

# Historical Society Newsletter

OFFICERS: President: Ron Feulner; Vice President: Louise Okoniewski;  
Secretary: Patty Schwartzbeck; Treasurer: Alice Feulner;  
Trustees: Coral Crosman, Ron Deutsch, Robert Roeckle, JoAnn Rowland, and Vince Walsh

Janet Jones, Editor  
P.O. Box 502, Greenfield Center, NY 12833

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[www.GreenfieldHistoricalSociety.com](http://www.GreenfieldHistoricalSociety.com)

Check out our new Web site – [www.GreenfieldHistoricalSociety.com](http://www.GreenfieldHistoricalSociety.com)

## Calendar

**September 13, 2009:** Sunday, 1 to 4 p.m., the historical society will hand out information about our organization at the *Meet the Creek* activities at the Town Park in Porter Corners. At 2 p.m. and at 3 p.m., Don Young will talk about the history of Mill Creek. (Townwide Garage Sale Weekend)

**September 15, 2009:** Tuesday, *Bring a Dish to Pass Dinner* at 6 p.m., meeting at 7 p.m., at the Community Center in Greenfield Center.  
*Program: "An Old Time Sing Along," with Jim Smith and Lynn Wochinger providing the music.*

**October 24, 2009:** Saturday, 1 to 4 p.m., *Open House and Harvest Party* at the IOOF Hall in Middle Grove.

**November 17, 2009:** Tuesday, meeting at 7 p.m. at the Community Center in Greenfield Center.  
*Program to follow.*

## IOOF Hall Visitation Hours

The IOOF Hall will be open for visitors from 1 to 3 p.m. on Thursday afternoons through October. Please call ahead to make sure we will be there.

Joyce Woodard – 893-7638 or Ann Michel – 893-7052

**Reminder** that our year of meetings begins in September so everyone's membership renewal is due (unless you have recently paid). We have made it easy to renew your membership (or become a new member) by filling out our membership application contained in this newsletter and mailing it with your dues (if you prefer to keep your newsletter intact, you may copy the necessary information on another sheet and send it). We will also accept memberships at our meetings. The only requirement to become a member is an interest in local history (residency in the town is not required). We hope to have another good year, and we need you as a member to help it happen.

## Ron's Ramblings

I remember when we at the historical society took the summers off. Where did that idea go? We have grown so much in recent years that we don't have that luxury anymore.

We began our summer with a work day on May 30, when Ron Feulner, Joel Reed, Harold Jones, Skip Ballou, Louise Okoniewski, Nancy Homiak, Janet Jones, Katie Finnegan, and Dick Rowland showed up at the IOOF Hall armed with axes, shovels, wheel barrows, and rakes to do some serious lawn making. By the time we left, the rocks were gone, the soil leveled and seeded, and hay was spread on top. A few weeks later what had been a stone pile, looked like a manicured lawn. Sabrina Carter and her friend kept the lawns at both the IOOF Hall and the Daketown School looking great all summer. They mowed both lawns with walk behind mowers, and this summer with the record rainfall that we had, the grass grew unusually fast.

The really big activity this summer has been the farmer's market. It has grown beyond any of our imaginations. Our decision to move the market to the Town Park in Middle Grove was a good one. The parking problems simply evaporated, and we now have the potential for even more growth. Almost every week this summer, we had new vendors requesting permission to join us while the old standbys seemed to still be doing a brisk business. Consumers could find a wide variety of fresh vegetables, meats, and baked goods or simply sit and rest for a while and have a great snack in the Greenfield Kid's Café. Everyone, including the vendors, enjoyed the music provided by either our own Jim Smith and his guitar, or the sweet sounds of *Acoustic Chocolate*, the three-piece band made up of three Corinth teachers who volunteered their time and talents. *Acoustic Chocolate* is the name that Richard Whitaker, Brian Bishop, and Richard Starace have given to their smaller three-piece version of their band. The five-piece band is known as *CTB* (or the *Corinth Teachers Band*). When not playing for free at our farmer's market, they are available for parties and special occasions. For more information and cost contact them at 518-884-4955 or [corpin82@hotmail.com](mailto:corpin82@hotmail.com).

