



Historical Society Newsletter

OFFICERS: President, Joan E. Rowland; Vice President, Robert Roeckle;
Secretary, Patti Veitch; Treasurer, JoAnn Rowland;
TRUSTEES: Ron Deutsch, Ron Feulner, John Greenwood, Mike Gymarthy,
Patty Schwartzbeck, Dan Smith, and Mary Vetter

The Town of Greenfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 502, Greenfield Center, NY 12833

Volume 22, Issue 10



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www.GreenfieldHistoricalSociety.com

Happy 100th Birthday Ruth (Rowland) Hayes on July 7, 2022

CALENDAR

- Fridays, June 17–Sept. 16, Farmers Market, 4 to 7 p.m.**
Middle Grove United Methodist Church Parking Lot,
Information tent, 50/50, old photos, books for sale
- Fridays, July 8–Aug. 26, Chatfield Museum of Local
History Open House, 4 to 6 p.m., Middle Grove**
- July 19–24, Saratoga County Fair – TOGHS Booth in
the Townley Building**
- Saturday, August 6, Summerfest 4 p.m. with 5 bands and
free movie at 8:15 p.m. at Middle Grove Town Park**
- Saturday, August 13, Caboose Day and Car Show,
10 to 3 p.m.** Kings Station, Corner of Route 9N and
Porter Road, Porter Corners. Station and Caboose open
to visitors, Car Show, Crafters; hot dogs, hamburgers,
French fries, water, soda, and baked goods for sale.
- Saturday, September 10, Town Wide Garage Sale,
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.** Carriage House behind Chatfield
Museum of Local History, Middle Grove, selling some
antiques and treasures.
- Tuesday, September 20, 2022 – Meeting at 7 p.m. at the
Community Center in Greenfield Center. Program: TBA**
- Saturday, November 5, TOGHS Gala – The View at
Brookhaven (Golf Course), 333 Alpine Meadows Road,
Porter Corners. \$50 per person. More details to come.**
**Everyone is welcome, admission is free, and
you don't have to be a member to attend.**

Volunteers Needed for Museum Hours

Museum will be open Fridays, July 8 through
August 26 from 4 to 6 p.m. (8 weeks total).
We will need minimum of two volunteers per day
(one upstairs, one down). Please drop us an email at
toghistsoc@gmail.com to sign up for a time slot. Or call
Joan at 518-893-7786 (H). Any questions, feel free to ask.

**Bake Sale items needed for
Caboose Day August 13.
Drop off by 10 a.m.
at the caboose.**

SUMMER NOTES 2022

by Joan E. Rowland, President

July 7 my Aunt, Ruth (Rowland) Hayes will be 100 years old. She told me one day she wants to beat her brother Jarvis who lived to be 102. These are the only two I know from the Rowland family to live this long.

May's meeting brought us three ladies, Patricia Nugent, Sue VanHook, and Barbara Spagth presenting us with their part of the story "Before They Were Our Mother."

When you think of your mother, who was she? Those now days would say, my mom always worked and raised us but in earlier days, like my mom, she would be a stay-at-home mom. Raising us, was always there when we got home from school. Never a babysitter unless her Dr. appointment was running late. Then we would have stayed with Gram upstairs or with Aunt Pearl (McKnight). Sometimes I got off the bus with my cousin Cheryl White on Allen Road if the appointment was a specialist, out of town. But who was she before kids? My mom, Evelyn Young Rowland would have worked at the Shirt Factory in Corinth sewing cuffs or collars on men's shirts. She also worked in Saratoga Springs at the Glove Factory sewing in the thumb in the gloves. (I am not sure which came first.) She got married in 1950 to my dad Myron Rowland. They knew each other for ever. Matter a fact, Mom's brothers were 10 and 12 years old when she was born. They told my dad at school, we have a baby sister, come see her. Myron, age 10 said, we have babies at the house all the time. No big deal to him being second oldest child in a family of 7. So, do we know of love stories, the one that got away, other things she and her girl friends did on a Saturday night? No, we don't know any of these stories. We know only what she wanted us to know.

If you read the book "Before They Were Our Mothers," there are interesting stories of dating (or arranged marriages), working with what we would call not so nice bosses, and much more.

