

THELMA ROGERS GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

118 EAST DYKE STREET, WELLSVILLE, NY 14895

Newsletter December 2007

Jane Pinney and Mary Rhodes



CALENDAR

Dec 13, 2007 - "The Story of the Buffalo & Susquehanna Railroad by Jim Pomeroy of Rushford. Annual Election of Officers prior to the program

Jan 2008 – No Meeting

Feb 7, 2008 – 7 PM - Show and Tell – bring an item to share, this is always fun!!

Note: Jean Richmond has decided to step down as our Program Coordinator. Jean has kept us entertained with so many wonderful programs, she will be hard to replace. If anyone would like to step up to the challenge, please call Jane at 593-4515. Suggestions would be welcomed for upcoming programs.

Laurel Buckwalter's program on "Alfred's Bells That Didn't Ring True" was an interesting night of learning and discussion. Laurel stepped up to the position of Alfred University's carillonneur in 1995 and informed us and the world of the Bell's shady history. She has brought the bells up to a standard that all of Allegany County can be proud of.

DONATIONS

Steve C. Allen – A little bit of the Barnes family history via e mail

Ken and Mary Bellows – a 1957 Wellsville Centennial record, centennial photos and paper memorabilia – (Ken was the minister for Centennial Week); several world newspapers dated near the end of WWII.

Diane Converso – copies of historical articles and papers; the 1930 Wellsville Directory – on loan to copy.

Ralph Hills – A copy of the Hills genealogy; Hills family photographs; an oral history and remembrances of the Hills family on audiotapes (through interviews with Jane Pinney).

David Holcomb – "The Coyles of Allegany County NY in 1870" by David B. Holcomb; A photo of the unusual three-part chimney in Belfast.

Mickey Martelle – A booklet from the New York State Council on the Arts highlighting the Air Preheater 1969 New York State Award (Mickey gave a speech at the awards ceremony in Atlanta); the book "Business and the Arts" which features Air Preheater honored for sponsoring a season of performing arts in the Wellsville community.

Helen McCarthy – A beautiful hand decorated Christmas wreath for the front door of the museum.

The Monday Club – Donated a metal replica of the David A. Howe Library.

Mary Ann Newark and Padden Newark – On loan to copy – Immaculate articles and "Gods People in Wellsville – The first hundred and Twenty Five Years of Immaculate Conception Parish, Wellsville NY" by Rev. James W. Embser, C.S.B.

Dan Nicholson – A lithograph of Kerr Turbine; an antique unused light bulb; dozens of copies of Wellsville historic photographs; a CD of Dan's Wellsville postcard collection; Many newspapers and articles of Wellsville collected by Ella; a Sinclair Dino Soap in original box; two original photographs (the inside of a foundry and a 1914 photo of Fred D. Rice and the inside of Fred D. Rice Music House); a Sinclair Petroleum Week write-up; the book "A Great Name in Oil – Sinclair Through Fifty Years".

Jane Pinney – A Wellsville High School Class of 1984 mug.

Alice Salmonson – A History of St. John's Episcopal Church, including a history of six of the windows by Faith Sikaras and Geneva Miller and updates by Alice Salmonson and Rev. Elizabeth Groskoph. (Alice is also working on the history of six more windows.)

Virginia Scott – an interview on audiotape of her Vossler family history and her memories of working at the Wellsville Daily Reporter.

The Exchange Club of Wellsville has generously donated \$200.00 to the Museum for ongoing improvements

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WISH LIST – In addition to what we have previously wished for (old phone books/directories, Wellsville Yearbooks) we add old local newspapers to the mix. The Wellsville papers have great historical value. We CANNOT save them all, but we can MINE THEM for little tidbits of history.

The Museum is now closed and winterized. While we are officially closed for the season, we will open the doors by appointment, just be prepared to be chilly.

Don't forget **Kleiser Ford** in Wellsville will donate \$100.00 (per sale) to the Dyke Museum if you purchase a new or used vehicle from them prior to December 31, 2007. If you are considering buying a Ford, please mention their promotion and the organization you wish to support. Hopefully you will mention the Dyke Museum!!

The Sesquicentennial Committee's open house at the Courthouse in Belmont was a success!! The Museum was represented by several people, Jim Dello and Ann Comstock (also with the 150 Committee), Jane Pinney and Mary Rhodes. It was a great opportunity to pass out our (homemade) "business cards".

ARCHIVES – The following article was found in the December 20, 1882 edition of the Allegany County Democrat.

BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF WELLSVILLE – We have examined an India ink sketch of Wellsville, executed by an artist who evidently knew what he was doing. The view is from a supposed elevation and shows the village looking toward the west. Every house, store, block and factory in the village is shown with striking clearness.

Mr. A. F. Poole artist and agent for J. J. Stoner, of Madison, Wis., is among us for the purpose of securing a sufficient number of orders to insure the reproduction of this sketch in premature lithographic form. Friendship, Cuba, Olean and Jamestown have each endorsed a similar project and have received fine and well executed lithographs of their respective towns.

The artist tells us that in the three days already spent here he has secured over 50 orders. As the required number for publication is 200 it will be seen that a large number of additional names must be obtained to secure to us this beautiful picture of home. We have no doubt the agent and publishers will meet with a hearty co-operation in Wellsville, whose merchants, mechanics and manufacturers are ever alive to enterprise and all projects of improvements.

What We Know of This Picture – We know that this was the second sales trip for the artist/salesmen. He had been in Wellsville previously and could not sell the print because the picture was not accurate. Wellsville had grown so much due to the discovery of oil in 1879, that the artist's first sketch had to be reworked. We know that the second sketch met with the town folks approval and enough copies were sold to make the required "publication number". Only one of the original lithographs is known to exist and many copies have been made from this one print. The Sesquicentennial Committee made and used a poster-size copy for the Loan Exhibition at the Library in August, and later donated it to the museum. The "Bird's Eye View" is one of the most frequently referenced items used when researching building locations in Wellsville. We hope that you will stop in and view it yourself.

Happy Holidays Everyone!!!

2007 OFFICERS TRHGS

Jane Pinney, President, Don LaForge, 1st Vice, Diane Converso, 2nd Vice, Judy Hardy, Secretary, Mary Rhodes, Treasurer, Albert Kerton, Trustee 3 Yrs, Dave Pinney, Trustee 3 Yrs, Norm Ives, Trustee 2 Yrs, Hilda Stout, Trustee 2 Yrs, Ann Comstock, Trustee 1 Yr, Jerry Wright Trustee 1 Yr