



Historical Society Newsletter

OFFICERS: President, Joan E Rowland; Vice President, Robert Roeckle;

Secretary, Patti Veitch; Treasurer, JoAnn Rowland

TRUSTEES: Ron Deutsch, John Greenwood, Patty Schwartzbeck,
Dan Smith, Mary Vetter, and Karl Zeh

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

Volume 24, Issue 8



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email toghistsoc@gmail.com
www.GreenfieldHistoricalSociety.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, April 16 — Meeting 7 p.m. at the Greenfield Community Center. **Program: Ice Harvesting** hosted by Tom Ragosta, president of the Watervliet Historical Society and Watervliet City Historian. The program will include a brief history of ice harvesting during the late 19th and early 20th centuries as well as the process used in storing natural ice. The program will include a display of various artifacts used in the ice harvesting process.

Tuesday, May 21 — Meeting 7 p.m. at the Community Center, Greenfield Center. **Program:** This meeting is dedicated to and in memory of **Ron and Alice Feulner**, please come and share stories, memories, and photos.

Saturday, June 8 — **Daketown School #8 Open House**, 10 AM to 2 PM. Stop by with the family to spend a few minutes walking through an important piece of Greenfield history: the one-room Daketown Schoolhouse, that dates back to late 1800s. It's located at Old Daketown Road in Middle Grove. Historians will be on-site and you can view some original relics inside. Daketown Schoolhouse was the last one-room schoolhouse to close when the schools consolidated in 1956.

Fridays, July 12 to August 30 — **Chatfield Museum Open House**, 4 to 6 PM, Middle Grove

Saturday, July 13 — **Car Show & Music in the Park, Middle Grove Town Park**, Cars: 10 AM to 3 PM;
Music: 11 AM to 3 PM (\$10 to enter a car for show)

Saturday, August 10 — **Caboose Day, Kings Station, Greenfield Center**, 10 AM to 3 PM.

Everyone is welcome, admission is free, and you don't have to be a member to attend.

April refreshment volunteers are Paula Shappy and Robert Roeckel. March volunteers, Patti Veitch and John Greenwood, served Chocolate Chip Cookies and Stewart's Ice Cream.

Joan's Jabbering — April 2024 by Joan E Rowland, President

As many of you know, I am a quilter. Just love to design quilts, mix colors that many would say – no way will those colors go together. Some are correct but others are amazed at the new look it gave the pattern. I try to go to a couple quilt retreats each year. The one to Jim Bo's on Brant Lake, NY, was March 21 to 24. Beautiful sunny days on Thursday and Friday but Friday during the night it happened. Snow. Snow from wee early in morning until 4 PM on Saturday, maybe longer. More than 8" when I left the cabin for breakfast at 8 AM. More than 10" at lunch time. When we went back to the cabin at 10 PM, snow has stopped but was over 12". When I came home Sunday at noon, I got to shovel the 16 inches left here but neighbor says we had 20 inches. Must be it has settled. My dog says she is not going to go out there to do her business. She picks by the house where snow is not.

If you missed the last meeting with Bob and Sue Wemple and the Trevett & Sons Chair Factory, you missed a lot. Bob had a truckload of different chairs but when he showed one of the photos of the horse drawn wagon filled with rocking chairs, everyone gasped. The salesman would take his wife and child on the road to sell the chairs. Many were sold to hotels north of us. Bob did point out the rocking chairs on the hotel porch in Middle Grove and Lake Desolation as being Trevett chairs. Bob also showed us where other factories were in Providence, Gloversville, Broadalbin. Thanks, John Greenwood, for finding this program.

I was saddened to learn of another member's passing, James Wimet from Middle Grove. He was well known for the back yard of many perennial gardens. He would tell me it was his wife Sandy's but I think he helped and enjoyed his time in the gardens. He had volunteered many hours in the museum with Ron Feulner when Jim first retired. You may have seen him at Stewart's with the morning coffee guys.

Upcoming events:

- April's meeting, **Tuesday, April 19** at 7 PM will be Ice Harvesting (postponed from January). My Grandfather

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

Young used to harvest ice and sell it here in Porter Corners. I believe my Grandfather Rowland did as well, since there was an ice house on the land. Looking forward to hearing this program.

