



Historical Society Newsletter

OFFICERS: President, Mary Vetter; Vice President, Joan Rowland;
Secretary, Patty Schwartzbeck; Treasurer, JoAnn Rowland;
TRUSTEES: Dan Chertok, Ron Deutsch, Ron Feulner, Katie Finnegan,
Louise Okoniewski, Jane Potter and Robert Roeckle

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

Volume 20, Issue 1



501(c)(3)

email toghistsoc@gmail.com

www.GreenfieldHistoricalSociety.com

CALENDAR

Sept. 13 – Fridays, FARMERS MARKET, 4-7 p.m.,
Middle Grove Town Park • **Sept. 13 – Chili Cookoff**
THE CHATFIELD MUSEUM OF LOCAL HISTORY will be open
4-6 p.m., IOOF Hall, Middle Grove.

Sept. 17 – Tuesday, POT LUCK DINNER at the Community
Center in Greenfield. **Dinner starts at 5:30 p.m.** Bring a
dish to pass and your own place setting, meeting at 7 p.m.
Program: Lawrence Dudley, his book is called *New York
Station*. This is a spy thriller set in the 1940s. It has a local
connection – the Saratoga racing meet figures into the story.

Oct. 15 – Tuesday, meeting 7 p.m. at the Community Center
in Greenfield. **Program:** Come meet owners **Dave and
Diane Allen** from *Lavencraig Farm* – the lavender farm in
Fort Ann, NY. They will talk about the history of the Farm
including the 1807 Schoolhouse, the 1820 stone farmhouse
and introducing lavender as a crop to this already beautiful
place. Come with questions or just to enjoy an evening of
stories and lavender. Farm grown lavender products will be
available for purchase.

**DATE CHANGED – Oct. 19 – Saturday, HISTORICAL
SOCIETY GALA, The Full Course Restaurant at
Brookhaven Golf Course.** More information to follow.

Nov. 19 – Tuesday, meeting 7 p.m. at the Community Center in
Greenfield. **Program: Joseph Zarzynski**, who spoke at our
January 2015 meeting, will talk about his new book – *The
Tale of the Disembodied 1757 Fort William Henry Shipwreck*.

Everyone is welcome, admission is free, you don't have to be a
member to attend, and refreshments are served after all programs.

DUES ARE DUE STARTING JUNE 1

Our membership year begins **June 1 and ends May 31**; dues
are paid annually. Dues will be collected at any meeting; you can
pay online at www.GreenfieldHistoricalSociety.com or they can
be mailed to The Town of Greenfield Historical Society, P.O. Box
502, Greenfield Center, NY 12833. Make check payable to: The
Town of Greenfield Historical Society. Send \$10 per household
(or \$100 for Lifetime Membership) along with your name and
address. If you pay more than \$10, the balance will be considered
a donation. Members whose dues are in arrears at the end of
September, will be dropped from the mailing list.

*For the September Potluck Dinner at 5:30 p.m.,
please bring a dish to pass and your own place setting.*

Janet Jones, Refreshment Chairperson

SEPTEMBER NOTES

by Mary Vetter

I hope everyone had a lovely summer. While mine was quiet,
I thoroughly enjoyed Caboose Day. The weather cooperated and
as usual Louise and her associates did a wonderful job. The cars,
the vendors, and the food always make for a wonderful day.

With the end of summer comes a resumption of our meetings.
As usual our September meeting will be a potluck dinner that
starts at 5:30 p.m. Bring a dish to share and your own place
setting for your meal. We will have a short business meeting
followed by a presentation. Katie Finnegan has arranged for
author Lawrence Dudley. His spy thriller, with a local connection,
has received good reviews. It is set during World War II. I have
inherited a love of spy stories from my dad, so I look forward to
this presentation.

Enjoy the last few weeks of the summer. Soak up sunshine
and good times with family and friends. Happy Labor Day to
one and all!

A BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

by Louise Okoniewski

What a beautiful day for a 100th birthday celebration. Oct. 10,
2019, marked the 100th birthday of our Caboose at King's
Station. It was in the late 1980s when the Town purchased
the 1919 caboose from D&H (Delaware and Hudson) railway
for \$1.00. In the 1990s, Jayne E. Lynch who was the Town
Historian, fought to revitalize and rebuild the station house next
to the newly acquired Caboose and with the help from the Town
of Greenfield and many volunteers they accomplished that. In
December 2006 there was a tragic accident at the Caboose. It
has been 10 years since members of the Town of Greenfield
Historical Society and community volunteers finished restoring
the damaged Caboose and spruced up King's Station. What
was to be a onetime event to show off the renovation has
been a 10 year celebration. Many of the people who helped
restore the Caboose and organize Caboose Day in 2009 are still
organizing it today – we even have a couple who have been a
part of King's Station since the first arrival of the well-used and
forgotten Caboose. Each year the event seems to attract more
people who are interested in history. It amazes me to see how
school age children are interested in railroad history. Stan Weeks
and Tony Bucca tirelessly tell the story of how the Caboose
served as living quarters for train personal as they moved from
town to town. They are amazed at the questions that the young

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

people ask and the interest they have. The Station house tells the story of the area with pictures and artifacts. Unfortunately, Mary Vetter (TOGHS president) was recovering from knee surgery and was unable to give her wonderful presentation, but Tony worked his way from the Caboose to the Station to help. The Station, which once sat back on the hill from where it is today, had three sets of rails beside it. It was moved to the current location around 1933 as the state was working on alignment of the new state road.

At the first Caboose Day in 2009, we had nine car guys show up with antique cars to add a different flair of history. This year, we had over 30 cars and trucks of all makes and models come to the celebration. Tom Clute (1950 Chevy Pickup) and Tom Sadlon (1921 Ford Model T) have been bringing their same vehicles since the first Caboose Day. All of the car registrants are mailed a certificate for participating in the event. The car guys and girls enjoy looking at the other cars and answering questions from the many people who took time out to stop by and enjoy these classic cars. This year the People's Choice award was won by Ryan and Lex Christopher with their 1967 Kaiser Jeep M715.

The early morning saw tents pop up, event workers setting up their areas, vendors arriving, and tables set up. Before long, the parking lot was full of many spectators going between the Caboose, having pictures taken on the Caboose, old cars, vendors, enjoying our bake sale, history booth, hamburgers, hot dogs and Mike's homemade French fries. The biggest surprise was a special visit by Assemblywoman Mary Beth Walsh who presented me with a Certificate of Recognition for the Town of Greenfield Historical Society's dedication to preserving history at the Caboose. Stan Weeks, Tony Bucca and I accepted this honor on behalf of the Town of Greenfield Historical Society. Mary Beth visited all the vendors and being a history buff herself, enjoyed the tour of the Caboose and Station. Thank you Assemblywoman Mary Beth Walsh for recognizing the efforts taken in this restoration project.

I'd also like to thank Stewart's Shops for 10 years of donating ice cream coupons that we pass out to the kids and for the ice cream that we gave out to everyone who stopped by the Historical Booth; Robert Roxbury and Greenfield Fire Police for helping with traffic control; Tom Clute who tirelessly works putting out flyers and organizes the car guys and girls; the bakers and jam makers who make the bake sale successful; Robert Roeckle our grill master; Mike Gymarthy and son, Jordan, our Fry Guys; Joyce Woodard, Jane Potter and Joan Rowland who sat at the bake sale and historical society booth; JoAnn Rowland financial control; Dan Chertok our ice cream scooper; Ron Deutsch the runner/floater; Bobby Madison Caboose photographer; Tom Merrills and Dennis Downen; the Town of Greenfield for their support; Tina Pethick of the Full Course Restaurant at Brookhaven for the delicious coffee; and Karen Downen, Rebecca Sewell, Janet Jones and Tony Bucca our wandering photographers. Stan Weeks, Tony Bucca and Ed Woodard who take care of our Caboose and of course all those who make it a point to stop by and spend part of their day with us. See you Aug. 8, 2020.

**Stewart's
Shops**

Some of the
Stewart's Shops
Gift Certificate
Recipients



HISTORIAN'S CORNER

by Ron Feulner

This month, I shall continue with the history of Baptist churches in the Town of Greenfield. The second Baptist Church of Greenfield was formed in the vicinity of Daketown in 1794, with Charles Deake (Dake) as one of its prominent members. This church disbanded in 1822, and I can find no evidence of the congregation ever having built a meeting house. My guess is that they met in individual homes.