Our historical society had a tent at the market during each of the 10 market days. Volunteers from the historical society who handed out free brochures and signed up new members shared the tent. The following volunteers participated: Skip Ballou, Dan Chertoc, Katie and Pat Finnegan, Holly Charlton, Alice Feulner, Matt and Maureen Cinadr, Earl and Margie Jones, Janet Jones, Nancy Homiak, Joan and Dick Rowland, Patty Schwartzbeck, Harold and Annette Jones, and Lynn Wochinger. We also had local authors who took turns in the tent all summer. Those participating were Joe Bruchac, Mary Sanders Shartle, Bruce Hiscock, Ron Feulner, Mary Cuffe Perez, and Jennifer Sattler.

In addition to the above volunteers, Ann Michel and Joyce Woodard opened the IOOF Hall every Thursday afternoon and one Friday afternoon per month coinciding with the times when the market was occurring. They split their time sorting and displaying our archive collection and welcoming visitors to the historic building. Skip Ballou often dropped in and managed to obtain a quality computer and set it up for us. In between times, he hung photographs on the walls and made some repairs to the shutters on the outside of the building.

The volunteer that really made the market happen this summer is our trustee, Ron Deutsch. When Ron joined our organization a few years ago, he said that he would like to get involved. When we began talking about sponsoring a farmer's market, I remembered Ron's interest and asked him if he would like to be chairperson. He accepted, and I have been thanking my lucky stars ever since. Not only has he tirelessly trucked tents, tables and chairs on a weekly basis, but he has also helped to organize the successful Greenfield Kid's Café and music programs. I have learned a lot about diplomacy by watching Ron in action. Keeping the peace between 25 vendors (many of whom have strong and sometimes diverging opinions about how a farmer's market should be run) is no easy task. I know that he had helpers like Kathy Starace who took over when Ron was on vacation and Dan Chertok who seemed to pop up everywhere he was needed, but Ron, I think, was the primary glue that kept everything together and running smoothly. Ron is not the type of person who seeks recognition, and he is probably squirming in his chair as he reads this, but I felt that I had to give him credit for what he has accomplished. I should also mention his son, Ronnie, who grilled some of the best hot dogs I have ever tasted and helped to make the Kid's Café the success that it was. Of course, there were so many volunteers involved in making this year's market a success that I cannot name them all, but that does not mean that we don't appreciate their efforts. I would be remiss if I didn't say thank you to all the vendors who arrived rain or shine to set up their tents and then cleaned up the space afterwards. Without them the market could not have existed. And finally, thanks to the Town Board for allowing us to use the Middle Grove Town Park every Friday afternoon for the market place.

On Aug. 18 we held a board meeting at the Town Hall. Attending were Ron Feulner, Alice Feulner, Louise Okoniewski, Patty Schwartzbeck, Robert Roeckle, Ron Deutsch, JoAnn Rowland, Coral Crosman, and committee

chairpersons Joyce Woodard, Ann Michel, and Harold Jones. The first item of business to be decided was to have an *Open House and Harvest Party* on Saturday, Oct. 24 from 1 to 4 p.m. this fall at the IOOF Hall instead of our regular October meeting. Some of the farmer's market vendors will be there with their fall harvest along with a historical society tent with grilled food. The second item was to decide to have our December Christmas Party at the Community Center in Greenfield instead of at the IOOF Hall this year. In recent years, we have had heavy snows and cold temperatures to deal with at the IOOF Hall, and we decided it would be a lot easier and warmer at the Community Center. The last item of business dealt with a letter from our insurance company asking us to make repairs on our IOOF property or risk losing our insurance coverage. They wanted the carriage barn siding repaired and secured so that unauthorized persons could not gain entry, and they also wanted the slate roof over the side door of the IOOF Hall repaired. The board accepted a bid from the same company that did the roof work on the carriage barn last year. They had the lower of two bids received. The work will be completed this fall.

On Sept. 13 (from 1 to 4 p.m.), the historical society will have a tent and hand out information about our organization to the public at the *Meet the Creek* activities scheduled at the Town Park in Porter Corners (behind the town garage and firehouse in Porters). *Meet the Creek* is sponsored by the *Friends of the Kayaderosseras Creek* which is a volunteer organization dedicated to protecting the creek and promoting its history. Patty Schwartzbeck, Ann Michel, and Joyce Woodard will be volunteers present representing our society. Ron Deutsch has agreed to bring the table and tent and help set it up. At 2 p.m. and again at 3 p.m., our own Don Young will give talk about the history of Mill Creek. Please stop in and say hello.

And finally a reminder that our September meeting will be preceded at 6 p.m. by a *Bring a Dish to Pass Dinner*. All members and guests are welcome. The business meeting will begin at 7 p.m. Following the meeting, we will have a program (see listing on front page). I hope to see you all there.



