

Established – 1972
Chartered - 1976

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Website: <http://harmonyhistoricals.wix.com/harmhistsoc>

HARMONY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
2018 NEWSLETTER

ASHVILLE
BLOCKVILLE
NIOBE
OPEN MEADOWS
PANAMA
STEDMAN
STOW
WATTS FLATS

Our Purpose

The aims of the Society shall be to aid in the preservation and development of local history of pioneers and early settlers of the Town of Harmony, and its adjoining area and communities; to acquire and save for public use and exhibition relics, pictures, maps, and articles of historic value, dealing with the economic, political, patriotic, and cultural life of the community, and to cooperate with all other organizations having similar aims and purposes.

Letter from the President

2017 saw many interesting things happen here at HHS. Programs were awesome, as 2018's will be. In April member Don Lauger presented a program on "Historical Price Comparisons." Very interesting on how the cost of living has inflated over the years. Our Golden Needle Quilter had their quilt show in May which was a success. We also participated in the first countywide museum "Open Doors" event sponsored by the Chautauqua County Historical Society which we will again participate in on May 20th. Roberta Tenpas, President of the Sherman Historical Society spoke at the May dinner meeting with an overview of their society and the Yorker Museum. In June, Art Palmer, loaned us his early films of Ashville. Everyone enjoyed seeing these and identified people and places in the films.

On July 16th we held a very special dedication ceremony on the new nature trail in honor of Chuck Masters. A plaque was installed by the new bridge. Boy Scout, Michael Clamp built this bridge as his Eagle Scout Project. Then Debbie Fields and Pam Brown presented a program on the history of Green Brothers Lumber at the July dinner meeting.

We had no dinner meeting in August. Instead we met at the Stow side of Ferry and Roberta Schruise piloted us across the lake to Bemus Point where we walked to the Lawson Boat Museum. There we were treated to an enjoyable tour of the museum.

September was our Annual Meeting. John Brown, Treasurer and Earl Ferry, Vice President were unanimously reelected to their positions. County Historian, Michelle Henry spoke on the cheese factories in our county. In October Lori Humphreys presented a program on two local artists, Richard Sigafoos and Russell Welch. If you missed it, she is presenting the program again at the Chautauqua County Historical Society meeting in April.

As we celebrate the centennial of WWI, our November touched on local veterans and will continue in 2018 at our November meeting.

We ended 2017 with a fun filled holiday celebration. Be sure to save the program listing in this newsletter.

Tuesdays are a busy day at the society – year-round. In the morning, the Golden Needle Quilters meet to work on the festival raffle quilt and other quilted items to sell. In the afternoon, a group of dedicated members have been working in the library to process our collections. We are working in each building - cleaning, assigning catalog numbers to our artifacts, photographing them and entering them into Pastperfect museum software. We received many contributions in 2017 which include the replica Roll-A-Bowl Jalopy from Blinky Litzinger's family, items from the Blockville United Methodist Church and more.

We are working with the Town of North Harmony in planning their centennial celebration in 2019.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to maintaining the purpose of society. Hope to see you this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Lyn Nagel

President

Gifts and Donations – we are now able to accept donations in the form of stock. Please contact John Brown if you would like more information. A form is available below.

Membership is open to all persons interested in the history of the towns of Harmony and North Harmony.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership levels: Annual Contributing - \$5.00____ Student - \$1.00____ Family - \$25.00____
Patron - \$100.00____ Life Member - \$500.00____ Business - \$25.00 or \$50.00____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ E Mail: _____

Please send to: Harmony Historical Society
PO Box 127
Asheville, NY 14710

Annual memberships are due by October 1.

GIFTS AND MEMORIAL FORM

Memorial contributions are sincerely appreciated and a fitting tribute to a friend or relative.

Both memorials and cash gifts are tax deductible. We are now able to receive stocks.

The form below is provided for your convenience.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

In Memory for or Honor of: _____

Person to notify of Memorial or Honorary gift: _____

Please send to: Harmony Historical Society, PO Box 127, Asheville, NY 14710

2018 Harmony Historical Society Event Schedule

1st Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. – Business Meeting

3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. – Dinner (bring dish to pass and table service.) Program begins at 7:00 pm

Every Tuesday from 9-noon – Golden Needle Quilters meet at Carpenter Hall to work on the annual raffle quilt and other items for sale at the festival to benefit the society.