Another nearby group apparently took the name, Second Baptist Church, and during the years 1836-1837, built an 18'x32' church meeting house on the south side of Ballou Road between Ormsbee and Miner Roads. (There is still a small cemetery near the site.) This church was disbanded in 1856 when its members combined with the First Baptist Church of Greenfield. (There is a local story that suggests that a disgruntled member of the Ballou Road church burned this church building to the ground.)

There was also a third Baptist Church of Greenfield, but we have no records. They were apparently lost.

In 1846, an outgrowth of the Baptist Stone Church (this church is still active on Stone Church Road in the Town of Milton) was formed in Jamesville (later known as Middle Grove) in the Town of Greenfield. We are fortunate to have the early minutes of this church (from its inception in 1846 until 1848) in our possession at the historian's office in Greenfield Center (In last month's article, I included the story of a member of this church being accused of inappropriate behavior).

This Jamesville Baptist congregation erected a 36'x50' wood frame building in 1838-1839, which had a seating capacity of about 250 people. The church building was located just east and adjacent to the IOOF Hall in Middle Grove. (It occupied the vacant lot adjacent to the IOOF building which is now used as a parking lot by the historical society.)

Clayton Brown (in 1973) wrote a brief history of this church, which includes the old stone church in Milton. I will summarize.

In about 1785, several Baptist settlers in Stillwater, NY, resettled to the area near what is now the intersection of NY Route 29 and Stone Church Road in the Town of Milton. These settlers, upon their arrival, started a new Baptist Church, and in 1801, built a wood frame church. This building was followed by a stone church built in 1826 (which is still standing and has an active congregation).

These early settlers had very little in the way of health care, and for that manner, very little was actually known about the cause of sickness and disease. In 1832, when the countryside was swept with an outbreak of cholera, the Baptist interpreted it as punishment for sin, and to counteract it, they set aside July 12, 1832, as a day of fasting and prayer.

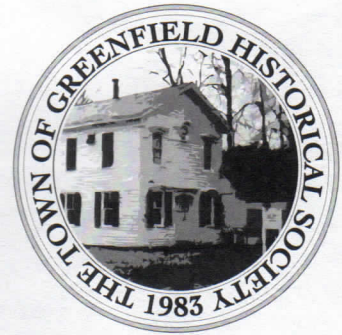
Next month I will discuss how members of this Stone Church in the Town of Milton broke away to form the Jamesville (Middle Grove) Baptist Church.

At Caboose Day, Assemblywoman Mary Beth Walsh presented Stan Weeks, Louise Okoniewski and Tony Bucca with a Certificate of Recognition for the Town of Greenfield Historical Society's dedication to preserving history.



You are cordially invited to attend
The Town of Greenfield Historical Society
Annual Gala

Saturday, October 19, 2019
5:30 to 9 in the evening



at

The Full Course Restaurant at
Brookhaven Golf Course
333 Alpine Meadows Road, Porter Corners, New York

**Buffet With Cash Bar, Raffles, Door Prizes,
Silent Auction, Historic Displays**

Ticket Price: \$35 individual / \$65 per couple

R.S.V.P. by October 5 to Ron Deutsch at
518-469-6769, mkd67@aol.com or at our website
www.GreenfieldHistoricalSociety.com

Make checks payable to The Town of Greenfield Historical Society

All proceeds benefit The Town of Greenfield Historical Society

Tenth Caboose Day and Car Show at King's Station – August 10, 2019



Dan Chertok & Joyce Woodard



Jane Potter



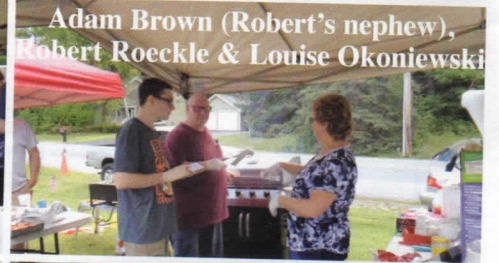
JoAnn Rowland



Joan Rowland



The Cafe



Adam Brown (Robert's nephew), Robert Roeckle & Louise Okoniewski



Ron Deutsch



Bobby Madison, Caboose photographer



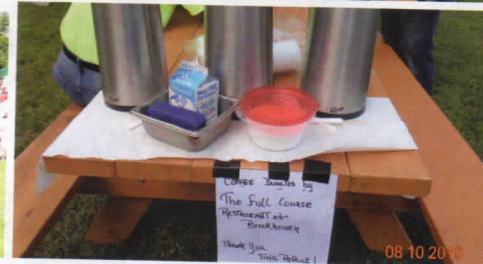
Ron Feulner & Greenfield Fire Chief Jay Ellsworth



