R. Wignall of Walworth, lived on Hall Center Road. George's great nephew, Robert L. Wignall of Colorado Springs, CO, has a copy of the Wignall genealogy, which mentions that Robert operated cheese factories in Marion, Walworth, and Macedon. Bob Wignall has written his remembrances of this area; look for his story in a future issue.

According to Leslie George Hall, the structure was built at the close of the 19th century. It was destroyed by fire approximately 1915-1920 timeframe, although a portion of the wall was still standing in 1958.



The Cheese Factory School was located diagonally across from the cheese factory, on the northwest corner of the present Hall Center and Walworth-Marion Roads. The cobblestone building was erected in 1848 at a cost of \$14.84 for the land and \$300 to build the school. The site was covered when New York State improved Walworth-Marion Road in the early 1950's. Children from the eastern area of Walworth attended this school, although it was located in the township of Marion.

Editor's Note: Does anyone know the location of other cheese factories in our area? Contact any officer or trustee listed on the front cover of this newsletter.

The Roads of Lincoln: Part 2 By Mary Jane Devlin

Join us as we continue our 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>Burrow Road going east from Lincoln Road to Tiffany Road</u>
867		Peter & _____ Bushwood – Fred, Frank, Ted, Jim, Winifred, Elizabeth. Sidney & Evelyn Schoenwald – Kip, Laura
69	868	*Victor & Roberta Sampson
75	876	*Sydney & Evelyn Schoenwald
105	930	Edward & _____ Redder. George & Ida Read – Blanche. *Robert & Barbara Bassage, Beverly, Becky, Bethany, Robert, Jr.
	940	Lester B & Emily Newell – Betty, Marjorie (Married Ed. Hawks), Rivera
113	948	*Earl & Helen Davis
135	988	*Leo & _____ Nycz
176	1009	Frank & Mate Engert, Elvin, Gertrude (Harry Jennings)
207	1032	*Ernest & Evelyn Luke – adopted Robert & Audrey Byron (her sister's children)
236	1091	*Carroll & Shirley Sumner – David
263	1148	Henry Burrow and son, George, operated a large dairy farm – registered Holstein – Fresian (Bob Place). *Robert Place

<u>Old #</u>	<u>New #</u>	<u>County Line Road Going North from Jacobs Road</u>
1513	4777	Scott & Ester Parker – William. * John & Lillian Smith
	4836	Harold & Margaret Dennie
	4931	Anthony & Wyla DeMallie. Geraldine (married Leigh Hill), Verna

<u>Old #</u>	<u>New #</u>	<u>County Line Road Cross Plank Road Going North</u>
		Arthur & Carrie Frost

<u>Old #</u>	<u>New #</u>	<u>Fosdick Road – From Plank Road to North</u>
78	5184	Ernest & Meretie (1 st), Carrie (2 nd) Fosdick, Wilson. * Paul & Kathy DeMinck
89	5207	Howard & _____ Fosdick, Ernest brother
		Gary & Natalie Wilbert
95	5221	* Raymond & Ruth Foos, Jr.
106	5242	* Paul & Christine Martin
107	5245	* Fred & Alicia Bacher
110	5250	* Thomas & Donna Scheib
121	5271	* Bruce & Charlotte Graham – William, Lorrie, Leslie. Thelma Graham – Bruce's mother

<u>Old #</u>	<u>New #</u>	<u>Haley Road from County Line to Lincoln Road</u>
36	197	Ezra Walz. Jacobsen; * Carlos & Karen Penalver
64	253	*Donald & Judith Duval
256	641	Albert & _____ Luke, George, Alfred. Dorothy VanWyckhouse. Clarence & Margaret Cumine, Molly, Virginia, Roger
68	259	* Robert & Lydia Ferguson
73	272	* Emil Luke
79	282	* Gerald & Shirley Luke
87	296	* James & Linda Taft
89	300	* Walter & Sylvia Stanley
95	312	* Donald & Thelma VanThof
108	341	* George & _____ Bown
109	344	* Roger & Emily Barber, Melinda. Built by Roger
115	356	* Harry & Helen Mason
118	363	* John & Bridgette Strong
123	368	* Albert & Janet Davis
		To Be Continued.....

Scrapbook Memories: 1967, 1968, and 1973

By Joyce Finney

Notice of the following events appeared in a scrapbook of newspaper stories compiled by Mrs. Elton (Anna) May more than 50 years ago. Following her death, the scrapbooks were given to Gordon Youngman, who decided their permanent home would be our museum. We are grateful for this glimpse into our history.

Oct. 27, 1967: Couple Share 50 Years of Memories: Clifford and Emily Huntley, life-long farm residents, will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary.