These speakers got you thinking, maybe I should have talked more to my mom during my time with her. If you still have a mom, (or Aunt), talk to them. Find out some interesting info about their lives when they were young, just out of school.

So summer is here, and we have been hard at work setting up some things for your to do. Fridays, come to the Greenfield/Middle Grove Farmers Market from 4-7. JoAnn and I will be at the Historical Society Booth.

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HISTORIAN'S CORNER

Summer 2022 – by Ron Feulner

The Town of Greenfield Historical Society is gearing up for their summer activities. If you are not aware of this organization, they are a hard working group of volunteers whose main objective is to preserve our local history. For a \$10 membership, you receive a monthly newsletter that is filled with stories of our past. They meet on the third Tuesday of every month (except during the summer) at the community center next to town hall at 7 p.m., and all are welcome to attend (you don't have to be a member). However, they are constantly seeking new members, and you can sign up at these meeting if you are so inclined.

I am the Town of Greenfield Historian and have an office in Town Hall. I am separate from the all volunteer historical society but support them and work closely with them. I am in my office one day per week (Wednesday) from 9 until 2 and visitors are always welcome. I also am always looking for volunteers to help with the many sorting and indexing projects that I am involved in. Volunteers come in and work as many or few hours as they like on Wednesdays of their choosing. Computer skills are a plus but not necessary. I try to match volunteers with a project at their skill and interest level and then let them pursue it at their own rate. If you are interested, please call or drop in on a Wednesday or send me an email at RFeulner@greenfieldny.org.

Now back to my history of the Middle Grove area. Middle Grove, just prior to the big fire in the year 1907, had a main street that ran east and west through town. The street was a narrow dirt road and was lined with towering elm trees that the residents had long ago planted. Although automobiles had been invented and were in production, it is unlikely that you would have seen one pass through a small town like Middle Grove. Horses were still more common.

In the center of town was a park like gathering place called "The Grove" which was complete with a grandstand, and Middle Grove even had its own marching band. Two churches offered spiritual and moral guidance, and at the eastern edge of town was a one-room public school situated on Cemetery Hill.

Near the intersection of what is now Middle Grove and Murray Roads (in 1907, they were not called that) sat a cluster of wood framed buildings tightly spaced on the north side of the intersection (where the Stewarts Shop is now located). The western most was a general store housing the post office which was owned and operated by Clifford Cady. Next to it, on the east



Main Street, Middle Grove, N. Y.

Figure 20 – Main Street, Middle Grove, N.Y.

side, was an older two story building which had been, until 1905, used as a general store owned by Moses D. Rowell and more recently by his son, Moses B. Rowell. The so called Rowell Store which had been rented to Cady since 1905 was transferred by deed to him from the Rowell's on May 16, 1907.

This was the setting at the time of the fire which I will talk about next time.

SUMMER NOTES 2022

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The Museum will be open from 4-6 through Aug. 26.

We will have a display at Saratoga County Fair July 19-24.

Aug. 6 is Summerfest (music in the park with 5 bands and a movie at dusk) starts at 4 p.m., free movie 8:15. We have teamed up with the Greenfield Town (providing Movie) and Greenfield Lions Club coming with food for sale. Stop by our Penny Candy Store, buy 50/50 tickets, Popcorn, snack food and much more.

Aug. 13 is Caboose Day – come have the famous french fries, delicious hot dogs and hamburger, cheeseburgers, and new this year Bacon Cheeseburgers. We will have 50/50 tickets, bake sale and of course the car show, and tours of train station and caboose.

Sept. 10 is a Garage Sale at the carriage house of leftover stuff from last year. Come see if anything new was donated for sale.

Sept. 20 will be our regular meeting. Hope to see you at most if not all these events.

Our Newest LIFETIME MEMBERS
Donna Middlebrook and Dan Smith

TOGHS Meeting and Program May 2022



Patricia Nugent



Sue Van Hook

Barbara Spagth

First-Ever Town of Greenfield SUMMERFEST

SAT. 8/6/2022



Join us for a special new event you don't want to miss at Middle Grove Town Park. Fun for all ages!

Music in the park will feature local musicians. Bring your lawn chair or picnic blanket. Stay for a family movie night (on a blanket or from your car).

