

# WALWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Volume 35 Number 6 May 2011



## The Gardens Are In Bloom - Enjoy the June 18 Tour

This local garden will be one of many sites on the June 18 garden tour, sponsored by the Walworth Historical Society. See story in this newsletter for more information.

### INSIDE THIS NEWSLETTER

- \* **Stuart Huntley**
- \* **Our Collection Continues to Grow**
- \* **President's Message**
- \* **Walworth Memories on April 10**
- \* **School Daze / Baker Road School**
- \* **2011 Activity Calendar**
- \* **Scrapbook Memories**
- \* **Lincoln Roads Part 3**
- \* **WHS Garden Tour June 18**
- \* **Membership Dues are Due**



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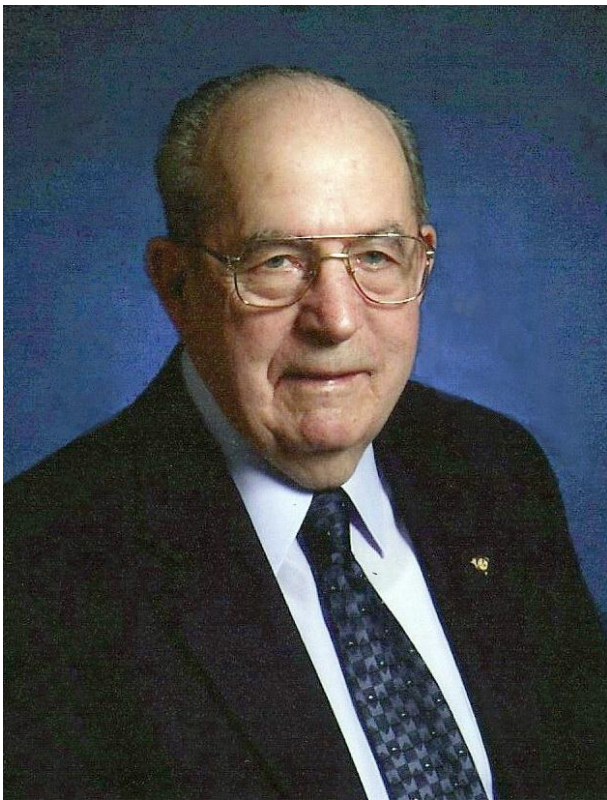
Spring is here, and we have already had two important meetings, spruced up the museum and are ready for visitors.

Nancy Bel has set up the schedule for the June through September openings at the museum on Wednesday and Sunday afternoons from 2 until 4 PM. Nancy's phone number is on the front page of this newsletter; please call her and help her fill in the blanks. Nancy is also our resident hostess and is always looking for cookie bakers for our meetings.

If you've never done a "museum sit" and would like to volunteer but are hesitant because you are unfamiliar with the operation of the museum, help is available. We have put together a binder which details helpful information about the museum and the Walworth area. This is an excellent way to spend several hours learning about our area's history and helping visitors as well. We encourage our volunteers to bring a friend with them to share this opportunity.

**Carlyle Darron to Receive Community Service Award**

By Jessie Keymel



**Carlyle Darron**

On Monday, May 16, our annual meeting will again be a pot luck dinner at the Lodge in Ginegaw Park at 6:15 PM. WHS will provide the beverages and ham; each attendee is asked to bring a dinner plate, place setting, and dish to pass with a serving utensil. If you need guidance on what you should bring, call Nancy Bel at 315-986-4781 or a member of the board. This is an important meeting, as we will be electing officers and two trustees.

Also we will present our Community Service Award to a deserving member of our community. The recipient of this year's award is a 1945 graduate of Walworth High School - Carlyle Darron . Carlyle has lived and worked in Walworth all his life, raised his children here, and watched four of his grandchildren become adults in this community.

As a life member of the Walworth United Methodist Church he has served on many committees through the years and is still actively involved in the care of the church. Carlyle raised registered Holsteins at his Pillar Hill farm on Penfield Road, and he and his family still show animals at the Wayne County and New York State Fairs. He is a member of the Wayne County Holstein Club and the National Holstein Association.

