

# SANBORN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## *SALUBRIS*

### President's Message

We have already started the year with progress on a number of major farm museum projects. Our new sign is up at the Farm and lighted. Our new parking lot was approved by the Town of Lewiston and is being put out for bids. On the Legion, the construction of the Front Porch Front Entry, Bell Tower and side ramp entrance have been completed by Jay Wendt. Also the wiring inside the Legion is done and Jay Wendt will be working on the drywall installation. My thanks to Paul Calkins for his work as Chairman for these projects and thanks to everyone on these committees!

This year we want to continue work on our exhibits to organize, paint or restore, and prepare write-ups and information to enhance the experience for our visitors.

We are also working on the application and approval of an Absolute Charter from the State of New York Board of Regents. My thanks to Gerry Treichler for leading the work on the Absolute Charter.

As you will see in this newsletter we have a busy year of activities and events planned.

The work by our Board and all our members who work so hard on our activities and projects are what makes us so successful. Thanks and let's have another great season this year!

*Bill Read*, President

### **Your Board of Trustees (Museum Ph 731-4708)**

(Board Meetings are held at the Museum on the 3rd Tues at 7:00 PM )  
(MUSEUM ADDRESS- 2822 Niagara St, PO Box 172, Sanborn, NY 14132)

President- **Bill Read (731-9570)**; Vice Pres-**Paul Calkins (471-4422)**; Recording Sec-**Joan Shaw (731-5653)**; Corresponding Secretary- **Gerald Treichler (731-9510)**; Treasurer-**Glenn Wienke (731-5982)**

Trustees-at-Large- **Paul Beecher (731-9627)**, **Bonnie Haskell (990-6909)**, **Lynn Hoffman (731-2491)**,  
**Bill Hooter (731- 3874)**, **Dave Miller (731-9793)**, **Wes Miller (731-9739)**, **Dave Schmidt (731-5713)**,  
**Jane Schultz (731-9404)**, **Hilda Snyder (731-9883)**, **Elaine Timm (471-2217)**.

**Farm Museum Curator- Bonnie Haskell- (990-6909)**

**Schoolhouse Curator- Hilda Snyder (731-9883)**

**Tuscarora Indian Nation (Reserved Position) ..... Kenneth Patterson (417-7764)**

**Tn. of Lewiston Historic Preservation Comm. (Reserved Position) .... Michael Rhoney (731-9726)**

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### **MUSEUM ROAD SIGN, Paul Calkins, Chmn**

Have you noted that **Cooper Signs** has completed installation of the new museum road sign? The LED back lighting of the sign has been connected to a timer in the electrical room in the Read Memorial building by **DeLorenzo Electric**. The sign takes power the equivalent of a 100 watt light bulb.



**Road Sign**

### **PARKING LOT, Paul Calkins, Chairman**

The Planning Board approved the drawing provided by our engineer, **Wayne Giambrone**, in February. This was subsequently approved by the town board. We have now gone out for bids with the scope of work to include a 3-section stone parking lot for 90 cars, parking lot lighting, concrete sidewalk connecting the modified Legion building and the Townsend Hall, a 50 foot asphalt road entry area, asphalt parking areas along east-west road for handicap parking spots, widening and dressing up of the existing north-south & east-west service roads to 20ft for fire access, and installation of a sewer line along west property line to be later extended by others and connected to a future county sewer line along Saunders Settlement Road. Bids are starting to come in.

### **LEGION BUILDING MODIFICATION, Paul Calkins, Chairman**

**Jay Wendt Contracting** has completed the new front porch including a double door, and bell tower at the front, and a universal ramp to the

handicap side entrance. **Jay** is under contract to install the drywall for the interior. SAHS with the help of work release workers has completed the inside electrical wiring and has purchased the light fixtures in readiness for installation after floor sanding, putting back the wainscoting and painting of the interior rooms is completed.



**Church/Legion Buiding**

With the progress of the building modification, the SAHS board has set a **kickoff meeting for Tuesday April 11 at 7PM** at the farm for a newly formed Legion artifact display committee. We have the possibility for a grant to purchase new display cabinets if we act fast. The first priority is to determine our cabinet needs and then research their source and cost. This has to be done by the end of May or we will lose our window of opportunity according to grant writer **Bernie Rotella**. This committee is open to any member willing to help out. We are in need of any artifacts related to the military for exhibit in the military exhibits room. Please contact **Gerry Treichler** (731-9510) with any questions.#####

### **FARM MUSEUM CURATOR, BONNIE HASKELL (990-6909)**

With the snow gone we are getting ready to start another season on the farm. Much work is needed to get things back on track. We need your help as before in cleaning and moving items back in place for our April 19<sup>th</sup> opening and preparing for the use of our facilities for the Cars Parts Swap Meet on Sunday May 7<sup>th</sup> and for the annual meeting of the Federation of Niagara County

Museums and the Western NY Association of Historical Agencies on Saturday May 13th.

