

MARION HISTORIC ASSOCIATION



VOLUME 2020 ISSUE 3

Fall Greetings!

As we wait for the results of the latest Presidential election, we think about what an unusual year this has been. 2020 has certainly pulled out all the stops on making this one memorable!



WAYNE COUNTY BICENTENNIAL PLANNING *update*

The planning for the County Bicentennial in 2023 is in full swing. Our Marion Bicentennial Committee has been formed with Jennifer Hunter as the chairperson. Jen is also the current President of the Marion Historic Association. We have met twice and are working on plans for a parade, the Marion portion of the torch relay and other activities for our town to help celebrate the County Bicentennial.

The Torch Relay will involve runners going from town to town. A committee has been formed to work on figuring out the route and it is estimated to be 200 miles and will take five days which will allow runners to run only during daylight hours. Runners will be community members as well as local cross country and track teams. We are being encouraged to provide an “escort” for the runners which can be a fire truck, antique cars, tractors etc. If you have a good idea for an escort for the runners, please let us know.

If you would like to be involved in the Marion committee, please contact me either by phone or 585-738-6577 or email me at marion.ny.historian@gmail.com. We are looking for members from the Legion, local churches, school administrators/staff, businesses and any other interested folks.

I appreciate your support in this wonderful celebration of our history.

NEXT MEETING: November 12 at 6:30 pm at the museum. We will be following CDC guidelines so wear a mask, please.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE MUSEUM?



The work is finally done on the ADA compliant walkway to the addition. The railings were fabricated by Hadley's FabWeld and they are great! Scott Roegiers did the concrete work and it is also wonderful. The Marion Highway department patched the hole between the sidewalk and the parking lot.

Team work makes the Dream work!

We thank everyone who has helped us complete this project to the specifications of the Community Block Development Grant we got from NYS.

Two oak trees were also planted in the back yard by the Marion Highway Department. We started the year with four small "whips" of trees but they struggled due to the extremely dry summer.

We were offered these trees by the Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation Dept. Thanks to Jody Bender for securing two trees for the museum. Five trees were also planted at the Town Park.



MHA Schedule of Meetings and Programs for 2020: *Mark your calendars!*

November 12: *Board of Director's General Business Meeting-* We will be developing a calendar of events for 2021 as well our Remembrance Ceremony plans. The public is welcome to attend at the museum at 6:30pm.

December 5: *Remembrance Ceremony* at 6:00 pm

The Marion Historic Association has approved its Collections Management Policy so we are one step closer to getting our full charter.

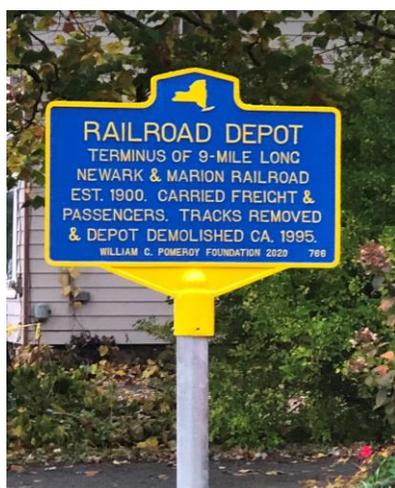
Thank You! In a Marion Alumni newsletter, I recently asked for any stories regarding the Prisoner of War camp in Marion. Don VanHall sent me a few paragraphs about his and I send him thanks! If you have any you would like to share, please call, email or write! I will be using them to create a Bicentennial Minute for the County celebration in 2023.

NEWARK-MARION RAILWAY *update*

I gave a program on September 20, outdoors on the lawn on the Newark-Marion Railroad and its' history. It was quite well attended. Everyone followed the COVID guidelines and we had a nice sunny afternoon. We even had a visitor from the Elmira area. As a result I have had people contacting me with more photos and information so I can revise this program and offer it again in the future with more comprehensive information.

I hope at some point to be able to make it into a book to sell at the museum. If you have personal stories to share be sure to send me a note as I think a chapter on memories would be great.

We also dedicated a historic marker on October 26 at the site of the old railroad depot.



Marker in front of Kat-Al Properties



Left to Right: Mark Haskins, John Lonneville, Linda Haskins, Vern Bliet, Jody Bender

Caryn Devlin, Ron Lonneville, Nancy Spinning, Joan Fisher

This cast aluminum marker was part of a grant we obtained from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation. The Pomeroy Foundation offers grants for all kinds of historic markers including National Register of Historic Places, Women's Suffrage, The Erie Canal and Folklore. The process is fairly rigorous for historic markers and must be proven from documentation from the time the event happened. Because of this grant, we were able to secure this marker which has a value of \$1100. The William G. Pomeroy Foundation has given grants for over 1400 of these historic markers across New York State and has also expanded nationwide recently. We are grateful for their generous support of local history. I would also like to thank Allan Wessie for allowing us to install this on his property.

Gordon Van Hall Donation

The Marion Historic Association was honored to receive this scale model railroad depot made by Gordon VanHall. It will be an important part of our Newark-Marion Railroad exhibit when we get our space complete. As many of you know, Gordon made this all by hand over the course of two years. The shingles on the roof were handcut from shingles from his house that was built in 1928. The details are amazing. He has handcarved wooden rollers for the loading dock doors and all doors and windows work. Without having exact measurements, he was able to recreate the depot with great skill. We are so grateful that Gordy has entrusted this to the Marion Historic Association.



MASONIC TEMPLE UPDATE

Great News! The Masonic Temple has been sold and the proud owners are Amy and Gary Nuessle. The building will now be an event venue called Diamonds Seven. It is available for rent for baby showers, bridal showers, birthday parties, family gatherings, meetings, exercises etc. One Sunday a month the Society Room will be available for charitable causes or fundraising events. Contact them at www.adiamondandadream.com or their Facebook page for more information. They are new to Marion so let's make them welcome!

Get Well Soon! Former historian Carolyn Adriaansen is in Demay Living Center for rehabilitation after a fall. Take a moment and send her a card at Carolyn Adriaansen, PO Box 30, Marion, NY 14505

Future Newsletters

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

With Many Thanks to our Corporate Sponsors and Members!

Without the continued support of the community, we can do nothing. We currently have forty-seven members plus three corporate sponsors!

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