From May 1975 to December 1975, Carlyle served Walworth as a Town Councilman; he was Town Supervisor from 1976-1980 and again from 1986-1990. Beyond his service to our community he was a member of the Wayne County Soil and Water Board for more than 30 years. Throughout his many years as a farmer in our town, Carlyle has employed many boys and taught them the value of hard work and good ethics by his example. Thank you, Carlyle, for your many contributions to our community - in the past and in the future.

**Kids Needed**

Kids, ages 8 – 15 years, are needed to ride on our float for the Festival in the Park parade. Call Becky Appleman at 524-3289 if you can loan us a youngster for a couple of hours the evening of Friday, July 22.

## School Daze / Baker Road School: 1920

By Dorothy French



Occasionally we will publish photos of the district schools that dotted the landscape around the Walworth countryside not that many years ago. We'll begin with the Baker Road School, which was located on the north side of Route 441/Penfield Road, west of Baker Road and the cemetery. Does anyone know when the building was removed? Thanks to Helen Schultz Triou for donating this photo to the museum.

Posing in front of the Baker Road School in 1920 are these students:

*Front row, left to right:* Edwin Scott, Margaret Valentine, Edith Burritt, Dorothy Yucker, Erma Bills, Irene Valentine, and Edith Valentine.

*Second row, left to right:* L. D. Osterhout, Evelyn Valentine, Roy Nortier, and Raymond Yucker.

*Back row, left to right:* LaVerne Scott, Donald Bills, and Clyde Scott.

## Final Call and Bell Ceremony for Stuart Huntley

By Dorothy French



Walworth was his birthplace and now the location of his final resting place. The in-between years in the life of 91-year old Stuart Huntley were filled with love for his family, country and community. When he passed away on March 26, Stuart left a legacy of caring, sharing, and volunteering.

Our museum's roots can be traced to his parents, Clifford and Emily Huntley, who in 1985 donated the property at the corner of High and Academy Streets to the Walworth Historical Society, thereby enabling the community to build a museum. This empty lot originally belonged to the T. G. Yeomans family; Stuart was a great-great-great nephew of Mr. Yeomans. The Yeomans family played a pivotal role in early Walworth.

Stuart was a treasure house of information about the Walworth area, frequently stopping at the museum just to visit or to donate something. His keen memory was helpful when we were researching facts and it was not uncommon to receive a late evening phone call with an idea for a newspaper story.

During World War II, Stuart served in the European Theatre for 15 months in the infantry. Several years ago he was invited to fly to Washington, D.C. with other veterans as part of the Honor Flight program to see the World War II monument. He admitted this trip was one of the highlights of his life.

In 1941, Stuart joined the Walworth Fire Department, serving in many capacities through the years – 10 years as chief and 22 years as fire commissioner. While in the hospital in March, he was presented with a pin for his 70 years of service. Members of area fire departments and their equipment provided a backdrop of respect at his March 31 memorial service at the fire hall. His casket was carried on the department's E37 truck, past saluting comrades and under a huge American flag hung between two ladder trucks, as the procession made its way to the cemetery on Sherburne Road.

## The Roads of Lincoln: Part 3      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.

<b>Old #</b>	<b>New #</b>	<b>Haley Road from County Line to Lincoln Road (continued from March)</b>
132	390	Tom (safety commissioner in Rochester) & Lois Woods * James, Edmund & Kathleen Jacobsen
149	420	William Boyd, Sr. & Marion Rapp. LaTorte was mailman
	459	Fred & Judy Copley; Wellington & Elsie Church; Charles Cahill
172	469	* Michael & Karen McManus
183	482	* Robert & Joanne Cole
184	493	* Thomas Olmstead
191	508	Gene Cole (old house); * John & Hilda Manders
196	519	Chester & Lorraine Blue, Wayne, Scott, Chester Jr., Lorraine; * Phillip & Carol Reynolds

<b>Old #</b>	<b>New #</b>	<b>Hennessey Road</b>
35	1394	House built by Bill Lithgow; *Stanley & Doris Hennessey Church, James
72	1463	* William & Jeanne Kasperkoski
86	1491	* Anthony & Beatrice Tarana; Henry & Sara Viens

