

Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society Newsletter

May-June 2021

Volume 11, Issue 3



From Your President



With the awakening of Spring it seems wonderful to smell the flowers and enjoy the beauty as it blooms around us. As far as we have come since the arrival of COVID, we continue to look forward to a greater sense of normalcy and the joy it will bring when we can resume normal activities.

Along with the advent of Spring, we have much to celebrate! As W-PHS President, it is with great pleasure to share some of the projects that we are engaged in which are a true cause for celebration:

- The Gates Hall Phase II Project continues to be a work in progress, achieving measurable results and fundraising efforts continue to support this project. We are pleased to report that we have successfully raised nearly 56% of our fundraising goal in just 4 months. And, given the constraints of COVID, this has been done without face-to-face contact. Our sincere thanks to our many donors to date.
- We have documented the architecturally significant features of Gates Hall with a library of over 100 archived digital photographs, some of which you will see in this newsletter.
- Collection Management continues to make significant progress with cloud-based software that digitizes and stores data, images, and documents to preserve information. Ultimately, the goal is that our collection will be accessible to the public via the web.
- W-PHS looks forward to the opening of our Exhibits and our Gift Shop to the public every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from mid-June to mid-October with current COVID Guidelines in place.

The Exhibits Committee has been busy preparing for new exhibits and our Gift Shop Chair is planning for the addition of new merchandise. In May, you will be receiving a Member Survey via email asking what members would like to see offered in the Gift Shop.

- The Gardening Group has been at work with Spring clean-up of our grounds and gardens.
- A review of our security system and contract is underway to optimize functionality and cost. The current system was installed 20 years ago and to date has never been fully optimized. We may be able to further have a positive impact on our insurance rates.
- W-PHS continues to plan for programs to be resumed as COVID guidelines permit.
- The Society is involved in guiding, supporting and coordinating an Eagle Scout Project for the building of a handicap picnic table which will be placed on our grounds.
- W-PHS has engaged in a long needed Strategic Plan Initiative which began with a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) Analysis by the Board. A Strategic Plan Committee has been established and held its initial meeting on April 22nd. The plan, which is intended to guide future work and direction of the Society, will be presented to the Board for review and consideration at its September meeting, and in turn, will be presented at the annual meeting in November.

(Continued on page 2)



(Continued from President's column)

In addition to these activities, W-PHS continues to plan for income generating events this year as COVID guidelines permit, which include:

- Our 1st annual "Golf for Gates Hall" Tournament is scheduled for June 7th at Sodus Bay Heights Golf Club;
- Our annual fundraising Garage and Pie Sale on September 18th;
- The Annual Moonlight Cemetery Tour event in October;
- Our first ever annual Holiday Stroll in November/December 2021.

We invite and welcome member participation which is required to ensure the success of these events and to share the workload. To volunteer, please call 315.589.9892 and leave a message.

In addition to regular activity, W-PHS has needed to address several challenging issues that have consumed an exorbitant amount of time. These include: a real estate transaction for 4100 Lake Road, which is adjacent to the W-PHS Centennial Park property and involves a Common Driveway and Encumbrance Agreement, that was put in place in 1995 for a term of 50 years; an issue brought forth to W-PHS by a concerned family regarding a gift that had been willed to the Society; the launch of a capital improvement project to address structural issues and a roof replacement at Gates Hall, which could no longer be delayed; and last, but far from least, ongoing consequences associated with COVID, which have impacted our ability to do annual fund raising events for more than a year in order to generate income.

Challenging concerns require us to reflect on how we can continuously improve our processes to avoid issues and ensure we optimize our energies for preservation.

Chartered by the New York State Board of Regents, W-PHS is required to follow regulations which provide governance for historical societies. We have evolved from the early days of a very small group meeting in the homes of members in the 1960's to

having nearly 200 members, a vast collection and extensive archives, an aggressive program schedule and historic properties which must be proactively maintained.

It is my hope that our Strategic Plan will have a profound impact on our future to better manage our resources and assets so that we continuously improve the quality of service to those we serve.

Thank you for your continued support of W-PHS. Our members, including the Centenarians you will read about in this newsletter, continue to be our greatest asset and together we can, and will, continue to further our mission to preserve the past for future generations. Many hands make light work, and we look forward to increasing our volunteer base this year, and to seeing a greater number of our members volunteer.

Regards,

Nan

Nanette P. Hance, President



Membership Chair

As Kathy McCaig steps down as Membership Chair, W-PHS thanks her for serving in that position for many years. Membership has grown due to the work Kathy has done.

Welcome to Holli Dowling. Holli will be taking over the role of Membership Chair.



"Invest in the GATES HALL Legacy"

56% of Goal Achieved To Date*

Thanks to the many contributors for helping to preserve this landmark that has stood the test of time for nearly 200 years. Together, all things are possible, and we can take pride in knowing that we shared the responsibility for preserving Gates Hall.

Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society (W-PHS) is the entrusted sole steward of Gates Hall, which is the oldest small community theatre in continuous operation in the United States and resides on the National Register of Historic Places. While our initial intentions were to launch a \$300,000 all inclusive fundraising campaign for the overall revitalization of GATES HALL in early 2020, which was to have included a community appeal and series of planned fundraising events, all plans were paused or cancelled due to COVID-19. It is imperative that we continue to move forward with our fundraising efforts to support the much needed structural remediation between the ceiling/roof and roof replacement.