- Reminder of Ron Feulner's Memorial Luncheon is **Saturday, April 13**, at Brookhaven at The View from 11 AM to 1 PM. All that knew him, are invited.
- **Sunday, April 21** from 10 AM until noon, we will be celebrating Earth Day by cleaning the yard and museum. Picking up sticks, stones, putting the yard back in place and vacuuming, dusting, and putting the Christmas decorations away inside the museum. Please come and help with the clean-up.
- **Sunday, April 28** at 11 AM. The sign "Patriot Burials, Ormsbee Cemetery" for the Revolutionary War Veterans will be dedicated. This is located just past 299 Ormsbee Road, Porter Corners, NY. (Mark Young's home). County historian, state, county, and local representatives will be there for the official unveiling of the sign. You will also be able to walk to the cemetery where Ambrose Cole and Isaac Ormsbee are buried. There will actually be 3 signs dedicated that day in Saratoga County.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW HISTORIAN



I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Town of Greenfield Historian. My name is Duane Cornell and I am a 5th generation resident of the town. My family began farming a 50 acre tract of land on Stone Church Road some time in the late 1800s. I lived in that house until I was about 8 years old, which is where I became interested in history and my

love of old houses began. I attended Greenfield elementary school and graduated from Saratoga High in 1981. After graduation I worked at various jobs in the area and recently retired from a 27 year career at Curtis Lumber. I have always been interested in the rich history this area offers and am excited to have this opportunity to learn and share it with the people of Greenfield. The passion for keeping the history of Greenfield alive that has been the foundation of the Historical Society and the support of the Historian's office is a partnership I hope to continue. I Look forward to meeting and working with you in the future.

Cutting The Cord

by John R. Greenwood

Dad, I apologize, but I had to do it; it was time. I sure hope you're looking down right now and nodding your head in agreement. I finally retired your favorite heavy-duty lead cord that you used for work. My first recollection of it as a kid was seeing it coiled up and lying on top of your toolbox in the back of our old International Scout. That yellow lead logged many miles and showed up ready for work at hundreds of job sites all over the Capital District and beyond. I'll bet it even rode with you to the top of Gore Mountain when installing those giant windows in the ski lodge. That lead and your electric drill helped put food on the table and a roof over our heads long before battery-powered tools were invented.



I remember the day you passed it on to me. We cleaned out your workshop just before you and Mom moved into the senior apartments. While mom was whittling down her collection of Farberware, you were thinning down your lifetime collection of hand tools and hardware. I went on to use that lead for years. One day, I decided to add a four-foot fluorescent shop light above a dark corner in the basement. The only outlet was several feet away, so I enlisted your fifty-foot lead as a temporary fix, hung it on the floor joists, and then wrapped the excess around a couple of 16-penny nails. That part-time assignment lasted twenty years until the other day when I finally installed a junction box and ran fifteen feet of wire to a new LED shop light.

Your old work partner was tired and brittle. He served us both well. I never took that fifty feet of yellow for granted. Whenever I looked at that thing hanging there, I thought of the care you took with your tools. That lead represented your thirty years as a union glazier split between Arrow Glass in Schenectady and Spa Glass in Saratoga Springs. How proud you were that in all those years working with storefront-size glass, no one working with you was ever hurt. With that thought in mind, I knew the right thing to do was retire that old lead before something terrible happened.

I pulled the lead from the scrap bin the next day and cut off the two ends. I plugged them together and stapled them to a post in my workshop. They are a constant reminder of your work ethic and the pride you put into every job you ever did. Your calloused and scarred hands were a testament to the wear and tear it takes to make a blue-collar living. I'm forever grateful that you passed those traits on to me. I do my best anyway.

Dad, I'll end this piece with something that makes me smile and think of you several times a week. Whenever you and I were doing something together, and a jackknife was the tool of choice, you would look at me with that raised eyebrow, tilted head look a father gives his son when he's sure he already knows the answer.

"Do you have a jackknife on you?"

"Is it sharp?"

The answer was seldom yes and yes.

I sure do miss those days ...

Not a day goes by where my father's presence doesn't tap my shoulder.