Nov. 1967: A Lesson in Courage: Charles Bills, teacher, is back in the classroom. He is teaching remedial reading at Walworth Elementary School. Injured in a 1958 swimming accident, he can't walk and has only limited use of his arms and hands.

Jan. 1968: Tiny "Town" Wants Out: The subdivision of Greenview has "seceded" from the Town of Walworth. A neatly stenciled sign, put up under cover of night, proclaims Greenview's Declaration of Independence. Nobody's saying who put up the sign.

July 1973: Historic 150 year-old Home Burns: The wood two-story colonial house at Kuttruff and Canandaigua Roads is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Fay Druschel of Bills Road, West Walworth. The home was unoccupied and no one was injured. The home was built in the 1820's by Druschel's great- great-grandfather.

Love and Marriage Display at the Town Hall

By Judy McMillan

Especially during the month of February our hearts turn to thoughts of love. For the month of February, the Walworth Historical Society assembled a display in the glass case at the Walworth Town Hall - the theme being "Love and Marriage Goes Together Like a Horse & Carriage"!



We featured the wedding photos of the following couples: Larry and Dianne (Komorowski) DeMinck, Robert and Mary Earlandt, Richard and Clara (Bowen) Blankenberg, John and Doris (Smith) Traas, Herman and Dorothy (Basch) French, John and Kay (Tighe) Scott, Grant and Geraldine (Keymel) Whitmire, Floyd and Julia (Parker) Greene, John and Edith (Millen) Keymel, George and Lena (Molner) Millen, Robert and Bertha (Franke) Wignall, and David and Martha Lynch. We hope they brought back fond memories.

Left: February display at the Walworth Town Hall.

March 21: Charlie's Movies – Part 2 By Bob Mogray

The next general WHS meeting is Monday, March 21, at 7:30 pm at the museum. Last November the attendance was excellent at the last general meeting when more than half of Charlie Pembroke's home movies were shown.

These movies are 8 mm films that Charlie took at his home and around the area. We have converted them to DVD format, thanks to a grant from the Hoffman Foundation. Many of Charlie's friends and relatives - as well as townspeople, local buildings, and functions - were depicted in these movies. They are a snapshot of life in Walworth in the 1950's and 60's. Please be with us as we show the remainder of these movies on March 21.

This may be the last chance for awhile to see these excellent home movies as there will be other programs at future meetings, so please join us for a chance to view Charlie's films. WHS thanks the Pembroke family for their generous donation of these movies. It is quite a treat to be able to go back 60 years in time to see what Walworth was like then. Refreshments will be served after the meeting and we hope to see everyone there.

Remembering Doctor Esley

By Rev. Verne Schattner

Editor's Note: Although Rev. and Mrs. Schattner now live in Cohocton, they keep in contact with the Walworth Historical Society through their membership. Rev. Schattner occasionally will write us and share memories of Walworth. His family lived on Ontario Center Road near Eddy Road, two miles south of the Routes 441 and 350 intersection.

The Esley family brings back many memories. When I was very small, my folks (Edward and Beatrice Schattner) grew berries when they first bought the Elton May farm where I was born. One day I slept in the berry batch on the top of a berry create while my mother was picking berries. Somehow I got a sliver in my left leg, very deep, and they took me to Dr. E. E. Esley. He removed the sliver while my father held me. As a result, I still have the scar on my leg, so it must have been quite deep.



We also had many apple trees on our property. My brother fell off one of the limbs, and broke his arm. Again, Dr. Esley came to the rescue and took my brother to Genesee Hospital in Rochester to have his arm set. At that time they used a wire mesh to keep it in place and he had it on for several weeks.

Another time – when we were in high school – my father was taken sick one night, well past midnight, and my brother and I had to walk to the neighbors, Durfee Hoag. They called Dr. Esley to come to our house. He was a truly great country doctor that we could still use today in many of our communities.

Additional Information from WHS files: Dr. E. E. Esley passed away September 28, 1946, after having served the Walworth community for almost 45 years as a respected citizen, enthusiastic community leader, and beloved doctor.

Dr. E. E. Esley
Photo taken apx. 1935

First Signal Light at Four Corners

By Dorothy French



Left: The first signal light at the four corners in Walworth was installed approximately 1953. Helping - left to right - are Charles Pembroke, Ken Brown, and Ernest Duell. Photo from Mrs. Elton (Anna) May's scrapbook, donated to the museum by Gordon Youngman.

Below: This same first signal light is in the attic of the WHS museum.



The Maple Trees Are Waking Up

By Dorothy French

More than 60 years ago, the property at 2061 Penfield-Walworth Road was a bee hive of activity during the early Spring months. Depending on the weather, in mid February the sap began to flow from the maple trees and the harvesting of the sap soon became a full time job.