W-PHS has launched a fundraising campaign in the amount of \$115,000, and ***we invite you to be part of this initiative*** to preserve the structural and architectural integrity of the Hall for future generations. We have received a generous \$15,000 Grant from the Rochester Area Community Foundation and W-PHS has designated funds of \$25,000 from its treasury, leaving a goal of \$75,000 to be raised through private and corporate contributions.

The project is underway with work having commenced on the interior portion of the building. For those interested in making a contribution at this time, details and a donor form are attached and may also be found at www.w-phs.org where online donations can be made. Thank you for your interest and consideration.

*As of 04.18.2021

(Donor Form on the following page)



BE A PART OF HISTORY . . . INVEST IN HISTORIC GATES HALL

Critical Work to Be Addressed in Phase II:

- Structural Support Remediation between Ceiling and Roof
 - Roof Tear-Off and Replacement
 - Improved Interior Lighting and Fans

Please Choose How You Would Like To Make Your Charitable Donation . . .

- 1.) Complete the form below and mail with check payable to:
Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society (W-PHS)
Attn: Gates Hall Phase II Fund
P. O. Box #92 | Pultneyville, NY 14538
- 2.) Donate online at www.w-phs.org which allows donor to use Pay Pal or Credit Card. Select "DONATE GATES HALL FUND" to enter donation level and information, or hover over the below QR CODE with cell phone camera, which will take donor directly to the donation screen. If donation is "In Memory Of" or "In Honor Of" someone, please indicate so in the *Add A Note* area. For Levels of Giving, please refer to below Donor Levels or online Donor Form.



- 3.) Transfer of Charitable Gift of Securities, contact W-PHS Treasurer at 585.329.8442

MATCHING FUNDS - Check with employer to take advantage of this and maximize giving.

Yes! I would like to donate to the Gates Hall Legacy Fund at the below donor level . . .

Friend \$100-499*
 Advocate \$500-999*
 Leader \$1,000-4,999**
 Heritage \$5,000-9,999**
 Historian \$10,000-14,999**
 Legacy \$15,000-25,000***

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*W-PHS Newsletter and Website
 **W-PHS Gates Hall Group Plaque, W-PHS Newsletter and Website
 ***W-PHS Individual/Personal Gates Hall Plaque, W-PHS Newsletter and Website

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Name(s) as donor would like it to appear in recognition or please indicate Anonymous, if preferred

Contact Person (for corporate donations)

Address _____ **City** _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Email _____ **Phone** _____

Donation In Memory Of OR In Honor Of - Please Specify along with Name

Should this campaign exceed its goal for contributions, W-PHS will utilize the residual for continuing improvement of Gates Hall. The Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society is a 501(c)(3). Thank You for your charitable gift which is tax deductible to the extent that the law may allow.

During these uncertain times, please access the **Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society Facebook page**, [facebook.com/WilliamsonPultneyvilleHistoricalSociety/](https://www.facebook.com/WilliamsonPultneyvilleHistoricalSociety/) and **website** at www.w-phs.org for updates regarding W-PHS programs and events.

Upcoming Programs & Events

June 7 - First Annual Golf Tournament

October - Cemetery Tour

Due to the consequences of COVID, we will not be having Homecoming this year.



Picture #1



Picture #2



Picture #3

What do these 3 pictures have in common? If you said they are all pictures of "the old days," you would be correct. If you said the objects of the pictures are still around, you would be correct. As W-PHS program chair my answer to the question is **THEY ARE ALL GOING TO BE FUTURE PROGRAMS OF W-PHS.**

Picture #1 shows the Pultneyville Fire Co. in its old building on Washington Street. The program, presented by Craig DeNagel and held at the present PFC building on Lake Rd. in Pultneyville, will complete the society's programs on the histories of the 3 fire companies of the town of Williamson.

Picture #2 shows the East Williamson schoolhouse, now the home of the East Williamson Fire Co. This program will be a tour of East Williamson presented by Les Buell, and Gary and Pat Dick. Much of this tour will be large photos of the many buildings of this hamlet that have long since disappeared.

Picture #3 depicts the First Baptist Church of Williamson. The date on the front entry, 1821, is the date people began to meet as a group or congregation. If you do your math, you will see that this year is the 200th anniversary of the church. This program, a history of those 200 years, will be presented by Pastor Francis Gasparri and members of the church.

In this current COVID environment, the date and time of each program is yet to be determined. You won't want to miss these upcoming interesting programs so watch our **SOCIAL MEDIA SITES** for further information.

Dottie Howland, Program Chair



Golfing for Gates Hall

Please join us for our 1st Annual W-PHS Golf Tournament on Monday, June 7, 2021, at beautiful Sodus Bay Heights Golf Club. All funds raised will go toward the Gates Hall Revitalization Plan.

The brochure with details regarding the tournament and how to sign up are on our website at w-phs.org/golf.

Any questions contact Tournament Chair, Terry Sutherland, at 585-314-7813 or tsutherl@rochester.rr.com. The deadline is May 15th.