Farm Museum hours are all Sundays from 2 PM to 4 PM and Wednesdays 1 PM to 4 PM from April 19 to the middle of October. Contact **Bonnie** if the museum is needed to be opened at a special time or if you have any questions. Many more exhibits have been added so look around during our activities or stop in with your friends during normal visiting hours. Again, we thank all who help make our farm a great place for all to visit and enjoy.

**SCHOOLHOUSE MUSEUM- Hilda Snyder, Curator (731-9883)**

Visiting time for the Schoolhouse Museum will be every Sunday of the month between 2 to 4 PM beginning April 23 or by special request. Contact **Hilda** if you have a special request for opening. The museum exhibits are updated as new artifacts come in so stop in for a visit & bring your friends.

The Sanborn American Legion Post 969 members hold their regular meetings at the Schoolhouse on the first Monday of the month for April & May and their Auxiliary on the third Monday of the month for April through June. Also, the Sanborn Business & Professional Association is allowed to hold their board meetings at our Schoolhouse Museum.

**POT LUCK DINNER MEETING- APR 25**

**####Chairman Glenn Wienke** reports that we will have our 16th annual **potluck dinner just prior to our April 25th meeting. This is for all members and friends** that want to participate by bringing their own table service and a dish to share. This could be a food dish and/or a dessert. Rolls, butter, and beverage will be furnished. We will start to eat promptly at 6 PM so that we can start the regular meeting at 7 PM. **The doors at the Fire Hall will be open at 5:30 PM** so come early to select a spot and set up. The evening program will be "American Civil War - Living at the Home Front" presented by **Karen Sherwood**.

**NIAGARA-SANBORN ANTIQUE SHOW & SALE- APRIL 1 & 2**

**Bonnie Haskell, (990-6909) Chairperson with Jane Schultz, (731-9404)**, in charge of the Basket Auction. Our 14th Antique Show and Sale will take place at the Wheatfield American Legion Post #1451, 6525 Ward Rd. (Rt. 429). The event will be held 9 AM to 4 PM on Saturday and 10 AM to 4 PM on Sunday. A Basket Auction will run concurrent with the Antique Show with the drawing taking place on Sunday at 4 PM.



**Basket Auction**

**SPECIAL MEET & GREET PROGRAM-**

The Lewiston Departments have scheduled a Lewiston Meet & Greet program at the farm on April 22, 2017 from 9 am – noon. The public is invited.

**FEDERATION MEETING AT FARM May13- Elaine Timm 471-2217**

SAHS will be hosting the combined annual meetings of the Federation of Historical Societies of Niagara County and the Western NY Association of Historical Agencies. The public is invited to the meeting that includes 3 guest speakers, to be held at our farm museum on Saturday May 13 from 9 AM to 3 PM. The cost for those attending is \$25 that includes a catered lunch by Hoover's Dairy. Please contact Elaine if planning to attend so that she can take your order for lunch.

## PROGRAM FOR MAY-

Our program for **May 24** is "THE DEEP CUT" - **Digging the Erie Canal** presented by **Michael McCarthy** of Rochester.. His presentation will examine the difficulties the engineers faced and how the Irish laborers contributed in making the nearly impossible task a reality.

We continue to **thank Glenn Wienke for the great programs and Ruth Carmer, Fred Robertson, Don Thompson and Marilyn Wittkowsky** for making the meeting reminder calls that helps us to maintain our attendance around 70. We also thank **Valerie Dumpleton and her helpers** for continuing to secure and serve the goodies after the program and you, our members, for furnishing the goodies and attending the program.

## FARM MUSEUM FESTIVAL, July 22 & 23, Bonnie Haskell (990-6909)- Chairmen

Our 13<sup>th</sup> annual festival will be held Saturday July 22 and Sunday July 23 from 8am to 4pm both days. Our first committee meeting is planned for Thursday, April 20 at 7 PM at the farm. **Bonnie needs** all of her helpers that came out in support of last year's event. Many of the long lead tasks have been completed such as letters to sponsors and tractor people and letters and contracts to food and flea market vendors. Our **Sanborn Fire Company Band** has agreed to play again this year. We plan to bring back for **both days, Randy Green with the Native America Niagara River Dancers.**

We are having a **money raffle** again this year with first prize: \$500, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize: \$250 and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize \$100, to help us defray expenses of the Farm Festival. Please purchase the book of tickets provided with this newsletter by filling out and sending in the stubs with your payment to SAHS at our PO Box 172. Your purchase of tickets is optional.