Mike, Suzanne & Orion Rowland, Karen Downen, Elizabeth & Rosalie Rowland



08 10 2019



COFFEE Sponsered by The Full Course Restaurant and Brewery Thank You - THE FULL COURSE

08 10 2019



08 10 2019



08 10 2019



08 10 2019

Tenth Caboose Day and Car Show at King's Station *continued*

2019 Car Show Participants

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| 1. Donald Giglio, 1950 Dodge B2B Pick Up | 12. Joe Rapant, 1940 Packard Coupe | 24. Traci Companion, 1968 Dodge Charger |
| 2. Doc, 1939 Chevy Panel | 13. Peter Piper, 1949 Mercury Custom Coupe | 25. Joe Knizek, 1979 Chevy El Camino |
| 3. Thomas Merrills, 1993 Baby Benz | 14. Fred Maynard, 1984 Ford Mustang | PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD: |
| 4. Wayne Pearce, 1960 Ford Starliner | 15. Ted & Judy Wilming, 1988 AMC Eagle Station Wagon | 26. Ryan & Lex Christopher, 1967 Jeep M715 |
| 5. John M. Potter, 1966 Ford | 16. S. Malatasta, 1958 Apache | 27. Kevin Potter, 1967 Chevy Camaro |
| 6. Frank Lyons, 1932 Plymouth P13 | 17. Sean & Lisa Malatesta, 1975 Toyota FJ40 | 28. Cody Girard, 1982 Chevy S10 |
| 7. Jerry Wawrzyniak, 1978 Lincoln Town Car | 18. Richard Bishop, 1970 Opel GT | 29. Bill & Jenny Massaro, 1968 Chevy Camaro RS/SS |
| 8. Kake & Nate Garrant, 1978 Firebird | 19. Gary Gibbins, 1981 Chevy C10 | 30. Michael Richardson, 1976 Ford F100 |
| 9. Jim Major, 1963 Studebaker Avanti | 20. Stan Zeh, 1965 Oldsmobile Cutlass F85 | 31. Bill Marzano, 1971 Pontiac LeMans |
| 10. Tom Sadlon, 1921 Ford Model T | 21. Charles Lemma, 1948 Ford F1 | 32. Jim Plummer, 1937 Chevy Pick Up (sorry, no photo) |
| 11. Al Haenel, 1967 Ford Fairlane | 22. Mike Hosier, 2000 Toyota LC | Tom Clute, 1950 GMC Pickup, <i>Host</i> |
| | 23. Steve Companion, 1971 Z-28 Camaro | |



Stewart's Shops donated ice cream & gift certificates.
 The Full Course Restaurant at Brookhaven
 donated coffee.



People's
 Choice
 Award

**People and Places That Donated Items for
 the Bake Sale, Cafe and Give-a-Ways**

Dan Chertok	Joyce Woodard
Ron Deutsch	Stewart's Shops
Katie Finnegan	Full Course Restaurant
Mike Gymarthy	Vendors
Mary Ann Johnson	Judy Cleveland
Jane Potter	Karen Gibbins
Louise Okoniewski	Lorey Wilkins
Robert Roackle	Mary Ann &
Joan Rowland	Van Johnson



We're back!

GREENFIELD FARMERS MARKET

Middle Grove Park (Middle Grove Road)

Every Friday, 4 to 7 p.m.