A way to donate to W-PHS - our Amazon Smile link is:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/16-1076741>



July 8-11, 2021

Theme: Back to Our Farming Roots
 Kiddie Parade - July 8
 Friday & Saturday Night - Street Dance
 Apple Blossom Parade - July 10
 Car Show - July 11

Go to the Apple Blossom Festival website for information and forms:

<https://williamson-abf.com/>



Bicentennial Bytes and Updates

CALENDAR UPDATE

The Commemorative Bicentennial Calendar for 2022-2023 is making good progress. It has gone to the design stage and hope to have it available for purchase this summer.

YOU are going to want one - because it will be filled with tidbits of history on every day and filled with interesting photos, old and new. Future issues of this newsletter will announce its availability.

For Bicentennial Bytes and more information:

www.waynecounty200.com

www.waynehistorians.org

Gene Bavis genebavis71@gmail.com
 or call 315-573-2768

Rosa Fox rfox@townofhuron.org
 or call 315-573-4493



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Living Our Mission A Special Recognition of Irene Bierer

"Nazareth College History Students, wanted to place a special, and well deserved, thank you to **Ms. Irene Bierer** for her work in helping my colleagues and me collect information for our project on the, almost forgotten, Battle of Pultneyville. It can be arduous to retrieve information from smaller local historical societies, because people forget their vitality, but most importantly their existence. With the help and knowledge of dedicated and interested people, like Ms. Bierer and Ms. Doyle, we are able to tell, share, and preserve the stories that define our communities and bring us together! We could not have done it without the help of the Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society's preservation and existence."

*With great respect,
Amber Temple*

A Collection Management System (CMS) Bringing the Past to the Present and to the Future By Florence Doyle

The mission of the Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society (W-PHS) is "to nurture and share the history of the town of Williamson through preserving and protecting select historic structures, landmarks, objects and written materials that reflect the unique heritage of this community." The Collection Management Committee of the W-PHS has responsibility and function to foster the preservation, accessibility, and utility of the Society's collection and associated data. Our collection is at the heart of our organization, defining the purpose, the audience and the relevance of the organization.

To advance our ability to meet today's challenges and position us for the future, Collection Management/Archives is implementing a Collection Management System (CMS). A CMS is software designed to manage the collection of an organization. It digitizes and stores data, images, and documents to preserve information, gives more control to those managing the collection; improves communication; and provides a platform to make a collection accessible to the public.

Based on our exploration of the marketplace and benchmarking with other organizations, the PastPerfect Web Edition has been selected. This software will enable:

- Operating with catalogs for sorting collection material. An archive catalog for storing documents; a photograph catalog for storing photos, tintypes, etc.; an objects catalog for storing three-dimensional artifacts; and a library catalog for storing books.
- Managing our collection utilizing technology that provides ease, timeliness and accessibility of information for constituents (i.e., archivists, community, researchers, public). This includes, but is not limited to accession, acquisition source/date, catalog, category, classification, description, physical location, image management, deed of gift, condition, appraisals, insurance, preventive actions, maintenance, exhibition history, loans, and deaccession.



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Continued from page 7

- Attaching images to records which allows for the ability to digitally search and view without actually touching the fragile item. Further ability to enrich records by attaching audio or video files, PDFs, and website links.
- Including oral history records and transcripts which provide a live experience to the past.
- Searching our records easily through keywords and queries.
- Expanding the reach of our organization through public access. Designated collection records can be available in a searchable database for web visitors.
- Creating virtual exhibits online. This is an opportunity to promote exhibits and events.

Other benefits include functions for managing donor, member and volunteer information; access security for maintaining integrity of data; and proven technologies such as Microsoft SQL Server and Amazon Web Services; and automatic software updates and backup of data.

A Collections Management System will enhance our ability to further our mission.

References:

- American Association for State and Local History, *AASLH Technical Leaflet 286: Choosing A Collections Management System* (Spring 2019).
- Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York, Title 8. Education Department, Chapter 1. Rules of the Board of Regents, Part 3. University of the State of New York; State Education Department Incorporation. 8 *CRR-NY 3.27 NY-CRR.*

OBJECTS FROM YESTERYEAR By Cherie Kline



This single, child-size boot in our Collection has always appealed to me - making me wonder if the child hid it away, or lost it - either could have been stressful for a family, as footwear was made to order and costly when this was in use, likely c. 1830-40.

The shoe was found by the late Dick Helmbold while doing renovations on their home, per his daughter Katie Helmbold Bates. She does not know where it was located within the Ledyard family home when her father found it. The Ledyard home, c.1809, is now the home of Peter and Sue-Jane Evans. Samuel Ledyard was an early settler of Pultneyville; he built the first store and warehouses.

Some years later, when Katie was writing her Masters Thesis, she wrote a book about the Ledyard family and created a story to go with the shoe. Years after, she found information about “concealed shoes” and a database documenting over 2000 discoveries in many different countries, of shoes hidden in concealed spaces. These spaces are often around doorways or chimneys. It is thought keeping the shoes in this way might relate to a superstitious concern for keeping evil away.

The link Katie shared is a blog from the Westport Massachusetts Historical Society; if you care to learn more, here is the link Katie shared: <https://wpthistory.org/2016/07/the-curious-case-of-the-concealed-shoes/>. Thank you Katie!

Has anyone found such an interesting item hidden away in their house? If so, please share with W-PHS!



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PHOTOS FROM YESTERYEAR

By Dan Montondo

GATES HALL UP CLOSE

In 1893 and 1894 the conversion of the old Union Church in Pultneyville into Gates Hall coincided with the beginning of the industrial age. This enabled the village residents to include some beautiful hardware and wooden moldings in the building.