Fun snacks and candy will be available for sale, and hot food from the Greenfield Lions Club's food truck.

Come support the Greenfield Historical Society.

4-7 P.M. MUSIC

FEATURED LOCAL MUSICIANS:

- HAPPENSTANCE
- ELIZABETH CONANT
- OUT OF REACH
- NEW AMERICAN CUISINE

8:15 P.M./DUSK

FEATURE FILM:

DISNEY'S ENCANTO



Call 518-428-2267 for more information.
Rain date TBD.





12TH ANNUAL CABOOSE DAY AND CAR SHOW AT KING'S STATION

**Saturday, August 13, 2022
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Cars, Trucks, Motorcycles, and Imports Welcome

THE CABOOSE AT KING'S STATION

Corner of Route 9N and Porter Road, Porter Corners, N.Y.

Tour King's Station and the Restored Caboose

Vendors, Bake Sale, Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, French Fries, Soda and Water to benefit The Town of Greenfield Historical Society.

*Rain or Shine. For information, call Tom Clute at 518-580-0655,
or Louise Okoniewski at 518-587-6060.*



**Saratoga Springs High School Class of 1972 Alumni
50th Class Reunion — May 14, 2022**



Town of Greenfield girls that went to the reunion:

Jeanette Cullen Smith, Andrea L'Hommedieu Mann, Margie Orisek
Cornell, Dawn Sherman Baker, Janet Jones, and Karen Cote Irwin.

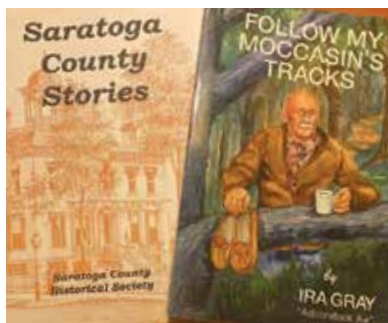
More TOG people that graduated with us were:

JoAnn Rowland	Laurie Gerke Labarge	Robert Taylor
Diane Atwell Wirttemberg	Kathy Labarge Barrows	Bobby Joe Wadsley
Bill Baldwin	Leon LaGalle	Jim White Jr.*
Ralph Barss	David Mihalek	Kenneth White
Gary Blunt	Leanne Mihalek Shaft*	Claudia Wilsey Bright
John Bradley	Cory Norton	Debbie Wood Ross
Pam Capasso Hosier	Floyd (Cliff) Older	Guy Wright
Daryl Chandler	Mark Putnam	Judith Wright
Michelle Cordes Carey	William Shay	*Deceased

Thanks to the refreshment volunteers for May, JoAnn Rowland and Patti Veitch. They served Rhubarb Cake and Cookies. (There will be no Pot Luck Dinner in September, refreshments will be provided.)

Janet Jones, refreshment chairperson

BOOKS FOR SALE AT FARMERS MARKET



We will have both the *Saratoga County Stories* (\$18) and *Follow My Moccasin's Tracks* by Ira Gray (\$16) for sale at the Farmers Market.



CORINTH – Estella E. McLaren, 97, a longtime resident of Corinth, passed away Saturday, June 4, 2022 at Saratoga Hospital following a brief illness.

Born on December 16, 1924 in Greenfield, she was the daughter of the late Franklin Jones and the late Viola Jones Doherty.

Stell graduated from Corinth High School.

She married James McLaren on September 29, 1944 in

Saratoga Springs and the couple resided in Corinth for many years. He passed away April 8, 2002, following 57 years of marriage.

Stell was employed at the Van Raalt Clothing Company in Saratoga Springs for a few years.

