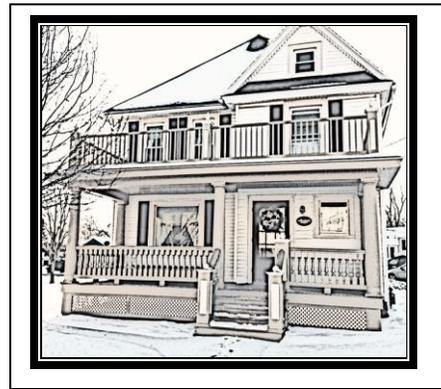


MARION HISTORIC ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 2020 ISSUE 1

Spring is on the way!



We look forward to another year of progress on the museum.

Our schedule this year includes finishing the downstairs with the exception of the kitchen area, finishing the siding and entryway on the addition, and completion of the ADA compliant restroom. In addition a garden, flagpole and bench will be installed as well as a sidewalk on the north side of the museum as a result of a donation from the Prentice/Lonneville family honoring three of their family members. If you have a special project you would like to sponsor, please feel free to contact me at marion.ny.historian@gmail.com to discuss it. We welcome your participation in this project.

RECENT DONATIONS:

We are lucky to have some corporate sponsorships come in as a result of a letter I sent out requesting donations in order to purchase archival materials. I would like to thank Williams Farms, LLC and Jemstar Construction for their generous support. If you would like to contribute to this project, make your checks out to the Marion Historic Association, PO Box 330, Marion, NY 14505.

In Other News....

I recently was the recipient of a Professional Development Grant from the Pomeroy Foundation which will allow me to attend the MANY conference in Albany at the end of March. MANY stands for Museum Association of New York. MANY supports museums across the state of New York by providing resources, advice and programs. I am looking forward to attending sessions on Folk Art and Folklorists, Collections Collaborations, as well as other relevant talks.

Planning for the Wayne County Bicentennial in 2023 is in full swing. Co-Chairs Gene Bavis and LarryAnn Evans are meeting with other county officials as well as local historians to plan a listing of events for the celebration of the county's 200 years of existence as a formal institution. If you are interested in being involved in the planning, contact your local historian or Gene Bavis at bicentennial@waynehistorians.org.

MHA Schedule of Meetings and Programs for 2020:

Mark your calendars!

March 12: *Board of Director's General Business Meeting-* We will also be developing a Collections Policy as part of our permanent charter requirements as well as other developments. The public is welcome to attend at the museum at 6:30pm.

April 5: *Program: "The History of Robeson Knives and Cutlery"* with Tom Kalkevic, local author and expert in this field. Join us to find out more about these collectible items. Program to be held at the museum at 2 pm on Sunday.

May 2: *Outdoor Spring Clean Up* 10 AM at the museum. We will be spreading mulch and cleaning up the flower gardens.

May 7: Board of Director's General Business Meeting- Final review of Collection's Policy and discussion of Spring Market Open House plans. Any ideas?

May 16: *Spring Market* (Marion Event Organization) crafts, food vendors and music at the parking lot next to the museum. We will have an Open House as well.

June 6: *Community Garage Sale Day* (Marion Events Organization)

July 9, 16,23,30: *Music on the Lawn* (Marion Event Organization) food trucks, farm market and music on the lawn behind the museum from 4 – 8:30 pm

August 6: *Board of Director's General Business Meeting-* Fall Festival Prep for Open House. The public is welcome to attend at the museum at 6:30pm. Any ideas?

September 12: *Fall Festival Open House* – Hope to see you all there! A wonderful community event put on by the Marion Events Organization.

September 20: *Program: "Local Railroad History" by Sandi Saracen, Ontario-Midland Railroad Corp* We will also have items on display from the Newark-Marion Railway . Be sure to attend this interesting program. 2 pm at the museum

October 15: *Board of Director's General Business Meeting-* We will also be developing a Emergency Management Policy as part of our permanent charter requirements as well as other developments. The public is welcome to attend at the museum at 6:30pm.

November 12: *Board of Director's General Business Meeting-* We will also be developing a Emergency Management Policy as part of our permanent charter requirements as well as other developments as well our Holiday Open House plans. The public is welcome to attend at the museum at 6:30pm.

November 15: *Program "Marion's One Man Crime Spree" with Caryn Devlin* at the museum at 2 pm. Can you guess who it is?

December 5: *Holiday Open House and Remembrance Ceremony* Open House from 9-3 with Remembrance Ceremony at 6:30 pm

NEWARK-MARION RAILWAY

I have been doing a lot of research lately on the Newark-Marion Railroad and have come to admire the tenaciousness of the group of people who initiated this project. Originally incorporated May 4, 1900 the train never officially made it into town until December 1905. The train ran on average twice a day with some special runs for entertainments in Newark like sports events or speakers.

The construction of the rail lines took much longer than planned due to many obstacles ranging from quicksand, to flood, to property owners not willing to lease their land. Originally part of the Beebe Syndicate which had rail lines in Syracuse, in 1917 it went bankrupt and was purchased by a group of citizens determined to keep it working in Marion. Later it was sold and became part of the Pennsylvania Railroad system and was later owned by the Ontario Midland system. It operated until 1984 when the tracks were torn up. Eventually the depot building came down as well. I was able to find one of the last engines in the Pennsylvania Railroad Museum in Strasburg, PA. It has been restored and is on public view.

As you can see the first engine was a steam engine nicknamed "The Peanut" due to its comparatively diminutive size. Later diesel engines were required. The tracks initially ran along West Pearl St in Newark down the edge of the road, over the bank and crossed a stream in the field below. The old bridge is still there. Evidence of the railroad bridge that crossed over the NY Central Railroad tracks is also visible off Minstead Rd. this time of year. Thousands of pounds of produce, coal and people were hauled in and out of Marion on these tracks. As cars and trucks became more common, the use of the railway by people declined and soon also the use for freight. Doug Topping told me that the Topping Ladder Company shipped freight cars full of ladders all over the country and to parts of the world from this little station in Marion.



This photo recently donated by Don VanHall – thanks Don!

Engineer Bill DuBois on train

Three Men next to the train: Left – Brakeman John Hermetet Center – Fireman Pete Keukelaar

Right- Station Master Nelson Terry Not Pictured: Conductor Bum Davis

Tall Man far left – Mr. Marshall, Telegraph and Telegram Service

Short Man far left – Elmer Corey, Depot Worker

REMINDER:

Membership dues are due! Please help support the work of the Marion Historic Association by paying your dues. A quarterly newsletter is sent out and this helps to defray costs. Individual memberships are \$7 and Family memberships are \$10. Please mail checks to the Marion Historic Association, PO Box 330, Marion, NY 14505. We appreciate your support.

If you have any topics you would like information on, send them to me at marion.ny.historian@gmail.com. I would be happy to research an article and publish it in the newsletter for everyone. Thank you again for your membership donations to the Marion Historic Association. It helps us bring relevant programs to our community.

Caryn Devlin, Historian



Have You Seen This Sampler?

This sampler was recently seen at a household sale in the Penfield area. By the time I was contacted, the sale was done. The organizers would not tell me (or could not tell me) the name of the purchaser. It is a rare sampler done in 1859 in Marion, NY by Rhoda Avery, age 9. I am very interested in knowing more about it and the family. As far as I have been able to find out, they were associated with the Witherden family. Let me know what you know. All I have is the photo and I apologize for it not being too clear but I got it off the internet.

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