Here are a few examples photographed for W-PHS by member Peter Parts.



The push-plates on the Auditorium's swinging doors have a beautiful design. Notice how they are worn by over one hundred years of hands.



A simple wooden doorknob and bronze key hole escutcheon reflect the design in the push plates.



In the corner of each window is a carved rosette. Made circa 1893 - are they hand carved?



Even the cast iron heat grate for an old gravity feed furnace shows the pride our predecessors had in beautiful workmanship.



The ceiling medallion was not mass produced and is an actual work of art. From **"The Rebuilding of the Union Church period 1874-1952"** written by Mrs. Henry Lawrence and Mrs. Fred Cornwall Sr. "The ceiling medallion of inlaid wood was made by Sam Lyon at his home in 1893. In the minutes, hemlock was specified if this wood could be obtained at a reasonable cost."

(Thanks to Nannette Hance for the citation.)



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In Reverie

By Irene Bierer



Oral History interviews provide us with examples of Williamson residents who had a strong sense of direction, a sort of inner turnstile which allowed them to be pointed in their chosen direction.

Fred W. Cornwall, Sr., intended to control the flow of disturbing behaviors by the public on his harbor front property, and he created this turnstile to aid in achieving that goal.

Roland E. Stevens III (Chip) spoke of his maternal grandfather, **Fred W. Cornwall, Sr.**, as having a strong sense of direction in being

both a fruit farmer and landowner. Fred and his father worked with the Corps of Engineers and neighboring farmers to develop Pultneyville as a regional port for shipping lumber, fruit, pork, grain, etc., from Canandaigua to places around the world.

He bought the marsh property in 1920 and built it into the boat harbor and swimming beach for public use. After years of fighting trash on his beach, Roland said his grandfather locked the gate.

Fred Sr.'s wife, **Florence Forbes Cornwall**, set for herself a busy path to manage, as well. There was a bevy of grandchildren, horses, mules, chickens, cows, neighboring children to tutor, all right along with apples to be sorted. She was involved with leadership roles in the Democratic Party; Women's Rights; WWI First Aid supplies; family genealogy; keeping the books and tax records for the farm and harbor; and housing and feeding migrant pickers.

Ralph Blied said he established goals mostly in East Williamson. Under his control were 300-400 pigs at one point in time, all needing to be herded to their proper spots. Ralph needed to closely control the litter production and harvesting of pork.

As successful as he was, however, there was always something that went awry. He told of having loaded "a bunch of sows" onto a truck, all under strict supervision and arrangement, only to have an unruly boar break down a fence that was 6 to 7 feet high, and that beast clamored right up the ramp into the midst of those sows. So much for being *always* in control!

Maryann Blied had a strong sense of direction, also, when, as a young girl, she set out to obey her father's request to pick up fallen apples on their farm. She had a sturdy moral compass to help her dutifully follow his directions – until other children began throwing the rotten apples at each other with such glee, that she joined right in. Her father observed the chaos and asked her to get a barrel slat. Of course, she did as she was asked. That was the end of the wayward behavior - he paddled them with it!

Try as they might, complete control sometimes eluded our earlier townfolk, just as it does to us nowadays. But aren't we fortunate to have had their lives in our town as guiding lights to encourage us on our own pathways as we, too, stride out in the strong and sincere direction of our internal turnstile, only to get tripped up or stumble? We weren't the first and won't be the last.



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ZIG-ZAG FOLLIES

By Dan Montondo

In 2021, community theater in Williamson is usually associated with Gates Hall, but that hasn't always been true. One hundred years ago, before radio, television, and even movies, there were several performance spaces in Williamson. One such space was the Grange Hall, and W-PHS has five programs from "Follies" that were presented there between 1919 and 1922.

Pictured is the last page of the Zig-Zag Follies presented by the Williamson Library Association, August 7 and August 8, 1922, promising 120 Participants, Gorgeous Scenery, Superb Dress Creations, and Brilliant Electrical Effects.

Some of the names should be familiar to current residents:

Blanche Cooney	Joe DeRight	William Stebbins
Leslie Cambier	Otto VerHow	Stanford Lockley
Ivalue DeCracker	Camille Harper	Hazel Collier
Nina VanHee	Gladys Ameele	Betty Cole
Coralee ManHave	Doris DeZutter	Thelma Lourette
Edith Cooney	Bessie Brower	Doris Cottrell
Esther Youngs	Marjorie Lourette	Blanche Orbaker
Theda Reed	Gladys Horton	Eleanor Foss
Charlotte Robinson	Lucile Watson	Theda Moore
Florence Engleson	Irilene Milhan	Amilda Fuller
Mrs. L. L. Blake	Joe DeRight	William Stebbins

Also, notice the many businesses that were active in Williamson 100 years ago. The August 10, 1922, issue of the *Williamson Sentinel* reported, "The mammoth production of Zig-Zag Follies, which is a professional extravaganza and worthy of the very best of actors." These programs open a window into the lives of persons and businesses in Williamson 100 years ago.

Follies program pages on pages 12 & 13 - Below is a link if you wish to see the Follie program pages full size:

https://williamsonpultneyville-my.sharepoint.com/:f/g/personal/archives_williamsonpultneyville_onmicrosoft_com/Evnnpub6RqNOj3ekZFSmg3sBdbtUA1BG0LLX4Ee3AytbRA?e=ELXqZ3

The above link will expire on 12/31/21.