Contact our Chairmen **Bonnie Haskell** for general information, **Bill Read** at **870-6263** for Tractor and Equipment exhibits. More information will be provided in our July newsletter.

## TOWNSEND HALL USAGE, Bill Read Co-ordinator

The Board has approved usage of the **Townsend Hall** by the **Niagara County Historical Society with WNY Association of Historical Agenciesx on May 13<sup>th</sup>** for their annual meeting, Member **Fred Blue on Friday April 27** for a family birthday party, **Jay Wendt on Friday May 5** for graduation party, the **Miller family on July 16<sup>th</sup>** to hold their family reunion and the **Friendship Club on June 20<sup>th</sup>, July 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>** for their meetings.

## SUNSHINE COMMITTEE-

Please call **Gerry Treichler, 731-9510** with names of those members needing "**Thinking of you**" or **their families that need "Bereavement"** cards so they can be signed at our meeting and sent out or sent out directly. **Bill Davis, Dr Maurice Dewey, Jeanette Ingraham, Don Treichler, Glenn Wendt, Jim Warne and Jackie Young** passed away since our last reporting.

## FARM LANDSCAPE & CONSERVATION: By Joan Shaw, Chmn- (731-5653)

Spring Time to turn our attention to plans for outdoor summer projects, a couple of which are already underway, others will begin soon. We rely heavily on volunteer help to accomplish all that we do on the Farm and Museums. This year in particular we encourage you to come out and lend a hand whenever you can. All of us can find a few spare hours if we try. With that said, if you can help with the gardens in any way this year, please contact Joan. Spring flowers are already popping up!

## RODS & CUSTOMS CLUB, CAR PARTS SWAP MEET

SAHS is hosting this **Car Parts Swap Meet at the Farm again this year on Sunday May 7, from 7 AM To 3 PM.** We are told to expect over 130 Car Parts Vendors with hundreds of followers. This is a great project for SAHS and the **Rods and Customs Club.** The club has a place to hold their event with the responsibility for the publicity and the layout and directing the spotting of the vendors and

public parking at the farm and SAHS receives some of the proceeds from the \$1 charge for public parking as well as a portion of the fee paid by the parts vendor. SAHS also has the food concession for breakfast, lunch and snacks in between with **Hilda Snyder** as Chair Person. More importantly, SAHS will be able to Show Case their Farm Museum. The crowd that attends loves the mix of the car parts vendors and seeing our museum.

**LIBRARY/COLLECTIONS,** Jane Schultz, Chairperson (731-9404)-

Helping Jane are Joan Shaw, Valerie Dumpleton and museum secretary Pat Korpolinski, Elaine Timm and Gerry Treichler with the Schoolhouse and Farm Museum Curators. Work Times at the Schoolhouse Museum are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 9 to 11 AM, to accept and log-in artifacts, take pictures, etc. Please call **Hilda Snyder (731-9883)**, School House Curator or **Bonnie Haskell (990-6909)**, Farm Museum Curator, if you have any artifacts to donate. Received from **Rich Baker** since our last report, a WW 1 canteen, and survey equipment used in early land surveys.



**Early Survey Equipment**

**SANBORN BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL ASSOC,** Bonnie Haskell, Pres-

The SB&PA has selected “Willco Auto Care” as Sanborn’s Business of the year. They will be honored at the April 28 Gala by

the **Niagara River Region Chamber of Commerce.** **Bonnie** reports that planning is also under way for **Autumn Fest in Sanborn** scheduled for Oct 7 & 8 at the farm.

**MEMBERSHIP,** Shirley Simrell, Chmn (417-9767)

We thank those that renewed their membership or joined as new members. To date for 2017, we have received 221 units (individual & family) for a **total membership of 354** including ?? new members as we stride to reach last year’s membership of 423 members.

We appreciate the support of our members near and far and hope you enjoy our quarterly newsletter. We encourage our new (and old) members to take advantage of our monthly program meetings held at 7 PM on the 4th Tuesday of the month at the Sanborn Fire Hall. We have a short business meeting of about one half-hour reporting on activities of the previous month and then get into the program. After the program we have refreshments and fellowship. Please join us. There is no charge but donations are accepted. We have no regular membership meetings June, July, August and December.

**PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR SOCIETY**

Please consider the Sanborn Area Historical Society as part of your tax-deductible, long term as well as short term giving program, in your memorials and in your will or for special recognition and endowment gifts. Your generosity will help assure the completion of our goals and the long-term viability of our historical society and our museums. These are especially needed at this time since the Town of Lewiston has cut their annual allotment to our society this year by 10% or \$4100.