TOGHS Program

“The Trevett & Sons Chair Factory”

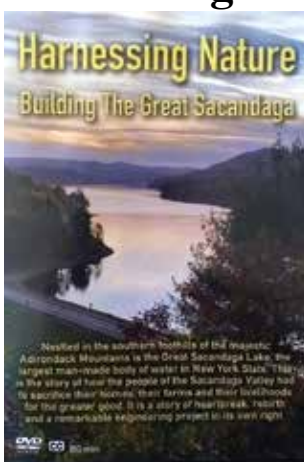
March 19, 2024

The Town of Greenfield Historical Society would like to thank Bob and Sue Wemple for their *Trevett & Sons Chair Factory Presentation* last evening. Their collection of chairs and the depth of their research was as interesting as it was informative. The couple’s passion for local history is admirable and an asset to the communities around them. Please take the time this spring and summer to visit their antique/museum at Antiques At Packer’s Pond, 7206 Barkersville Road, Middle Grove. They are open from 11 AM to 4 PM, Saturdays and Sundays.



“Harnessing Nature: Building the Great Sacandaga”

This DVD is an 80-minute documentary telling the story of how the people of the Sacandaga Valley had to sacrifice their homes, their farms and their livelihoods for the greater good. It is a story of heart-break, rebirth and a remarkable engineering project in its own right. This is the story of how the Great Sacandaga Lake, the largest man-made body of water in New York state, was made.



DVDs are available for \$20 at the Greenfield Town Hall, or by contacting the Historical Society at P.O. Box 502, Greenfield Center, NY 12833. (Please add \$3 if you want one mailed.)

Books for Sale



We have three books for sale: *Saratoga County Stories* (\$18), *More Saratoga County Stories* (\$20), and *Follow My Moccasin's Tracks* by Ira Gray (\$15.95).

Pick your copy up at the next meeting or order from the Town of Greenfield Historical Society, PO Box 502, Greenfield Center, NY 12833, with an additional \$3.50 postage and handling.

Recipes

Peach Cake *quick cooking*
 3/4 cup cold BUTTER or marg
 1 pkg yellow cake mix
 2 egg yolks
 2 cups (16oz) sour cream
 1 can sliced (29oz) peaches (drained)
 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
 1 carton (8oz) frozen whipped top
 Thawed

Cut butter into 1/2" cubes until resembles coarse crumbs.
 Put in greased 13x9 Baking Pan.
 In another bowl heat egg yolks, add SCREAM mix well. Set aside 6-8 Peach slices for garnish.
 Cut remaining peaches into 1/2" pieces.
 Stir into sour cream mixture. Spread over crust. Sprinkle with cinnamon. Bake 350° 25-30 min. -until edge begins to brown.
 Cool on rack. Top whipped top -greenish peach. Refrigerate 12 servings.

Taken from “Potter Family Picture Cookbook”

Tomato Juice, Like V8

Jim White

1 bushel tomatoes, 3 bunches celery, 4 green peppers, 6 onions, Salt to taste – Cook until mushy, put through sieve. Put back on stove and get hot. Pour in jars and seal.

Taken from “Porter Corners Auxiliary Country Cooking 1982”



MIDDLE GROVE, NY – **James R. Wimet (Jim)** died peacefully at his home surrounded by his immediate family on Friday, March 15, 2024, at the age of 77. He was a loving husband and wonderful dad to his two daughters.

Born on August 22, 1946, in Saratoga Springs, Jim was the son of the late Wilfred Wimet. He was a Vietnam Era War Veteran in the U.S. Army with an honorable discharge and received the National Defense Service Medal.

Jim graduated from Mechanicville High School and went on to work for Dehn's Florist. After the Army, he received an Associate Degree in Accounting from HVCC and then furthered his education at the University of Albany, SUNY and received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting. He was a member of the Association of Government Accountants and retired as a Director in the Division of Child Support Enforcement for the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance.

Jim enjoyed fishing, hunting, and gardening. He was an avid gardener with his wife Sandy and after retirement they traveled out west visiting several botanical gardens. Jim loved being outside and puttering around the yard. Jim would always say, "Sandy designed the gardens, and my job was to dig the holes, but I would always leave the weeding to Sandy." He made several birdhouses to add to their lovely gardens for the Soroptimist and other garden

tours. He also volunteered as a groundskeeper and created the three sisters garden with Sandy at the Brookside Museum in Ballston Spa.