Collection Management

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Gifts

Mary Lou Facer (James) Alexander – Autographed quilt top, circa 1870's, turkey red and white squares, 80"x92", purchased at a Williamson auction several years ago, *signed by 240 local people* living here in that time period.

Mrs. Alexander, daughter of Dorothy Facer, former Wayne County Historian, generously preserved this for several years and decided it would be most appropriate for our collection of antiques. We quickly agreed!

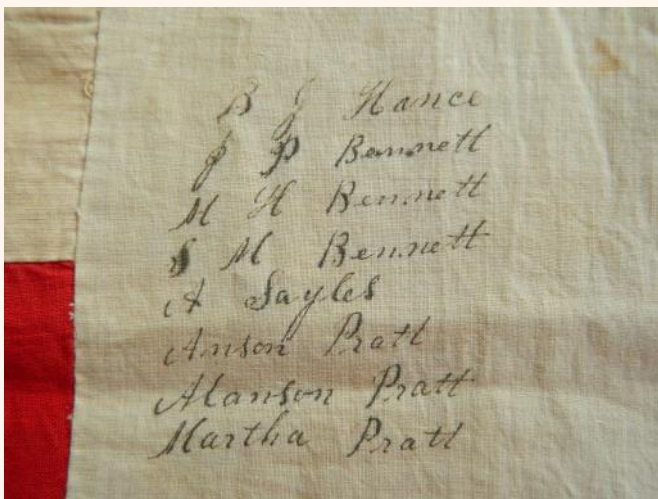
Robert Duellman – Two large portraits of Charles and Nellie Hoagland, residents of Williamson, and parents of Blanche Hoagland (Arthur) Fisher.

While a tag on the back stated, "Mr. and Mrs. Hoagland" and "Williamson," President Nan Hance was able to have the portraits more specifically identified by Ralph Cowley of California, a distant relative of Blanche.

In marvelous coincidence, Charles and Nellie Hoagland both signed the autographed quilt described above!

Roland E. Stevens III (Chip) - Two elegant family photograph albums, circa 1860-70.

He also provided helpful information related to the pictures within the albums. W-PHS is very pleased to acquire these family records, and we look forward to sharing the photographs in a future digital process.



Autographed Quilt Top, circa 1870



A Celebration Of Centenarians

While reaching 100 is a life goal for some, for others this milestone along life's journey just happens! Becoming a Centenarian is certainly something special to celebrate. It is a great distinction to live and celebrate 100 years of life; and it is our privilege to have four members who either in the last year celebrated, or will celebrate, 100 years in the very near future.

Included in our own Club of W-PHS Centenarians is the late Alvin E. Shults who had turned 100 years on May 28, 2020. Al passed away December 28, 2020, and we express our sincere condolences to the Shults family as they continue to celebrate his long and well-lived life.

Soon to celebrate 100 years are Tom Dawes, who will become a Centenarian on May 11, and Ray Walvoord, who will celebrate his 100th birthday on June 2. Looking ahead, it is also interesting to note that next October 21, Lorraine Walvoord, Ray's wife of 74 years, will celebrate her special 100th milestone too!

All long-time residents of Williamson, Lorraine and all three gentlemen have been and continue to be role models in our community. They have touched many lives and helped to shape our history, sharing their wit and wisdom with many generations. They are individually, and collectively, our links to history: social, cultural, economic and personal. In their lifetimes, they have seen, and experienced it all, including COVID-19.

Their decades of determination and will to live full and productive lives ensured their spot in history as a Centenarian. As we remember and celebrate Al for his many lifetime contributions, please join W-PHS in the coming months in wishing Tom, Ray and Lorraine very Happy 100th Birthdays. In their collective 400 years of history, they have experienced, endured and enjoyed many changes, living life to the fullest and enriching our tapestry of history.

May 11
Tom Dawes
 PO Box #111
 Pultneyville, NY 14538

June 2
Raymond Walvoord
 4281 Congdon Road
 Williamson, NY 14589

October 21
Lorraine Walvoord
 4281 Congdon Road
 Williamson, NY 14589

Grant Awarded

W-PHS received a grant for \$700 from the Genesee Country Antique Dealers Association (GCADA) to restore an 1837 map of Pultneyville, which was donated to the Society by Robert P. Halley, the nephew of Mrs. Fred (Jennie) Ledyard, a relative of Samuel Ledyard, original owner of the canvas-backed map.

Samuel Ledyard, one of Pultneyville's earliest permanent settlers, commissioned E. Phelps to perform the survey. The Ledyard family felt strongly, given its early significance in the history of Pultneyville, that the map belonged in its place of origin where it would best be preserved and shared with future generations.

Thank you to GCADA for awarding this grant, making it possible for the public to capture the moment in time when this hand drawn map of Pultneyville was created.



Photos by Peter Parts

Grounds Crew at Work



Blooming May

Spring on the grounds has gotten off to a fast start. Many days of above average temperatures has pushed the spring bulbs into action. The Great Gardening Gang has responded with vigor and has everything under control.