June 21 to September 13, 2019

- Locally grown vegetables and plants
- Locally made baked goods
- Plenty of parking, bathrooms and places for the kids to play while you shop and hang out with your neighbors
- Locally made crafts
- Live Music
- Local maple syrup, honey, pesto, eggs, mushrooms, jams, spices and more
- Chili Cookoff – Sept. 13



*Sponsored by The Town of Greenfield Historical Society
Supported by the Town of Greenfield*

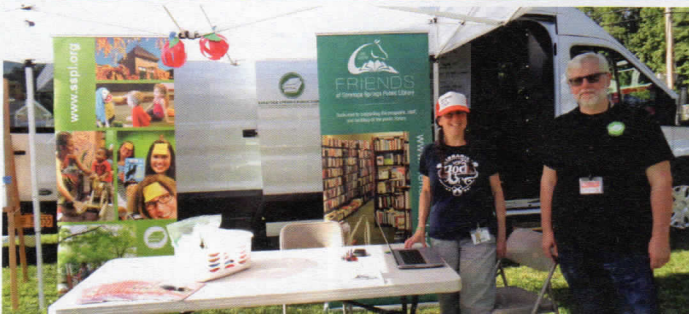
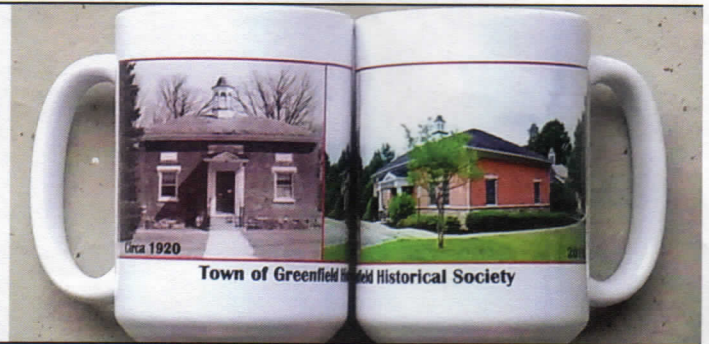


To become a vendor or for more information, please contact the market committee by email at manager@greenfieldfarmersmarket.org

Visit our Facebook page for weekly updates, available products and other exciting events.

Greenfield Town Hall Mug

Greenfield Town Hall is the attractive brick building located at the Greenfield Center four corners. It was a gift to the town by the late E. Clarence Jones in 1920. An addition had it's ground-breaking on Dec. 8, 1984 and moved in 1985. The newest addition was dedicated on Nov. 22, 2002. The 2019 photo of the town hall shows all three sections and our growth. Mugs are \$10 each, additional \$8 for shipping. Mugs may be purchased at our monthly meetings or by mailing your request and check to: TOGHS, PO Box 502, Greenfield Center, NY 12833.



Friends of the Saratoga Springs Public Library



The Greenfield Fire District



GREENFIELD CENTER – Florence Bassett Hinckley. On July 24, 2019, Florence’s earthly life terminated and we are confident that her soul now rests peacefully in the presence of Jesus Christ her Lord and Savior. Florence (Flo) was married to William (Bill) for 69 years. He was the love of her life, her companion and the father of her 7 children. Together they journeyed

through all the ups and downs that life gave them and since his death in December she longed to be reunited with her other half.

Florence was blessed with a long life and was a splendid example to all with whom she came in contact of what it means to be a Christian woman. She was a unique woman with a fabulous gift for liking other people no matter what their situation in life happened to be. We have seen her enfold some challenging people in her own life, people society shunned, just because, as she put it – they are human and they need to be loved. She truly was an ambassador for Christ. Flo always shared with her mother, Florence, a love of flowers. When we would visit her parents in Ithaca, the two Flo’s would disappear for hours. Eventually we would find them in one or another flower garden happily pulling weeds while cementing their relationship. Back in Greenfield, following her mother’s passing, daughter Flo carried on the gardening tradition, for grubbing in the dirt helped her to maintain her memories of her mother. She, in turn, passed the love of gardening to her children. If you didn’t know Flo, we cannot paint a complete picture of her here but some highlights follow. She was every bit as proficient in the kitchen as she was stacking firewood **in the barn**. She loved animals and making crafts. She learned **to drive a stick shift car and mastered the good old typewriter**. She was a “number please girl” (telephone operator) for many years in order to put her husband through college, and she served as a mainstay employee at Bill’s News Room, a family venture located in Schuylerville. Her working career ended with a 30-year

stretch in the business office at Saratoga Hospital holding down a position for which she was perfectly qualified. Flo’s crowning jewel was as a mother. In addition to all of the ways she found to keep Bill’s life running smoothly, she agreed to become a mother and produced 7 youngsters. She did a great job doing most of the day to day work of raising them. It delighted her to know that her 7 children continue to like and help one another to this day. When the good Lord brought Flo and Bill together so many years ago, he certainly started something!