**ABSOLUTE CHATER-** Gerry Treichler.

Work continues on an “Emergency/ Disaster Plan” and on a Code of Ethics” document as required by Albany for an Absolute Charter. The updated Bylaws required for the charter were approved at our October 2016 meeting.

## WISH LIST

The Board approved the purchase of a replacement golf cart for the Farm noted on our wish list in our January Newsletter using the funds donated by **Gloria Carlisle**. **Still on the wish list is a new kitchen stove with an estimated cost of \$900 to \$1200.**

**MUSEUM SITTERS-** We again thank interim chairperson, **Glenn Wienke 731-5982** for coordinating the sitters for both the Schoolhouse and Farm museums. We still need someone to relieve him. Won't you please call them and sign up to sit?

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- **Antique Show & Sale with Basket Auction, April 1 & 2-** See earlier write-up.
- **Rods & Custom Club- Car Parts Swap Meet at Farm Sun May 7-** See earlier write-up.
- **Federation Congress & WNY AHA Meeting- Saturday, May 13 from 9 AM to 3 PM at the Farm Museum-** See earlier write-up.
- **Tea & Amherst Museum Victorian Dancers Sat. May 20, 2 to 4 PM** at the farm. Admission is \$15 including tea and luncheon. RSVP Bonnie Haskell. Public is invited.
- **Pancake Breakfast at the Farm, On Saturday June 10, from 8 AM to 1 PM.**
- **Old Sanborn Days- July 15 and 16 are the dates for Old Sanborn Days** sponsored by the Rotary Club at the Sanborn fireman's field. Plans are to have our booth setup and manned both days. **Chm Bill Read (870-6263)** needs your help
- **Farm Museum Festival, July 22 and 23-** See earlier write-up.

**Historical Corner by Gerald E. Treichler-**  
**The following are remembrances written by Ralph Casselman, an early pioneer who came to Sanborn and started the Sanborn Home Telephone Company in 1912.**

**I remember** when Mr. Richardson and Bob Warner had the Blacksmith Shop just north of my building here at Sanborn.

From the time of the first settlers down

thru the years the blacksmith Shop was a necessity, horses must be shod, wagons and farm equipment repaired. It does not seem possible that the old shop with its smoke and dust and ring of the hammer or the anvil is no more.

There is much to be said of those old horse and buggy days that the youth of today will never understand.

As soon as you learned to drive a horse, you also learned patience and kindness for in dealing with horses you learned to take it slowly and anyone who was mean to a horse was a very low form of human.

Today a great percentage of the auto accidents on the road is caused by the impatience of the driver and when you smash your car, you are just careless.

When the auto pushed the horse off the road, it also curtailed important human virtues.

**I cannot** remember what year it was, but it was in the winter and we were having a very bad snow storm, when we heard an airplane flying very low over Sanborn. It circled several times and finally went down in the field on the south side of the road across from Jonas Haseley's home. I called the airport and trucks from there came for the people who were on board. We later found out that one time when they circled over Sanborn that it nearly hit Treichlers Greenhouse Chimney. We also found out the pilot did a very foolish thing in landing his plane as he did for he had a full tank of gas and could have flown out of the storm if he had taken off in a straight line instead of going in a circle. Also if that plane had landed a little further south it would have hit the big power lines and the chances were that all on board would have been killed, as it was no one was hurt.

**I wonder** if there are any who can remember the days when the "Tin Peddler" came around each summer.

I remember one who would come by our farm, he had a one horse, long box, light wagon and carried all kinds of tin ware. On sunny days he would hang many items on the outside of the canvas top and they would rattle as he drove. People were glad to see him come, his prices were low and he carried items that the town store did not.

Those days the housewife did most of the cooking in tin ware and the old "Tin Peddler" supplied many needed items used in the kitchen.

**The "Cracker Barrel"** caucus occurred two or three times a week at Pearce's store in Sanborn. There would be several men that drove into town in the evening to buy groceries or repairs for farm equipment. At Pearce's you were very apt to find Sam Treichler, Chas. Martin, Chas. Dodge, Frank Kline, Bert Tompkins, Truman Dean, and others.

Down at Pekin at Elmer Dale's store, you were apt to find John Maxon, Chas Mabon, Amos Mabon, Bert Stover, Art Baker, Vick McEwen etc.

Those were the days before Electric Lights, or Phones, or Televisions or radio and the men folks liked to get together and talk the price of eggs and how to run the Government.

