



Phelps Community Historical Society

April 2023 Volume 31 Issue 272



April Howe House Happenings

Diane Goodman

Spring has finally arrived and the activity here at the Howe House has been ongoing! The yard has been cleaned up by our lawncare company, the Ontario County Workforce crew did housekeeping, and volunteers trimmed the lilac shrubs and tended to the gardens. We are happy to have four new volunteers and have held two events this month.

The Annual Meeting and program (see page 4) held Saturday April 22 was well attended (27 members and 8 guests). Mart VanKirk was elected to his fourth term as PCHS President and four trustees were voted onto the Board: Billee Altman, Dennis King, Barry Lee and Cathy Scott. Following the business segment of the meeting, Sarah Landschoot with an assist from Ron Grube, gave a power point presentation recapping the early history of the Howe House and bringing everyone up to date on recent projects. Tracy Altman and Dana Mark were the Door Prize winners (*Phelps According to Don.*). The winners of the floral arrangement donated by Sandy's Floral Gallery and three outdoor plants donated by Windy Hill Farm were Jane Pedersen and Robert Quigley who in turn donated the items back to planted at the Howe House and Country Lawyer's Office.

The nice weather brings about tourist season and our most recent visitors included Shiela Burnette Hall and Dan Graf, a couple from Lubbock, Texas looking for the gravesite of her ancestor, Thomas Burnett. We were able to provide the information they needed and in turn received copies of old family wills that are interesting to read. They came back the next day to attend the Annual Meeting where Dan expressed their gratitude for our help and all that we do at the PCHS.

On Tuesday April 25 the Howe House became a gallery of artwork by Midlakes students in Nicole Burke and Shannon Gage's art classes (see page 5). Paintings, drawings and ceramic pieces filled every available space. Students from Joe Godfrey's music classes shared their talent playing a variety of musical instruments. The museum was open from 6 until 7:30pm and over 75 parents and community members came to show their support! If you were not able to attend the event, the artwork will be on display until May 14 so please stop in!

It started as an idea from PCHS Trustee Gary Jones about three years ago and is now a reality! After much discussion, relocation of items, cleaning, painting, setting up displays and hanging photos and signs, the Carriage House has become the display area for our Transportation Exhibit (see page 5). Anna' Salisbury's 1924 Essex is the centerpiece surrounded by different means of transportation (sleigh, sleds, bicycle, etc.) and several framed photos - a welcome addition to museum tours!



Circa 1911 - photo taken in front of 33 Church Street (now #27)

Monetary Donations

Tom Cheney
Diane Goodman
Ann Oaks

Margaret Jolliff
In honor of
Betty Meath

Michael & Jeanne Leonard
In honor of
Tom Cheney

Memorial Donations

Mark & Sandy Case
In memory of
Jean Naukam

David & Jean Dorman
In memory of
Robert Westfall

Barbara Rickard
In memory of
Lynn Falkey

Membership Renewals

Barb Brennessel
Mark & Sandy Case
Paul & Velma Crouch
Bruce & Sharon Croucher
Joseph J. DeRuyter
Margaret Joliff
Jeanne & Michael Leonard
Arlene Verdehem Murphy
Barbara Rickard
Lucille Rockefeller
Clayton & Mary Ruggles
Tom & Margie Stallman
Marlene Treese
Beverly Tiffany
F. Lee Walters
Glen & Ann Webster
Roger & Shirley Westfall

Time and Talent

Rayne Hammond - Benz - *Letter Sorting*
Cathy Scott - *Transcribing & Research*

Flyer Distribution
Al & Marge Cauwels
Bonnie Dixon
Marilyn DeRuyter
Dana Mark

Window/Screen Changeout
Dana Mark

Heavy lifting crew
Dave Davenport
Spencer Helstrom
Cliff Olander

PCHS Gardens
John & Billee Altman
Dorothy Colvin
Ron, Rosa and Robin Grube
Patrick O'Neill

April Events
Billee Altman
Marilyn DeRuyter
Ron & Rosa Grube
Jane Pedersen
Sarah Landschoot
Mart VanKirk

Midlakes Art & Music Program
Nicole Burke
Todd Clausen
Shannon Gage
Joe Godfrey

Items Donated

Ginny Bourke- Vintage syrup bin

Dorothy Colvin - Planter & Flowers

Nancy Denisi - Recipe Book
"A Taste of Phelps"

Loren Gifford - photos
Anna Salisbury with her 1924 Essex

Gary Tyman - Book
"Steps West" Phelps Gorham Purchase

Business Donors

Sandy's Floral Gallery –
Flower Arrangement

Windy Hill Farm –
Outdoor plants & flowers

April is National Volunteer Month!

It's the help of volunteers that truly makes a difference in our community. From building maintenance to gardening; to indexing and scrapbooking; newsletter editing and mailing; or collaborations on special projects, volunteers are essential to our daily operations at the PCHS.

Interested in becoming a volunteer?

Please check out our website for a complete list of volunteer opportunities at **phelpsnyhistory.com**



L to R: Spencer Helstrom, Dave Davenport and Cliff Olander helped with heavy lifting.



Volunteer Rayne Hammond - Benz
Organizing letters from Transcribing the Past project

Thank you to all volunteers! Past, present and future!



PCHS Trustee Billee Altman, Dorothy Colvin and Patrick O'Neill prepping our gardens for Spring!