<b>Old #</b>	<b>New #</b>	<b>Jacobs Road Going West From Lincoln Road</b>
51	260	* Leighton Jacobs
52	267	* Vitale & Vincent Bonanno
	268	Lee and Florence Jacobs. Large dairy farm. Sons: Leighton and Clayton. * Clayton Jacobs
103	368	* Erwin & Beatrice Ostertag
109	376	Clarence & Esther Forman; * Bruce & Jean Gage
	377	Charles (Rochester policeman) & _____ Galloway
111	384	* Esther Forman
118	399	* Raymond (Rochester policeman) & Helen Galloway
119	400	* George & Rose Bauerschmidt
126	417	* Richard & Gladys VanDeusen
127	422	* Ronald & Wendy Forman
133	434	* Clinton & Helen Forman, Ronald
147	468	* Ida Gagliano
151	470	* Joseph Gagliano, John & _____ Gagliano
159	484	* Louis Gagliano
160	485	* Robert & Mary Madrid
174	512	* Edward & Carmela Anderson
	519	* Jehovah's Witness Church
180	531	* Raymond & Shirley Stanton
188	539	* Kenneth & Ellen Backus
189	542	* David & Louise Vosburg
194	553	* Harold & Nancy Cornelius
202	569	* Lawrence & Virginia Lasch
220	609	* Grace Case
230	625	* Luce residence; Louise & _____ Lasch
264	703	* William & Marilyn Deichmiller
268	715	* James & Marilyn Hamman
272	721	* Robert & Dorothy DeVrieze
280	731	* Roger Goodman

**The Gardens Are In Bloom - Come Tour on June 18** By Judy McMillan

Walworth Historical Society is hosting a garden tour on Saturday, June 18, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. To date, we have nine gardens on the tour! The tour will commence at the WHS Museum on Academy Street in the village where tourists can pick up maps for finding the gardens and register for door prizes from various local businesses. Although the tour is FREE, donations to the Walworth Historical Society will be gladly accepted. All gardens are located in the Walworth/Lincoln/West Walworth area.

Walworth has a history rich in gardens. Theron Yeomans, a prominent Walworth citizen, (he was married to Susan Cleveland, sister of President Grover Cleveland) was an arborist associated with the famous Ellwanger Barry nurserymen from Rochester. Walworth boasts of having many beautiful copper beech trees - 9 in total. These lovely specimens were imported during the 19th century. So - mark your calendars! June 18 should be a wonderful gardening adventure!

**Charlie Pembroke's Movies** By Bob Mogray



Above: left: Bob Mogray right: Vaughn Pembroke

At the last regular meeting of the Walworth Historical Society on March 21, we showed another installment of Charlie Pembroke's 8 mm movies that were converted to DVD format. Just like the previous time when we showed the first batch of his films, there was excellent attendance. Again, Charlie's son Vaughn Pembroke was on hand to help with the narration and to add some stories of his own to enhance and entertain us. Thanks, Vaughn, we really appreciate it! Also thanks to the membership for supporting our efforts by attending these meetings. It means a lot to the officers and board when the membership is behind our efforts.

This was the second installment of Charlie's movies. There is enough material for one more viewing. Probably at a future meeting we will show the last third of the movies that have been converted to DVD. It is fortunate that these films have stood the test of time because most of them are of good quality. It sure is fun viewing how Walworth looked in the 1950's and 1960's through these movies. We hope to see you at our next meeting on Monday, May 16 at the Lodge at Ginegaw Park when we will be giving our Community Service Award and having a pot luck supper. Hope to see you there!

**High ? Steppers** By Dorothy French



In 1956 and 1959, Walworth residents had an opportunity to show off their talents in a series of minstrel shows. These popular events showcased comedy, music, and dancing acts, including these "ladies" - left to right: Leighton Bel, Wilbur Reybrouck, Don Brockman, and Milton Bradshaw. According to a newspaper clipping, *"The first show was held in 1956; the first performance was so successful 'due to wide acclaim in the field of amateur theatrics', a second show was held on April 26."* This photo is from an album of minstrel show pictures donated by Vaughn Pembroke to the museum.

## We Shared Memories of "Characters"

By Jessie Keymel



**The Tabor family: Nelson, Jay, Arline, and Betty**

For the 15<sup>th</sup> time the Walworth-Seely Public Library and the Walworth Historical Society gathered together members of our community interested in remembering the history of our town and the earlier inhabitants. On April 10 the subject was "Characters We Have Known." Twenty-three people were in attendance at the town hall.