Tuesdays from 1-4 pm: Volunteers meet in the library to work on collections and research.

Please note: we do not meet during January, February or March.

- Tuesday, April 17 **George Lauger and Sons Potato Farms** – Don Lauger will share his experiences growing up on a large, commercial potato farm in the 1950s. The farms, located in Pittsfield, PA and near Panama and Niobe produced upwards to 135,000 bushels of potatoes every year.
- Saturday April 21 Chautauqua County Historical Society Annual meeting at the Lakeshore Assembly of God church in Westfield. Lori Humphreys will be giving her presentation **Chautauqua County Artists Richard Sigafos and Russell Welch** at 1 pm. Free to the public.
- Tuesday, May 15 **What is it?** We've been finding artifacts in our collection that need identification. Farm implements, household tools, you name it! Please feel free to bring an item from your collection that you think will stump our members.
- Saturday, May 19 **Open Doors at the Museum from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Roll-O-Bowl Exhibit Opening** – We are participating in Open Doors at the Museums in Chautauqua County again this year. All our buildings will be open with docents on hand. We will also be opening a new exhibit featuring Clair "Blinky" Litzinger's jalopy from the Roll-O-Bowl. We will be opening an exhibit in cooperation with the Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame at Harmony. We are grateful to Blinky's family for donating the jalopy to Harmony. The opening ceremony will begin at 1 pm.
- Monday, May 28 **MEMORIAL DAY PARADE AND CEREMONY** in Panama. The parade begins at 11 and will proceed east on Main Street to the Union Cemetery.
- Saturday, June 9-
Sunday, June 10 **Annual 9th Cavalry Civil War Encampment/Reenactment - Westfield**
Located at Moore Park directly in front of the McClurg Museum. Members of the 9th NY Cavalry are featured. Pam Brown will be presenting a program on the letters of a Harmony Civil War soldier written to his wife.
- Tuesday, June 19 **Civil War Soldier Letters** – Pam Brown and David Brown will be sharing information on letters written by Civil War soldier Mark Roach of Harmony to his wife, Emily. The letters were donated to the Chautauqua County Historical Society/McClurg Museum and transcribed by Pam.
- Tuesday, July 17 **Picnic at the School House** – Join us for an old-fashioned picnic with games, music and fun! Our teachers will be available for tours of the Harmony District No. 1 school house.
- Saturday, July 28
Sunday, July 29 **Wild Nature Art Festival at Panama Rocks** Sponsored by Roger Tory Peterson Institute.
- Wednesday, August 15 Chautauqua County Historical Society Annual Picnic and Speaker Series at Panama Rocks. 6 to 8 pm. Bring a dish to pass. **Pioneering Efforts of Honey Production in Chautauqua County** presented by Dennis and Laura LaMonica of Panama Bee Farm.
- Tuesday, August 21 County Historian Michelle Henry will be speaking. Topic – To be announced.
- Saturday, September 15
Sunday, September 16 **Harmony Harvest Festival from 10 am to 4 pm each day.** Living history demonstrations, music, re-enactments and much more!
- Tuesday, September 18 **Annual Meeting and presentation on Amos Ferguson** by Jack Ericson. Ferguson was a poet and resident of Fluvanna who translated part of the Bible into verse and wrote a Civil War songster.
- Tuesday, October 16 **Floyd Darrow** presented by Lori Humphreys. Mr. Darrow, a resident of Ashville for many years, was a teacher, scientist, writer and historian.
- Sunday, November 11 **Special Centennial Celebration of Armistice Day by various Municipal Historians and the Chautauqua Co. Historical Society.** 1 to 3 pm at the 1891 Fredonia Opera House in Fredonia. Pam Brown will have a display on the Farm Cadets from Jamestown High School. Mark Brown will be speaking about his grandfather, WWI Veteran, _____ Brown and how he saved the Lost Battalion.
- Tuesday, November 20 **The Lost Battalion** – Mark Brown will tell the story of his grandfather's role in the saving of the Lost Battalion in WWI.
- Tuesday, December 4 Holiday Celebration and last meeting of the year. Program - TBA