Rosa Grube, Robin Grube, Dorothy Altman John & Billee Altman mulching the gardens

Annual Membership Meeting



PCHS Vice President & Phelps Town Historian Sarah Landschoot presents power point presentation with PCHS Historian Dr. Ron Grube and PCHS President Mart VanKirk



Cathy Scott being introduced to members as new PCHS Trustee



Outdoor plants for drawing - donated by Windy Hill Farm



Refreshment table in dining room with floral bouquet donated by Sandy's Floral Gallery



Past PCHS President Bob Spink and past volunteer Howe House Director/ Curator Doris Spink

Welcome New Members!

Jose Melara & Family – Phelps, NY
 Michael Nash & Janet Walpole – Phelps, NY
 Gary Mosher – Phelps, NY
 Patrick O'Neill – Clifton Springs, NY
 Cathy Roe – Newark, NY
 Patricia Vanscoy – Huron, OH



First viewing of Transportation Exhibit



PCHS Historian Dr. Ron Grube with member and volunteer Patrick O'Neill

Midlakes Art and Music Program



Midlakes students ceramic art on display in dining room.



Carter Gruschow, Lucas Santy and Earl Motzer



Mr. Godfrey with student Brian Cannon and Mrs. Cannan



Midlakes students art work on display in dining room

Carriage House becomes Transportation Exhibit



Carriage House before ceiling painting



Carriage house after ceiling painting



Director Diane Goodman and PCHS Trustee Gary Jones hanging historic photographs for Transportation Exhibit



PCHS Trustee: Gary Jones starting up the 1924 Essex

Phelps Community Historical Society Business Members

Please support the following businesses when you have the opportunity!

BODY KNEADS

WELLNESS SPA

116 Main Street

Phelps, NY 14532

315-246-9022

yourbodykneads.massagetherapy.com

DENISI FLOORING

Vince, Nancy and Jeremy Denisi

21 Kendall St. Clifton Springs, NY 14432

315-462-6600

denisiflooring@gmail.com

DARLING'S TREE FARM

2051 County Rd. 23

Clifton Springs, NY 14432

315-548-3419

Darlingstreefarm.com

FRAMING BY FRANK ALLEN

1431 Route 5&20

Geneva, NY 14456

315-945-0470

frank@framingbyfrank.com

DEBOOVER FAMILY FARMS, LLC

1382 County Road 23

Phelps, NY 14532

315-548-3446

OTTC

Ontario & Trumansburg Telephone
Company

75 Main St. Phelps, NY 14532

866-353-7209

Customerservice@ottctel.com

HELPS HOMETOWN PHARMACY

110 Main St.

Phelps, NY

315-548-9454

MEMBERSHIP and DONATION FORM

*If "Reminder" is highlighted please renew your membership.
If "Final Notice" is highlighted this will be your last newsletter if dues are not paid.
Dues may be paid by: check to PCHS or online at phelpsnyhistory.com*

Application: New _____ Renewal _____ Gift _____ Send membership card _____ For Office use:

Individual: \$20.00 _____ Family: \$30.00 _____ Business: \$50.00 _____ Member #: _____

Name: _____ Date Rcvd: _____

Address: _____ Check #: _____

Winter Address: (if different from above): _____ Amt. Rcvd: _____

_____ Exp. Date: _____

Dates Winter Address in effect: _____ Computer: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____ Index Card: _____

Member Card: _____

DONATION: Amount _____

_____ In memory of (Optional): _____

_____ In honor of (Optional): _____

_____ Allocate funds to (Optional): _____

Road Trip to Auburn!

Saturday May 20, 2023

Meet at Howe House 10am

Return to Phelps 3pm



Drive your own car or carpooling will
be available

Entry to sites is free – only cost is lunch

NYS Equal Rights Heritage Center

Fort Hill Cemetery

Lunch - TBD

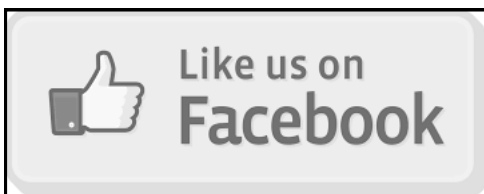
Old Erie Canal Heritage Park - **Port Byron**

To register for transportation and lunch or for further details
Please call the PCHS office at 315-548-4940

PHELPS COMMUNITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

66 Main Street
Phelps, NY 14532

NON-PROFIT ORG
PRST STD
US Postage
PAID
Permit No 31
Newark, NY 14513



President

Mart VanKirk

Vice President

Sarah Landschoot

Treasurer

Tom Cheney

Trustees

Billee Altman

Ron Grube -

PCHS Historian

Gary Jones

Len Kataskas

Dennis King

Barry Lee

Jane Pedersen

Cathy Scott

Student Rep.

Anna Lightfoote

Director

Diane Goodman

**Administrative
Assistant**

Heather Olander

Howe House Museum

66 Main Street
Phelps, NY 14532
(315) 548-4940

E-mail:

histsoc2@gmail.com

Website:

phelpsnyhistory.com

Find us on

Facebook

Museum Hours:

Wed -Thurs - Fri
10 am - 4 pm
or by appointment

Saturday May 20, 2023

Road trip to Auburn

NYS Equal Rights Heritage Center

Fort Hill Cemetery

Old Erie Canal Heritage Park

Sunday June 11, 2023 at 1 PM

Redfield History and Park Picnic

Saturday July 15, 2023

**Off Site Excursion -
details soon to follow**

Saturday August 5, 2023

Sauerkraut Weekend!

**Howe House Museum
will be open to the public**

Saturday September 16, 2023 at 7 PM

Historic Program/Re-enactment

Sunday October 15, 2023 at 3 PM

Cemetery Walk at Pioneer Cemetery