

Established – 1972  
Chartered - 1976

Officers

President – Lyn Nagel  
Vice President – Earl Ferry  
Secretary – Susie Nelson  
Treasurer – John Brown

Board of Trustees

Roberta Schruise, Chair  
Gene Button  
Janette Weaver  
Cliff Reardon Jr.  
Eloise Smith  
Joyce Edwards

Pam Brown – historian, librarian and archivist  
Terrie Johnson - Webmaster



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

**HARMONY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

1972-2017

**2017 WINTER NEWSLETTER**

**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 original Town of Harmony (includes North 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 will all other organizations having similar aims and purposes.

ASHVILLE  
BLOCKVILLE  
NIOBE  
OPEN MEADOWS  
PANAMA  
STEDMAN  
STOW  
WATTS FLATS

**Memorial** – We lost a great supporter, trustee and friend this fall. Chuck Masters died on October 23, 2016. His quiet personality was everywhere, whether mowing lawns, researching his Carpenter family roots, arranging artifacts in the Butts Barn, or selling apples at the Festival in his bowler hat! We will miss him! Our sympathy goes out to Susan, Jonathan, Ted and all his family and friends.

**Welcome New Trustees** - We'd like to take this opportunity to thank Dave and Linda Simmons' many years of service to the society. Your hard work and leadership is commendable. Cliff Reardon Jr. was elected as a trustee and Gene Button was appointed to fill the remainder of Chuck's term. Roberta Schruise was appointed Trustee Chairperson. All other trustees whose term had expired were re-elected for another term. Thank you!! The incumbent officers whose terms were expiring ran unopposed for re-election. Thank you!!

**Library and Restroom Renovation Project** – We're finished!! We received funding from the Sheldon Foundation and the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation to renovate the Waite Building exhibit area to an expanded library and archives. We were also able to update the two restrooms for handicap access. The renovation also enabled us to make an inside access to the library.

**Library Update**– the library is open on Tuesday afternoons from 1-3 pm. Volunteers Rose Stark, Diane Brown, Lori Humphreys, Lyn Nagel, Debbie Field and Rebecca Whitmore have been busy helping Pam catalog collections and prepare for the Past Perfect Museum software implementation. We received the software and shelving for the secure storage area from funding by Sheldon Foundation, Chautauqua Community Foundation and the Lenna Foundation along with other historical agencies involved in the grant. Thank you to a great group of volunteers!!

**Website and Facebook page** – The website and facebook continue to serve the social media aspect of our organization. Thanks to Terrie Johnson for her assistance.

**Groups meeting at the Society** – Along with the Boy Scouts, we have several other groups meeting at Carpenter Hall on a fairly regular basis. The Golden Needle Quilters meet on Tuesday mornings. Piece 'n

Harmony Quilters meet one Monday evening a month. Another group of quilters meets every other month on Saturday. We also have hosted meetings of the Chautauqua County Weavers Guild, the South Shore Weavers Guild and the Chautauqua County Camera Club. We have also hosted the Chautauqua County Historical Society and the Chautauqua Co. Historical Organization consortium. Carpenter Hall is available to rent for parties and reunions. If your group would like to find out more about facility rental, please call Eloise Smith at 782-2083.

**New Gazebo** – through a generous donation by Greta Smith, we added a gazebo to the campus. This building was used during the festival by our musical groups and for the Town of Harmony Bicentennial Celebration this fall.

**Quilt Show** – We will be featuring quilts in an exhibit on Saturday, May 6 from 10-3 at Carpenter Hall. Along with the quilt exhibit, the Golden Needle Quilters will have their quilted items for sale. Raffle tickets for the annual raffle quilt made by the Golden Needle Quilters will be on sale. This year's design is a pieced Bear Paw design in blue, green and brown batiks. We will also have a baked goods sale.

**Membership Dues** are due in September. Please renew your membership and encourage your friends and family who aren't members to join us! A form is available below.

**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 in September.

#### 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

## 2017 HARMONY HISTORICAL SOCIETY EVENT SCHEDULE

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

3<sup>rd</sup> 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 9:00 a.m. to 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.

Every Tuesday from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. – Library is open and volunteers working

Please note: we do not have business or general meetings during January, February or March.

- Tuesday, April 18      **“Historical Price Comparisons”** – presented by Don Lauger. Don will give examples of how the “cost of living” has inflated over the years.
- Saturday, May 6      **“Quilt Show”** from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. This special Saturday event will feature an exhibit of quilts from The Golden Needle Quilters and other groups who meet here. We will have quilted items for sale and tickets for the Fall Festival quilt raffle will be available. We will also have a baked goods sale. All of our buildings will be open. Enjoy the day and support the historical society!
- Tuesday, May 16      **“Yorkers Museum”** – presented by Roberta Tenpas, President of the Sherman Historical Society. Roberta will give a history of the Yorkers Museum in Sherman and an overview of the historical society’s activities.
- Monday, May 29      **MEMORIAL DAY PARADE IN PANAMA** – starts at 11 a.m. Join us for the annual program at the Union Cemetery this year following the parade.
- Tuesday, June 20      **“Scenes from Ashville”** - Watch some early films loaned to us by Art Palmer. These home m70ovies were digitized for us by Memorial Photography in Jamestown. These films were from the 1950’s, 1960s and 1970’s. We could use some help identifying people and places. One film features parades in that time period.
- Tuesday, July 18      **“The History of Green Brothers Lumber”** – we’ll present the history of this long time Blockville landmark and exhibit artifacts from the society’s collections.
- Sat/Sun July 29-30      **“RTPI Wild American Nature Art Festival at Panama Rocks”** - we plan to have an informational booth at the festival.
- Tuesday, August 15      **“Stow Ferry Field Trip”** – We’re planning a trip across the lake on the ferry piloted by our own Roberta Schruise! We will then go to the Lawson Boat Center in Bemus Point for a tour. We will meet at the Stow ferry landing at 6 pm. No dinner – but dessert to follow the program.
- September 16 & 17      **FALL FESTIVAL** – 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. each day. Join us for the annual festival featuring the Golden Needles Quilt Show, demonstrators of early pioneer skills like weaving, spinning, bow making and more. Local Civil War and French & Indian re-enactors, stagecoach rides, craft vendors and great music. Delicious food is available for sale and all our buildings are open for tours. The annual quilt raffle will be held featuring a handmade pieced quilt from the Golden Needle Quilters.
- Tuesday, Sept. 19      **ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS** - Michelle Henry, Chautauqua County Historian will be our speaker.
- Tuesday, October 17      **“Local Artists – Richard Sigafos and Russell Welch”**– Presented by Lori Humphreys, local author and society member. Lori has researched these local artists and has written an article for the Western New York Heritage Magazine.
- Tuesday, November 21      **“World War I History”** – We’re celebrating the centennial of the United States entry into World War I. We’ll have the names of World War I veterans from Harmony and North Harmony available. Do you have someone in your family who served in the military, or worked in a war related capacity? Please come and share their story with us.
- Tuesday, December 5      **“Holiday Celebration and last meeting of the year”**- Plans are in the making to celebrate a good old-fashioned Christmas in the one room schoolhouse. Some of our long time members have reminisced about decorating a live tree with popcorn, cranberry and paper chain garlands, singing Christmas Carols and making ice cream at the schoolhouse!