Florence was predeceased by her parents, Charles and Florence Bassett of Saratoga Springs and Ithaca, NY. Mr. Bassett had been the director of the Fur Animal Experiment Station on Route 9N while they lived in Saratoga. She was also predeceased by 4 siblings; George, a pilot who was killed just as WW2 was ending; Elizabeth (William) Kark of Sprakers, NY; Charles Bassett of Rochester, NY; Margaret Vicari of Newport, NC. Two siblings remain as survivors: Col. James R. (Judy) Bassett of Toledo, WA, and Jean (John) Kinyon of Holly Springs, NC. Survivors also include Florence’s 7 children Patricia (Leon) Gordon of Pompton Lakes, NJ; Carol (Dale) Gerbing of Ballston Lake; Nancy (Timothy) Stevens of Saratoga; Diane (Robert) Loviza of Saratoga; William Jr. and Daniel (Julie) Hinckley, both of Greenfield Center; and Mary (James) O’Connell of Ballston Spa. Other survivors include 15 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. A celebration of life service was held Aug. 10 at the First Baptist Church in Ballston Spa. The family, at Flo’s request, asks that no flowers be sent but instead that memorial contributions be made to her favorite organizations: City Mission of Schenectady, 425 Hamilton St., Schenectady, NY 12305, St. Jude’s, 501 St. Jude’s Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or Malta Home of the Good Shepherd, (Please write “Activities” on the memo line), 26 Rock Rose Way, Malta, NY 12010. Online condolences may be made by visiting www.compassionatefuneralcare.com or www.lastingmemories.com/florence-b-hinckley

Published in The Saratogian on Aug. 4, 2019



SARATOGA SPRINGS – Louise E. McCormick, 83, passed away on August 4, 2019. She was born in Germany on August 14, 1935, to the late Paul and Josephine Maskevich-Hornbustle. Louise was married to the late Philip Henry McCormick. They met in Germany during his 20 years of honorable service in the United States Air Force. After his retirement from

the armed forces they settled in Middle Grove where they owned the Corner Post Store.

She was involved in the Greenfield Historical Society and volunteered at the Middle Grove Methodist Church. Louise was a self taught painter, crocheter, baker and chef. She enjoyed going out to dinner with friends, celebrating holidays and traveling, especially back to Germany to visit family. In her

later years, she enjoyed spending time at the Saratoga and Wilton Senior Centers and attending their day trips. She was very caring and would not hesitate to help others or take care of those in need. Survivors include her son, Georg McCormick; granddaughter, Melanie “Pumpkin” McCormick; and great-grandchildren, Jayden and Peyton Taylor. She also is survived by several extended family members in the U.S. and Germany.

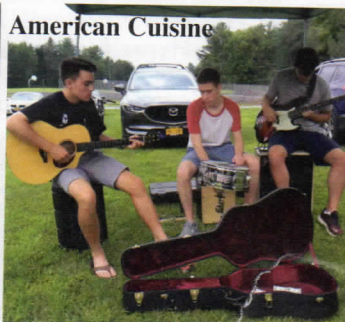
A service was held on Thursday, Aug. 8 at the William J. Burke & Sons Funeral Home, burial followed at the Gerald BH Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery in Schuylerville. In lieu of flowers, Louise’s wishes were for donations to be made to the Town of Greenfield Historical Society, PO Box 502, Greenfield Center, NY 12833 or the Lillian Worth Town of Wilton Senior Center, 18 Traver Road, Gansevoort, NY 12831. Online remembrances may be made at www.burkefuneralhome.com or www.lastingmemories.com/louise-e-e-mccormick

Published in The Saratogian on Aug. 6, 2019

Farmers Market 2019



Customers enjoying the food & music



American Cuisine



Katelyn Ginley



Elizabeth Conant



Past weeks market manager off chatting with the vendors

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, 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, ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP – HOUSEHOLD or LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP and follow the instructions.**

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.