Stories were shared about jam sessions in Ray Bavis' barber shop and the musicians who were frequent visitors. It seems everyone had a story about Charlie Pembroke and many shared Charlie Hack stories. Both Charlies were very much a part of Walworth during their lifetimes.

After an hour and a half of laughing and sharing stories, everyone felt we did not even scratch the

surface. So on Sunday, October 16, at the next Walworth Memories meeting at the museum, we will again record stories of the "Characters We Have Known." The stories from all our Walworth Memories have been gathered into a notebook and indexed, so that they can be shared in the future. Our Memories play a big part in keeping our history alive. Check out the notebook the next time you take your turn sitting at the Museum during the summer months of June through September.

## Cheese Factory and School: Part 4

By Robert L Wignall

*Editor's Note: The recent stories in our newsletter about area cheese factories prompted Robert L. Wignall, WHS member residing in Colorado Springs, Colorado, to share his memories about the Marion Cheese Factory located just east of Walworth.*

The 1927 obituary for my great-grandfather, Robert Wignall, says he was "superintendent of cheese factories in Walworth, Cazenovia, Macedon, Williamson, Marion, and Blandford, Massachusetts (the latter in 1879-80)." He was a professional musician, but I guess for those early years (the family immigrated in 1867), cheese-making was his means of financial support. In 1881 he moved to Fairport and was thereafter employed by the Deland Company, while managing their band.

The foundation ruins were on the road to Marion and I remember them clearly. However, before they put the "straight" road through from Walworth to Marion, the directions for anyone going to Marion were as follows: from Walworth go east to the end of the road (at Hall Center Rd/Maple Ave.), turn left, and take the first right; then go to the end of the road again (Cory Corners Rd/Parker Rd), turn left and take the first right; follow that into Marion!!! I'm not positive which intersection the ruins were on, but I think it was Hall Center/Maple Ave. In any case, the ruins were on the southeast corner of the intersection. When the straight road was finally put through, the ruins were obliterated.

Just a short distance north from that same intersection, there was an old barn on the left side of Hall Center Road and next to it were the remains of an old district schoolhouse (with front door and bell tower). That was where George R. Wignall and, I suppose his siblings, went to school while living in the nearby cheese factory. That was as far as his schooling ever took George. We understood that all the cheese factories had living quarters - similar to a house with a cheese-making shed attached.

After their deaths, one of the old implements we found in George and Carrie Wignall's attic was a fairly large wooden cheese press. I remember playing with it as a youngster and I think we must have donated it to the Lyons Museum, as there was no Walworth Museum at that time.

A multitude of years are covered in a scrapbook assembled by Walworth native and resident Dorothy Petty. More than 25 of her scrapbooks were donated to the museum following her passing.

**1893** - In 1893 the Town of Walworth had 11 school districts, each with one teacher and a total of 477 students.

**April 1931** - Walworth High School senior class is largest ever. This year there are 12 pupils in its graduating class.

**August 1933** - Dr. George Esley Killed in Auto Crash. Dr. Esley, aged 30, of Sodus was killed instantly Tuesday morning at about five o'clock while returning from an early call west of Sodus. Dr. George Esley was the son of Dr. and Mrs. E. E. Esley of Walworth.

**January 1940** - Walworth Grange celebrated its 65th anniversary which began with a banquet dinner at 1:00. The guest of honor was a golden sheath member, Miss Clara Yeomans, of Palmyra, who gave a very interesting reading of the Walworth Grange, which was organized January 24, 1875, with 37 charter members. The Hon. Lucien I. Yeomans was the first Master.

**February 1941** - Organist Honored for 58 Years of Service. Walworth resident George J. Frowley recalls playing his first hymn. Having served as organist of the Walworth Methodist Church for 58 years, Mr. Frowley was presented with a purse of money and a plant by Robert Wignall, superintendent of the Sunday School.

**April 1941** - Walworth carrier delivers newspapers by pony. Claire Reynolds, age 16, Democrat & Chronicle carrier boy in Walworth, assures speedy delivery to patrons. Claire is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Reynolds.

**Sept. 4, 1941** - Red and White Store advertised the following: Swift's fresh-dressed veal roast, boneless, \$.29 per pound; Armour's sliced bacon, \$.29 per pound; Swift's ring bologna, \$.19 per pound; fowl, fresh dressed, \$.25 per pound; and beef, fresh ground, \$.25 per pound.