I wonder if there are those who remember when you bought soda crackers the store keeper weighed up out of a barrel, for the time was when nearly all the items the store had for sale come in bulk.

The soda cracker was one and it was known then as a milk cracker, with the outline of a cow picture on it, it was round and when fresh was very good to eat.

But along with many other items, it was hard to keep them fresh. Those days you had not heard of fancy moisture-proof packages, but on the other hand you did not have to contend with high prices.

**Glifford LeVan** lived in the house which has now been rebuilt into the Pekin Fire Hall. Mr. LeVan had a Green House at the rear of the building, he sold the place to Nicholson Bros. who enlarged the Green House and the one thing I remember about them was that they were the first in this section to raise sweet peas in the winter, as it was something a bit unusual they made a bunch of money the first year.

**Elmer & I** started for Sanborn and the snow banks were 4 or 5 ft. high over by Sam Treichler's. The road had been shoveled out only one lane and we got in there and met a team of horses, and as we had only one horse on the cutter Elmer had to unhitch the horse and turn the cutter around and hitch the horse on again and drive back as I stood up on the bank freezing.

He was going to an orchestra rehearsal, so there were horns, music racks, robes, blankets etc. That's the price we had to pay for a pleasant evening, 65 years ago.

**Elmer** used to hitch up a team of horses on a bob sleigh fill the sleigh with straw and we'd start for Lockport to do our Christmas shopping which included dolls, doll buggy, candy etc.

We'd heat soap stones to keep our feet warm (they're up in our attic now), hold up umbrella to keep from freezing and start on an eight mile ride

which took over an hour. -

We'd put the horses in at Hawks Livery Stable, take off our extra wraps and walk over the big Bridge to the stores and walk back with our arms full of Christmas gifts & warm clothing for Winter.

Some difference today, This was 65 years ago.

**The "Church Supper"** was the center of the social life of the church and the members of the church were 'supposed to attend.

It was and is a very important social aspect of the church, you meet other members of the church informally as well as those who are not members. The church soon becomes known as a friendly place by the type of "Church Supper" served.

Not only the older members but the young people learn to serve, to enjoy coming together and working together for the betterment of the community. -

The "Church Supper" may time never dim its importance. "

**This last** snow makes me think of the storm we had in April 1936.

It began in the afternoon about three and by five when men started to come home from work, the roads were blocked. Some who had started home were stuck in the snow and could not get thru". The two girls at the switchboard had a hard time getting calls thru, at times the Falls operator could not take any more calls as all toll lines were busy. .

The girls handled 130 toll calls in one hour, it was a busy time and continued to be for the next two or three days. our time is the impatience of the general public especially our young people. A great many accidents on our roads where people are killed are caused by the impatience of the driver. Impatience, then speed, then death. Be patient, it is far better than hustle, bustle and bust.

**If you have comments or items of interest for inclusion in the newsletter, please contact Gerry Treichler at 731-9510 or mail to 5530 Townline Rd, Sanborn, NY 14132 or e-mail:sanborngerry@gmail.com**

**SANBORN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE**  
(All at the Sanborn Fire Hall- 4th Tuesdays at 7:00 PM except as noted)

**PROGRAM**

**Potluck Dinner Mtg - April 25 ..... Potluck doors open 5:30 PM (See below)**

**Special - May 13, 9AM to 3PM ..... Host Federation programs at farm (See inside)**

**Regular Meeting - May 23 ..... “Deep Cut” - Digging the Erie Canal**

**June, July and August ..... No Regular Meetings**

**Program for the April 25 Mtg:  
7:00 PM (after potluck dinner)**

**“American CW- Living on the home front”  
Presented by Karen Sherwood Henderson**

*Sanborn Area Historical Society  
2822 Niagara Street, PO Box 172  
Sanborn, NY 14132*

(PUBLISHED QTLY BY SAHS SEC. GERALD TREICHLER)



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*Visit our Web Sites-  
[www.sanbornhistory.org](http://www.sanbornhistory.org) and  
[allabouthistoriclewistonny.com/Festivals](http://allabouthistoriclewistonny.com/Festivals)*

**Membership Application: *Sanborn Area Historical Society***

**(Annual Dues are \$15 for Family; \$10 for Individual; \$100 for Patron, Business, Professional)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Membership Classification \_\_\_\_\_

( ) New Member      ( ) Renewal      Donation Amount \_\_\_\_\_      Date \_\_\_\_\_

(Make checks payable to: Sanborn Area Historical Society, PO Box 172. Sanborn, NY 14132)

(We are a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit Society. Donations are appreciated in the form of cash or artifact donations or from that of an estate. They are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law)

**SAHS is an Equal Opportunity Provider.**