Jim and Sandy visited many private gardens as members of the American Hosta Society, Tri State Hosta Society in New Jersey, Upstate NY Hosta Society, and the Capital Hudson Iris Society. Jim was also a member of the Town of Greenfield Historical Society. He was passionate about his community and an advocate against solar farms in residential communities in Greenfield Center.

Jim is predeceased by his sisters, Carole Hawthorne and Jeanne Monroe and his brother George Wimet.

Jim is survived by his beloved wife of 51 years, Sandra Wimet; children, Michele McCluskey (Doug) of Greenfield Center and Traci Coleman (John) of Saratoga Springs; and grandchildren, Riley McCluskey, Connor McCluskey and Emma Coleman. He is also survived by his sister, Mary (Dunham) Walters of North Carolina; close nephews Harry Monroe (June) of Tennessee and Richard Hawthorne (Janine) of Saratoga Springs; many nieces and nephews; and close friends, John Mulligan and Jon Foster.

The family would like to thank The Community Hospice of Saratoga for their help in caring for Jim.

Services will be private at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the *Tunnel To Towers Foundation (T2T.org)*, 2361 Hylan Blvd., Staten Island, NY 10306.

Online remembrances may be made at www.burkefuneralhome.com

Town of Greenfield Historical Society Daketown School #8 Open House

Saturday, June 8, 2024

10 AM to 2 PM

24 Old Daketown Road, Middle Grove, NY

Free Admission

Donations are greatly appreciated as they help us
"Keep Greenfield's History Alive for Our Future Generations!"

Rain or Shine





Town of Greenfield Historical Society
CAR SHOW AND
LIVE MUSIC IN THE PARK
MIDDLE GROVE TOWN PARK
 428 Middle Grove Road

Saturday, July 13, 2024

Cars: 10 AM to 3 PM – Music: 11 AM to 3 PM

Car Show Registration: \$10, Top 15 Trophies announced at 2:30 PM

Vendors, Food and Drinks available for purchase

*Rain or Shine. Free Public Admission. For information, call
 Car Show, Tom Clute – 518-580-0655 or Music, Patti Veitch – 518-428-9343*

Town of Greenfield Historical Society
CABOOSE DAY AT KINGS STATION

Saturday, August 10, 2024 – 10 AM to 3 PM



Tour Kings Station and Caboose
 4000 State Highway 9N, Greenfield Center, NY 12833
 (Corner of Route 9N and Porter Road)

Vendors, Bake Sale, T-shirts, Food and Drinks available for purchase

*Train rides from Saratoga Corinth & Hudson Railway,
 9 Railroad Place, Corinth to Kings Station and Special
 “Greenfield Flyer” from King’s Station to LaMothe Landing.
 Book your ride now at CorinthTrain.com*

Trolley will bring you to Kings Station and back to train.

*Rain or Shine. For information, call
 Louise Okoniewski at 518-796-4066*



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.

T-Shirts for Sale

Our T-shirts are still available for purchase. Front has a left chest logo. Back of shirt has a Caboose Day advertisement which was designed by Conductor Carey Ward of the Saratoga Corinth & Hudson Railway. Shirts are available for purchase for \$20 each. Sizes still available are Small, Medium, Large, X Large and a limited supply of 2X Large shirts. If you need to have your shirt mailed to you, please send a check to our PO Box 502, Greenfield Center NY 12833. Please indicate size and include an additional \$8 for postage and handling. \$28 total.

RECYCLE BOX GREENFIELD LIONS CLUB

The Greenfield Lions Club has a recycle box in the entry way of the Town's Community Center. (Box is on right between entry doors).

What can you leave in this box? All things plastic. Store plastic bags, ice bags (dried), reclosable bags, cereal box liners, bread bags, newspaper sleeves, dry cleaning bags, bubble wrap, and plastic e-commerce mailers. All items must be clean and dry.

Later we will see a bench made from the recycled plastics.



The Town of Greenfield
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