We've raked leaves in the park and at the House and picked up enough sticks to build several bonfires, if burning was allowed. The bulbs we planted last fall in front of the fence at the house are getting ready to bloom as I write this in early April and the bulbs out back, which get more sun, are in bloom already.

Next we will look forward to the rhododendrons and then the rest of our blooming perennials will start their part of the flower show.

We have new benches nestled around the grounds at the house and invite anyone to sit a while and enjoy the return of a succession of flowers.

As we complete spring chores, we look ahead to trimming, deadheading and weeding to keep the grounds shipshape for the season. We meet on Tuesday mornings from 9am-10am. It's truly amazing how much can be accomplished in an hour when many hands show up. We only work on fair weather days and everyone just shows up when they can—we're a guilt-free group! Come and join us any Tuesday for all or part of the hour. We will put your time to good use in keeping our beautiful properties looking their best.

*Grounds Guru,
Lynda Parmelee*



Taking on the leaves - Lynda Parmelee, Gail McCarthy, Georgia Stevens, Deb Parts, Julie Sorrells, Sue-Jane Evans, Sandy Zeman and Coco.

Carl Kieper continued

Fittingly, the last poem in the booklet is entitled "Silver." It includes the lines:

"Silver stands for a twenty-fifth anniversary
A very special one we can all agree,
Silver linings hopefully in each one's cloud
Since you make us so very proud,
Silver dollars would never be too much pay
For all you do in caring service each day,
Silver threads among the gold
Shine forth as your deeds are told,
Silvery moons should shine each night"

Roman poet Horace said, "That I make poetry and give pleasure (if I give pleasure) are because of you." Kieper's poems of tribute to the Williamson Volunteer Ambulance Service should not only give pleasure to those unsung volunteers, but to a thankful public as well.

Thanks to Gary and Pat Dick for their gift of the booklet of poems.

Exhibits

The Exhibits committee is asking for help again. Do you have any small item that might be appropriate on the desk of a young man in about 1916? Do you happen to have a 1916 calendar or an ink bottle of that era?

We are seeking one or two small props for an exhibit and hope someone of the W-PHS community has something appropriate we could borrow for the 2021 summer season. Please contact one of us if you think you might be able to help.

Sue-Jane Evans sjkevans@mail.com

Perry Howland peridot@rakedsouthgarden.com

Amy McConville aem38@buffalo.edu

Please Don't Forget

Summer is almost here and W-PHS needs volunteers.

The W-PHS House will be open Friday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons from June 18 through Columbus Day weekend. On each of those days we need volunteers to welcome visitors who may come. Can YOU spend one of those afternoons at W-PHS greeting our guests? There will be new exhibits to enjoy and details to discover in the ongoing displays.

We will be happy to provide information and training if you are willing and interested. It's a beautiful place to spend an afternoon and you may meet fascinating guests. The duties are not onerous. We need to welcome our visitors and share with them the things we enjoy about our community. Your help will be a great addition.

Please take a look at your calendar and contact:

Sue-Jane Evans at sjkevans@mail.com or 315-589-8422



Cemetery Tour 2021

Planning for the W-PHS October 2021 Cemetery Tour is starting. Please let me know if you or if you know someone who would be interested in presenting the life of someone from our historical past, a relative, friend or neighbor who is buried in Lakeview Cemetery.

Volunteers will be needed to help with parking, greeting and check-in of the tour visitors.

*Thank you,
Kathy Fedick*

kathyfedick@gmail.com or 585-261-3883

Thank You!

To Judy and Dave Monahan
for a donation to the
Gates Hall Phase II Fund
in memory of Jim McCaig

To Jonah Sharp
for drone photography
of Gates Hall

Membership

We have had 4 new memberships, bringing membership total to 168 (128 basic memberships and 40 business memberships).

Please Welcome New Members

Douglas & Celia Topping

Laura & Thomas Hatch

David Van Houter

Chelsy & Kris Klopotoski

*Kathy McCaig
Membership*

The Beginning

Taken from the 30-year celebration newsletter, article, "The Time Was Right" by Paula Carey.

How small a hamlet is Pultneyville? So small, that when Ed Leahy moved here in 1963, old Mrs. Cady asked him how many were in this family. "Well, let's see; there's two of us and the three children. Five." "Well," she said, "That means now there's 237 people."

But Pultneyville people didn't always agree they were a small hamlet. John Connors once said, "The boundaries of Pultneyville are a state of mind."

Our Society had a very American birth — in friendly conversations, a community need was discovered. The people talked about it, agreed "something needed to be done" and then organized and did it.

The mission of the Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society is to nurture and share the history of the township of Williamson through preserving and protecting select historic structures, landmarks, objects and written materials that reflect the unique heritage of this community.

Formed in 1964 and chartered in 1971, the Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society has as its mission to nurture and share the history of the Township of Williamson through preserving and protecting select historic structures, landmarks, objects and written materials that reflect the unique heritage of this community.

The Society is located in a landmark dwelling known as the *Auchampaugh* home at 4130 Mill St. This house was built for Harvey Auchampaugh about 1858 by Russell Cole, a local blacksmith and builder. Auchampaugh was a prominent businessman in the hamlet, a harness maker, drugstore proprietor and Postmaster for several years.



Rooms in the home contain exhibits, archived information, a gift shop and business office. The Society House is regularly open the third weekend in June through the first weekend in October, Friday through Sunday, 1-4 p.m., by appointment and throughout Homecoming weekend and during the Annual Community Garage Sale.