Ray Cring collected the maple sap and operated from this location, now a private residence across from American Pool Supply. These pictures were taken March 1959 and show the inside and outside of his restaurant. The photos are from a scrapbook compiled by Mrs. Elton (Anna) May, and given to the museum through the foresight of Gordon Youngman.

As you drive on our country roads, you'll soon see buckets hanging from the maple trees. If you stop and listen carefully, you'll hear the drip, drip, drip into the bucket. It's time for pancakes!



Outside Cring's restaurant 1959



Inside Cring's restaurant 1959

WHS Hosts W.H.O. Members

By Jessie Keyeml

On Wednesday, February 16, W.H.O. members came to our Walworth museum for their bi-monthly meeting. Who is W.H.O.? It is an organization of historians and representatives of the historical societies of Wayne County. February 16 was Walworth Historical Society's turn to host the meeting. About 30 members were present, including seven of our own members providing beverages and cookies for dessert. As a special treat Liz and Gene Bavis brought home-made soup. The meeting was very informative; everyone shared what activities they have planned and any concerns they might have. Wayne County Historian Peter Evans informed us of several workshops available this spring. Larry Ann Evans, WCHS Executive Director, reported calendars for 2011, honoring the veterans, are still available. Also for sale is the book, "A Jail Among Us", detailing the history of the Wayne County Jail. Check the Wayne County web site <http://www.co.wayne.ny.us/Departments/historian/historian.htm> to see the events scheduled. There is plenty to do in Wayne County.



February WHO meeting in Walworth



Sketch of the February Walworth WHO meeting by Jim Ryan

Howard Triou, a long-time resident of the Walworth area, recently donated two family genealogies to our museum. The Triou family dates back to 1797 and the Youngman family back to 1816. Thank you, Howard, for your donation to our museum records. These – and other family genealogies – are available for viewing anytime the museum is open (see 2011 Events Calendar on this page). Genealogy searches continue to increase in popularity. Walworth-Seely Public Library offers genealogy programs on specific Wednesdays: **12 noon to 2 PM:** April 13, June 15, Sept. 21, and Nov. 16 and **Evenings 6:30 – 8 PM:** Mar. 16, May 18, and Oct. 19. For additional information, contact the library at 315.986.1511.

West Walworth 1st Baptist Church Stained Glass Window By Bob Mogray

There have been some discussions at recent WHS board meetings about what happened to the stained glass windows of the original West Walworth First Baptist Church. Since we are a historical society, a little information about this church might be in order. It is located across from the cemetery on West Walworth Road. Early settlers, mostly tradesmen such as carpenters, shoemakers, millwrights, and lumbermen, came to the area as early as 1805. These early pioneers recognized the need for a religious life and on August 17, 1815, the First Baptist Church was formed. Daniel Palmer was the first minister in 1816.

This area was first known as Birch Bridge but became known as West Walworth in 1829. A new and larger church was dedicated on January 8, 1833. For members, rules were strict. Anyone who did not abide by the rules was banished from the church. In 1880 a bell was purchased for the steeple of the church. There was extensive remodeling from 1925 to 1927. Later, even more remodeling was done. This brings us to the stained glass windows. Beginning in 1912 and continuing for some years, eight stained glass windows were donated to the First Baptist Church of West Walworth. They were given by:

Mrs. Druschel's class / Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Seibert / Hattie Jacob's class / Carrie Bills / Charles Druschel's class / In memory of Marquis S. & Jeanette Ten Eyck Main / Fred Petzoid's class / In memory of Sylvester Lee & Charlotte Chase Miller

Unfortunately the interior of the church was severely damaged by a fire in 1973 and in 1974 it was demolished. Fortunately two of the original stained glass windows were saved. The church was rebuilt at the same site in 1975. Services continued until September of 2008 when the church disbanded. For two years, the church sat idle. On July 4, 2010, the Eastside Christian Church began services there. The current pastor is Dan Miller. The two surviving stained glass windows from the original church are installed in this church now and can still be seen in the front of the church building as you drive by on West Walworth Road. Photos of these windows are on the cover of this newsletter.

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 Ginegaw Park
Sat., June 18	1-5	WHS sponsored garden tour	Walworth area
Tues., July 19	6:00 PM	Decorate museum float for Festival parade	TBA
Fri., July 22	6:30 PM	Festival in the Park Parade Booth	Line up on Main St. Ginegaw Park
Sat., July 23	TBA	Festival in the Park: booth	Ginegaw 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. 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 315-986-4781 for an appointment for other times.

March 2011 WHS Newsletter Bonus e-mail Photos



**First Baptist Church of West Walworth
2008 photo.**

**Inside the First Baptist Church
of West Walworth. Photo 2011.**



**Stained glass window from the First
Baptist Church of West Walworth.
Photo 2011**



Walworth High 1918.



Walworth High School - Class of 1949



14th Annual Walworth Street Dance



Walworth Christmas 1957