Joel Reed, Skip Ballou, Dick Rowland, Nancy Homiak, Louise Okoniewski, Janet Jones, Katie Finnegan, and Harold Jones in the wheel barrow (Photo by Ron Feulner)



*The Farmer's Market*

*(Photos by Ron Feulner)*



*Ron Deutsch and son, Ronnie (Market Café in back)*



*Acoustic Chocolate – Brian Bishop, Richard Whitaker, and Richard Starace – also members of CTB (Corinth Teachers Band)*

### Updating Historic Sites Map in the Town of Greenfield

If you have any information, e-mail Dan Chertok at [BMMSCHERTOK@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BMMSCHERTOK@GMAIL.COM) or [DGCLAWOFFICES@CSDSL.NET](mailto:DGCLAWOFFICES@CSDSL.NET). You may also write or call him at: Dan Chertok, 58 Ormsbee Road, Porter Corners, NY 12859 – 518-893-2268.

April 20, 2009

My name is Mildred Schwartz. I live in Miramar, Florida, formerly of Grange Road, Greenfield Center. I want to thank you for the newsletter you sent me.

I have many ties and fond memories of Greenfield Center. I came to Greenfield in 1946 when I married my husband, Nicholas Schwartz. We lived on Rt. 9N, the first house my husband built. It was next door to Jack Kaptula's home and barber shop. On Fridays, cars were lined up as the gentlemen got their haircuts for the weekend.

A few years later, we moved into the second house my husband built next door to Greenfield Grange. All four of my children went to the Greenfield School.

In 1966, we moved to Florida due to my husband's health. I still try and go north every summer as my daughter, Diana Gentile, who was for years the postmaster, lives. My grandson and great-grandchildren go to the same school my children went to.

My husband served for five years in World War II and my son served in Vietnam. My husband served on the Greenfield School Board and has a plaque in the school dedicated to him.

So I have many reasons to remember Greenfield Center. I enjoyed the stories of Jim Smith. I was in the same math class as Jim and we both have memories of Mr. O'Brien. Once again, thank you for my bulletin. Have a good summer.

*Mildred Schwartz*

**Letter to the Editor:**

In response to *Flames of History* by Louise Okoniewski which appeared in the May 09 newsletter.

Technical Information regarding the 1972 Ford Pumper:

Chassis: Ford C cab

Pump: Hale 2 stage midship (not front mount)

Manufacturer: Maxim

Rating: 1,000 gallon per minute in volume mode. The same pump equipped with five two-and-one-half-inch discharge valves would be able to carry a 1,250 GPM rating; only if it came with six-inch diameter suction inlets and the engine could supply the additional horsepower required.

Maxim built the pumper with four 2 1/2" discharge valves and five-inch suction inlets. Over the years, we added additional suction and discharge valves. So modified, old 282 was able to pump above its 1,000 GPM factory rating from draft using one 5" diameter suction line and two 2 1/2" diameter suction lines.

I thank Louise for a fine article.

*Michael LaGalles, Middle Grove*

*I'd like to thank May's refreshment volunteers: Alice Feulner and Patty Schwartzbeck. They served cheese, nuts, coffee cake; pound cake and cookies. (Thanks to Lynn Wochinger for bringing the peanut butter cookies also.)*

*At our September meeting, we'll have a pot-luck dinner. Please "Bring a Dish to Pass" and your own place setting.*

*Janet Jones, Refreshment Chairperson*

## Membership Application/Renewal

Become a member of the Town of Greenfield Historical Society and receive our newsletter. Send \$10 along with your name and address to the address shown below. If you send more it will be considered a donation. Other types of memberships are also available (lifetime, corporate, etc.), just call and ask (518 893-0620). Our membership year begins in September, and dues are paid annually. You may also join at one of our meetings.

Send this application form and fee to Town of Greenfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 502, Greenfield Center, NY 12833. Make checks payable to: Town of Greenfield Historical Society.

Please indicate how many persons 10-years-old or older are in your household). \_\_\_\_\_

***Please Print***

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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 the newsletter 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 free copy of our newsletter along with information on how they can join.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

We need articles for the 2009-10 year. If you would like to write an article for the newsletter, send it to: Town of Greenfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 502, Greenfield Center, NY 12833 or if you type it using Microsoft Word, e-mail it to: [aliron@localnet.com](mailto:aliron@localnet.com).

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