W-PHS Board Meetings Information and Program/Event Cancellation Policy

W-PHS Board meetings are generally scheduled to be held at the W-PHS House at 4130 Mill Street, Pultneyville at 7 p.m. the last Monday of the month as per published schedule. However, due to COVID-19, and to ensure social distancing, the time and location may change, or may be held electronically.

Any W-PHS member in good standing may attend on a non-voting basis and can request to be placed on the agenda for a specific purpose related to the Society. For the meeting schedule, please refer to the society's website at www.w-phs.org. The 2021 meeting schedule will be posted at the beginning of January.

The W-PHS Board meetings/program/event cancellation policy: From time to time there may be a need to cancel a program, event or meeting because of weather.

Cancellation Criteria: Schools are closed and/or after school events are cancelled due to weather (Williamson/Wayne County). W-PHS Programs/Events will be cancelled by the Program Chair.

Communication: The Program Chair will notify the President/Vice President and Communications Chair. The Communications Chair will disseminate the information to the website and social media coordinators. The Program Chair will notify the presenters of the event. The Program Chair will reschedule the program (if possible) and the Communications Chair will disseminate the rescheduled time and date when it is available. The President/Vice President will ensure the procedure is followed.

W-PHS Board Meetings 2021

January 25	
February 22	Meetings will be at 4 p.m.
April 26	
May 24	
June 28	The location TBD, with
August 23	respect to COVID
September 27	restrictions at the time of
October 25	the meeting.
November 22	

WLLIAMSON-PULTNEYVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

On the web: www.w-phs.org
phone: 315.589.9892
Williamson Pultneyville Historical Society
4130 Mill Street, PO Box 92, Pultneyville, NY 14538

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OFFICERS

President	Nanette P. Hance	president@w-phs.org
Vice President	Florence Doyle	fdoyle0407@gmail.com
Treasurer	Amanda Fox Hanlon	aahanlon88@gmail.com
Recording Secretary	Terry Sutherland	tsutherl@rochester.rr.com
Corresponding Secretary	Linda Perkins	perkinsl@rochester.rr.com

BOARD OF TRUSTEES STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Collection Management	Florence Doyle, Interim	fdoyle0407@gmail.com
Project Leaders	Irene Bierer	ikbierer@gmail.com
	Cheryl Kline	ckline63@gmail.com
	Dan Montondo	dan.montondo@rochester.rr.com
	Oral Histories TBD	
Communications	Sandra Zeman	szeman001@rochester.rr.com
Newsletter Editor	Sandra Zeman	szeman001@rochester.rr.com
Press Releases	Ann Anthony	amanthony67@gmail.com
Publicity	Kelly Klaritch	kklaritch@gmail.com
Social Media	Charlotte Buehler	ckbuehler@icloud.com
Website Coordinator	Amy VanPatten Begy	amy@itclix.net
Exhibits	Sue-Jane Evans	sjkevans@mail.com
Ex Officio Trustee	Perry Howland, Town Historian	peridot@rakedsouthgarden.com
Finance	Amanda Fox Hanlon	aahanlon88@gmail.com
Membership	Holli Dowling	holli.casanzio@gmail.com
Nominating	Barbara Crawford	blctobe123@hotmail.com
Programs	Dottie Howland	peridot@rakedsouthgarden.com
Property	David Frohlich	dfrohlic@rochester.rr.com

AD HOC COMMITTEES

Audit	TBD	
Education Liaison	TBD	
4th Grade Walking Tour	TBD	
Event Fundraising		
Cemetery Tour	Kathy Fedick	kathyfedick@gmail.com
Garage & Pie Sale	TBD	
Coordinator	Linda Perkins	perkinsl@rochester.rr.com
Gates Hall Fundraising	Florence Doyle	fdoyle0407@gmail.com
Golf Tournament	Terry Sutherland	tsutherl@rochester.rr.com
Holiday Stroll	TBD	
Homecoming	TBD	
Home Tour	Debra Parts	debrap@peterparts.com

OPERATIONS

Gift Shop	Toni Baller	tballer@rochester.rr.com
Grants	Sandra Zeman	szeman001@rochester.rr.com
Grounds	Lynda Parmelee	susser1@yahoo.com
Hospitality	Betty Morley	bettymorley1@gmail.com
House Supplies	Laraine Frohlich	dfrohlic@rochester.rr.com
IT Administrator	Dan Montondo	dan.montondo@rochester.rr.com
Office Manager	Terry Sutherland	tsutherl@rochester.rr.com

Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society

Nurturing, sharing, preserving and protecting the history of the Township of Williamson

MEMBERSHIP FORM

January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021

Mail completed form to: Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society, ATTN: Membership, P.O. Box 92, Pultneyville, NY 14538

Name: _____ Name: _____

Phone #: _____ Phone #: _____

E-mail: _____ E-mail: _____

(E-mail is required to receive newsletters)

Mailing Address: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Residential Address: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

_____ A list of members will appear on the W-PHS website. If you **do not want your name to appear on this list**, please initial on the line.

Benefits

Basic Categories

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friend | \$25.00/yr. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | \$50.00/yr. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustainer | \$100.00/yr. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor | \$250.00/yr. |

All Basic Categories: 6 newsletters per year, free programs and exhibits.
Benefactors - plus one complimentary use of Gates Hall per year approved by Society.