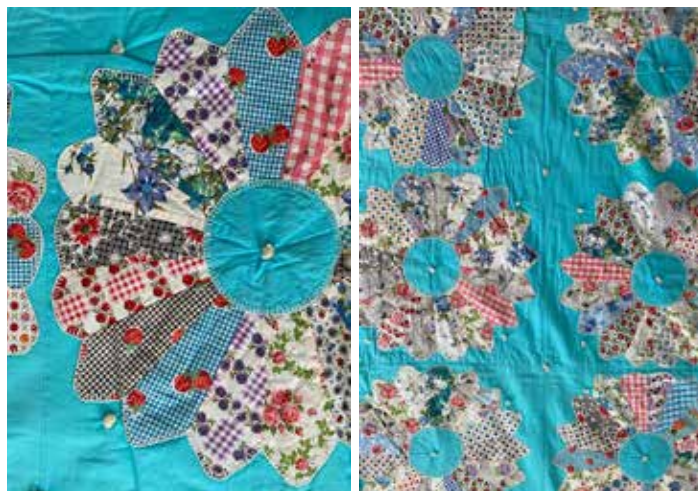
Brookside Dairy Farm Quilt

by Sydney Homicz (Peysner)

I'm inspired to share stories and photos of Brookside Dairy Farm, the same land that I walk today in 2022.

Follow along on Instagram at @hillsandhearths

My great grandmother Grammy (Emily) Hall made this quilt while living at Brookside Dairy in the farmhouse. She was married to my great grandfather Harold, who took over running the farm at age 19 when his father was tragically killed in 1924. This is the third quilt that has been passed down and kept in our family. Handmade quilts carry so much love and provide comfort. I will forever cherish these three quilts that have been passed down in my family for many generations.



Our membership year begins June 1 and ends May 31, dues are paid annually. (\$10 per household or \$100 for Lifetime Membership)

She enjoyed bowling, gardening and especially enjoyed country line dancing.

Besides her husband and her parents, she was also predeceased by her brother and sister-in-law, Earl and Margie Jones; and her step-father, Joseph Doherty.

Survivors include one son, Brent McLaren of Saratoga Springs; one grandson, Christopher McLaren of Saratoga Springs; her nieces and nephews, Harold Jones (Annette), Nancy Homiak, Phillip Jones (Marjorie), Janet Jones (Brian Nicol), Jack McLaren and Janice.

A graveside service was held at 11 a.m., Friday, June 10, 2022, at Corinth Rural Cemetery, Route 9N, Corinth, NY.

The family suggests that in lieu of flowers memorials take the form of donations to the First United Methodist Church, 243 Main Street, Corinth, NY 12822.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Densmore Funeral Home, Inc., 7 Sherman Avenue, Corinth.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL AVAILABLE ONLINE

Become a member of The Town of Greenfield Historical Society and receive our newsletter. **Our membership year begins June 1 and ends May 31, dues are paid annually. Send \$10 per household (or \$100 for Lifetime Membership)** along with your name and address to the address shown below. **If you send more than \$10 for your household, the balance will be considered a donation.** You also may join at one of our meetings. Send this application form and fee to The Town of Greenfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 502, Greenfield Center, NY 12833. Make checks payable to: The Town of Greenfield Historical Society. **YOU CAN PAY YOUR DUES ONLINE AT OUR WEBSITE! www.GreenfieldHistoricalSociety.com.** Email toghistsoc@gmail.com for more information.

Click on “Store,” “Membership” then click either “Annual Membership – Household” or “Lifetime Membership.”

Please Print – Please indicate how many persons 10-years-old or older are in your household). _____ New Renewal

Name _____ I am interested in volunteering.

Address _____

Email _____ Phone number _____

Areas of interest to you _____

To sponsor a newsletter send \$50 along with your name and address and the wording describing whom you would like it dedicated to.

If you know someone whom you think might want to become a member, send us their name and address, and we will send them a copy of our newsletter along with information on how they can join.

Name _____

Address _____

**If you'd like to dedicate and/or sponsor a newsletter, send \$50 to *The Town of Greenfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 502, Greenfield Center, NY 12833*, include your name, address and the wording describing who you would like it dedicated to and/or sponsored by.
Please send articles and/or photos to: JJones18215@roadrunner.com.**

Updating Historic Sites Map in the Town of Greenfield

We invite our membership and readers of this newsletter to share with Dan any historical information about an interesting person, place, structure, or event within our town. Dan reserves the right to proofread and edit submissions, but he will be very happy to add your information to our map. We are always looking for historical information to add to and enhance the map, which we consider to be an ongoing work in progress. Please email Dan Chertok at Dgchertok@gmail.com, call his cell phone (518-321-0330), or text him.



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Historical Society
P.O. Box 502
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