

*THELMA ROGERS GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
And NATHANIEL DYKE MUSEUM
118 EAST DYKE STREET, WELLSVILLE, NY 14895
October 2008*

Upcoming Dates:

- Oct 2** – Craig Braack will talk on the Living Wall (note this is a change from what was reported last month) 7 PM at the Trinity Lutheran Church
- Oct 18** – Open House for members and guests at the Museum, 10 - 2
- Nov 6** - Who Was Thelma Rogers and How did We Become a Genealogical and Historical Society?
- Dec 4** - History of the Wellsville Fire Department



Chet Wilson was the first speaker of our 2008 fall season. Over 40 people listened to Chet as he recounted his experiences as a German POW during World War II. Chet, thank you from the bottom of our hearts both for defending our country and for retelling what was surely a dark time of your life!

September - This month we helped some folks from New England research their Dunham connections, and we handled inquiries on the Arnold family, the Gardner family as well as the Payne family from Whitesville. Jane was also able to help some students from Alfred State research an older house on Stevens Street.

The museum hosted a Chamber of Commerce "Business After Hours" event on September 17th. About 25 members of the Chamber attended and were reminded that our Society and our Museum are still very much alive and well. Thanks to Eleanor Cott, Jim Dello, Ann Comstock and Dave Pinney for acting as hosts and to Robin Rhodes for tending bar. Bob Christian of the Allegany County Area Foundation presented Jane Pinney and Ann Comstock with a grant check for \$1,108 to fund a coloring book of local historical buildings, which will be geared to the elementary school.

The next day, September 18, Jane gave a talk to the DAR on Tanneries in the Wellsville area. Her talk was well received by all.

Building – We have a new door on the museum! Carpenter/Craftsman Tim McKee installed it just prior to the Business After Hours event, and boy does it look good! Tim actually charged us about half of what he originally quoted for installation. Our painting has been delayed by weather, but we are told that the first week of October is the new target date.

From the Archives – From the December 20, 1889 Wellsville Daily Reporter, we find a little article that the Reporter called "A LIVELY RUNAWAY – And Wellsville Mud Saves a Good Old Woman's Life. *Shortly after noon to-day a horse attached to a lumber wagon belonging to John Baker, of Pixley Hill, while standing in front of Peck's market, suddenly became frightened and dashed down Main street. When in front of O'Connor's store (168 N. Main St) the wagon collided with a buggy, occupied by Mrs. Thomas Murphy, of South Hill. The buggy overturned and the widow Murphy, after performing several evolutions in the air suddenly descended and disappeared in the fathomless mud of Main street. Anxious and willing hands were soon to the rescue and widow Murphy was extricated from her perilous position and safely conveyed to the sidewalk, where upon examination, she was found uninjured with the exception of her mud-covered garments. Her horse, which was blind in both eyes, had made a dash for liberty and was vainly trying to ascend the stairs in the O'Connor building, while mixed up underneath it was several baskets of vegetables and glassware which the horse was rapidly chopping fine.*

Baker's horse was caught on Pearl street and beyond being badly frightened was not hurt. Baker after fishing a long time in the mud, brought to the surface the remnants of his load and departed from the scene of his adventures. Threats of a suit to recover damages on the widow's buggy soon brought him back however, and with much grumbling he hauled the buggy to the shop for repairs."

Thank You for Your Donations

Ann Comstock – A non-commercial four drawer file cabinet, with hanging file frames; interior and exterior views of Funcrest Roller Rink to copy.

Albert Kerton – Five vintage Chamber of Commerce pamphlets and a Wellsville map.

Max Dunshie and Sara Newark – a photocopy and notes of the hearse handmade and decorated by funeral director David S. Jones of Wellsville; Lewis Jones' obit and will; Jones genealogy; a receipt from Willard Jones to Joshua Jones.

Betty and Jim Meehan – 1946 and 1947 Sonnontuan's; 1946 WHS Baccalaureate and Commencement Booklet and a class photograph with names; 1946 Immaculate Conception graduation pamphlet and 1966 Holy Name Society photographs; two wooden coat hangers from Schreiner the Tailor and R.A. Wells & Son Clothiers.

Doris Mingus – May 7, 1945 Wellsville Daily Reporter, "Germany Surrenders"; The New York World July 10, 1901.

Dan Nicholson, Ann Comstock, Salon Visage – For their continuous gift of current newspapers. Clippings from them allow our many files and records to be kept up to date.

Jane Pinney – Apollo Club of Wellsville photographs; Lions Club memorabilia.

Richard Rogenthein – An almost complete set of Balloon Rally posters; many framed photographs of Wellsville locations; Allegany County booklets.

Alice Stevens – To the Knife, The Biography of Major Peter Keenan by Charles C. Kelsey; Landmarks of the Revolution in New York State by David C. Thurheimer.

From the family of **John and Lucille Sweeney** – John's Wellsville Fire Department dress uniform jacket and Emerald memorabilia; John's fire service plaques.

I hope to see you at our next meeting on October 2nd.

Mary Rhodes

Officers TRHGS

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Don LaForge 1st Vice
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