Business Categories:

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business Friend | \$75.00/yr. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business Benefactor | \$250.00/yr. |

Benefits

All Business Categories: 6 newsletters per year, free programs and exhibits.
Friends - plus business card listing in all newsletters, list on W-PHS web site and business member window cling.
Benefactor - plus business card listing in all newsletters, list on W-PHS web site, business member window cling and one complimentary use of Gates Hall per year approved by Society.

Membership dues cover the period from January 1st to December 31st each year. For new members signing up after September 30th dues are applied for the remainder of the current year and the following year.

Additional Donation: \$ _____ for _____

Enclosed is my check or money order for \$ _____ for the membership dues and/or donation as shown above. (Dues/donations are tax deductible.)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

ADDITIONAL WAYS TO GIVE

TRIBUTE GIFTS...*A meaningful way to pay tribute to others or to commemorate a special occasion or milestone.*

- **Give a Gift of Honor** to recognize someone special or a special time in life.
- **Give a Memorial Gift** to celebrate the life of a loved one, friend, colleague or someone who touched your life in a special way.

PLANNED GIVING...*Gifts that may fit into individual financial, tax or estate planning goals.*

UNRESTRICTED GIFTS...*Gifts to be used as W-PHS deems best to support its mission.*

ENDOWMENT GIFTS...*Income generating gifts that help to sustain W-PHS beyond a single fiscal year.*

Please contact W-PHS treasurer@w-phs.org or by calling 315-589-9892 with any questions about ways to give which extend beyond membership. THANK YOU for your consideration.

Please Check Areas of Interest

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| ____ Homecoming/Garage Sale | ____ Cemetery Tour | ____ Exhibits/Archives Activities |
| ____ Publicity/Fundraising Activities | ____ Building/Grounds Upkeep | ____ Program Planning/Docent Volunteer |
| ____ Gift Shop | ____ Membership | ____ Officer/Committee Chair |

Other: _____

Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society

Nurturing, sharing, preserving and protecting the history of the Township of Williamson

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP FORM

January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021

Mail completed form to: Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society, ATTN: Membership, P.O. Box 92, Pultneyville, NY 14538

Business Name: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

Phone #: _____ Phone #: _____

E-mail: _____ E-mail: _____

(E-mail is required to receive newsletters)

Address: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Basic Categories:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Friend	\$25.00/yr.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Patron	\$50.00/yr.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sustainer	\$100.00/yr.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Benefactor	\$250.00/yr.

Benefits

All Basic Categories: 6 newsletters per year, free programs and exhibits. us.
Benefactors - plus one complimentary use of Gates Hall per year approved by Society.

Business Categories:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Business Friend	\$75.00/yr.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Business Benefactor	\$250.00/yr.

Benefits

All Business Categories: 6 newsletters per year, free programs and exhibits.
Friends - plus business card listing in all newsletters, list on W-PHS web site and business member window cling.
Benefactor - plus business card listing in all newsletters, list on W-PHS web site, business member window cling and one complimentary use of Gates Hall per year approved by Society.

Membership dues cover the period from January 1st to December 31st each year. For new members signing up after September 30th dues are applied for the remainder of the current year and the following year.

Additional Donation: \$ _____ for _____

Enclosed is my check or money order for \$ _____ for the membership dues and/or donation as shown above. (Dues/donations are tax deductible.)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Are there areas your business would like to support with volunteers and/or donations? _____

ADDITIONAL WAYS TO GIVE

TRIBUTE GIFTS...*A meaningful way to pay tribute to others or to commemorate a special occasion or milestone.*

- **Give a Gift of Honor** to recognize someone special or a special time in life.
- **Give a Memorial Gift** to celebrate the life of a loved one, friend, colleague or someone who touched your life in a special way.

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Please contact W-PHS treasurer@w-phs.org or by calling 315-589-9892 with any questions about ways to give which extend beyond membership.

THANK YOU for your consideration.

Mail completed form to: Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society, ATTN: Membership, P.O. Box 92, Pultneyville, NY 14538

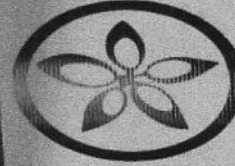
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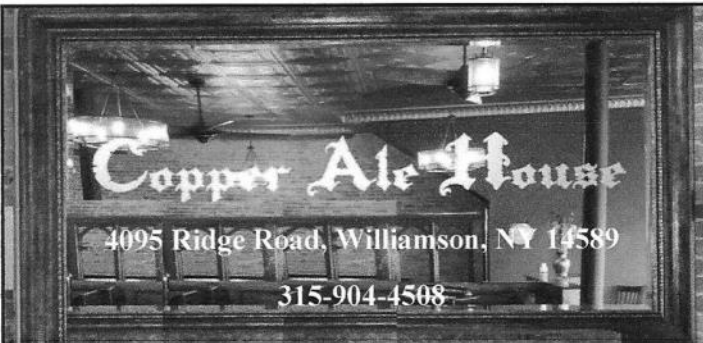


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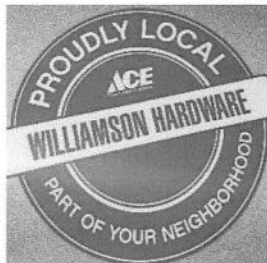
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