### **Our Collection Continues to Grow**

By Jessie Keymel

Our collection continues to grow with contributions from many sources. At a recent Wayne Historians Organization meeting we exchanged information with the Marion Town Historian, Carolyn Adriaansen, about the Cheese Factory School.

Janice Wignall Mitchell and Robert L. Wignall mailed us a carousel of 35mm slides of their family and town events; the photos were taken by their parents, Robert and Bertha Wignall. We also have some Wignall family stories that we will be sharing in future issues of this newsletter.

Our church history files have grown with photos and information about West Walworth 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church from Mrs. Larry (Molly) Hill and a directory and photos from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Baptist Church given by Peg Mauer. Linda Roeland has shared wedding and family photos that will be added to the Wilbur and Esther Belle LeGasse file.

### **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 each issue. To give it a try, send your e-mail address to Bob Mogray at [rmogray@rochester.rr.com](mailto:rmogray@rochester.rr.com).

### **Membership Dues Are Due**

By Mary Jane Devlin

The Walworth Historical Society operates on a May 1 to April 30 fiscal year. Your membership dues are due May 1 unless you are a Life Member or have paid in advance. **There is a red dot on your address label if you owe dues as of May 1.** Members who receive their newsletter by e-mail will receive a separate notice. If you have questions about when your membership expires, please contact the treasurer at 315-986-1512, or check your membership card.

We welcome the following members who have chosen to join our organization: Anita Amsler, Gay Boggess, Laurie Hall, Alvin and Shirley Osterhout, "Duke" and Mabel Risley, Erice Roberts, and Linda Roeland.

There are several categories of membership in WHS: Student \$5, Individual \$10, Joint or family \$15, Supporting \$25, Corporate or Business \$30, Sponsor \$50, Patron \$100, Life \$150, Benefactor \$150. By choosing to join at a higher level of membership, you will enable us to continue to expand our program presentations and add to our collection of historical items, as well as restore and preserve the items that are already in our collection.

Please pay dues at the annual meeting on May 16 or send your check to the Walworth Historical Society at the address listed on the front of this newsletter. Thank you for your continued support.



**Jacobs Farm and Family:** On April 6 Peggy Harvey visited our museum to present us with a detailed genealogy of the Jacobs family and their farm. The farm is located at 268 Jacobs Road in the township of Walworth, New York but with a Macedon, New York mailing address.

Peggy is a neighbor of the Jacobs family, and spent three years doing an in-depth research. Her book includes many photos taken through the years and stories about life on the farm. In addition, she included a disk with back-up information, detailing her many sources. The finished product is worthy of a first place blue ribbon.

Left: Remember these twins? They lived on a farm on Jacobs Road in West Walworth. They are eight-year old Clayton and Leighton Jacobs getting ready to go to school. Their pet sheep liked being photographed. The photo was taken in 1935 in front of the 268 Jacobs Road farm house's east porch. Leighton passed away in 1986. Clayton was still farming at age 83 with his son David in 2010. Clayton is now retired.



**The Matteson's in Rhode Island:** Ron Matteson (left) has donated a copy of the Mattesons genealogy to our museum. The contents include material from the Matteson U.S. website and a genealogical trip he and his wife Juanita made to Rhode Island last fall. Ron's ancestors settled in Portsmouth, RI, in 1666 and still have a large presence there. Ron and Juanita visited several towns, monuments, and cemeteries and have compiled a written family history along with a genealogy chart. This is Ron's second genealogy contribution to the museum. Several years ago he gave us a copy of "A Genealogy of a House," which describes in detail the history of their cobblestone home on Lewis Road.

Stop in sometime at the museum and ask to look at the "Mattesons in Rhode Island - A Genealogical Trip" and/or "Jacobs Farm - W. Walworth." You may be amazed at all the history your friends, relatives, and neighbors have brought with them to Walworth.

**Walworth Historical Society  
2011 Events Calendar**

Date	Time	Subject	Location
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: line up Booth at the park	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. 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.





All photos on this page were taken on March 31 at the funeral service for Stuart Huntley at the Walworth Fire Hall.



Scenes you might see on the WHS Sponsored Garden Tour on Saturday June 18 from 1-5 pm.

