

THELMA ROGERS GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

118 EAST DYKE STREET, WELLSVILLE, NY 14895

Newsletter March 2008

Jane Pinney and Mary Rhodes

Upcoming Dates:

Mar 6th – 7PM at Trinity Lutheran Church, Dan Nicholson will present his postcard collection

Apr 3rd – Jim Pomeroy will present “The Story of the Buffalo & Susquehanna Railroad”

May 1st – Joan Hand – Unofficial Historian of Jones Memorial on “Life at the Jones”



Our February 7th meeting was “Bring a Treasure or Tale” night. We heard stories of family trees, family trash and family treasures. It was a pleasant way to spend a winter night. Thanks to everyone who participated. Pictured are Dan Nicholson and his family gold nugget and Ralph Hills with his family’s jug.

Dan Nicholson has more post cards than Carter had liver pills, but the post cards are prettier and definitely worth talking about. At our March 6th meeting Dan will discuss and share his collection with us.

From the President: It is my privilege to be re-elected as your president. Also re-elected were Don LaForge, 1st Vice President; Diane Converso, 2nd Vice President; Judy Hardy, Secretary; Mary Rhodes, Treasurer. New Trustees added to our slate of Officers and

Trustees are Floy Donovan, 1 year; and Ann Comstock and Jim Dello 3 years. Continuing as previously elected Trustees are Albert Kerton and Dave Pinney, 2 years; and Hilda Stout, 1 year.

Thank you, one and all, for the support you have provided through the past year. Your Officers and Trustees are looking forward to another rewarding year of service to the Thelma Rogers Society!

Sesquicentennial Left Overs: Boy do we have tee shirts! We have some very nice tee shirts, hats and calendars that were ordered for the Sesqui festivities. At a price of only \$5.00 per shirt, how can you go wrong! We will continue to bring a few to each meeting, let us know in advance if you need a specific size.

Gift Certificates: With the intent of attracting new members, we are now offering gift certificate for sale. Can’t think of a little present for a friend or loved one? Consider purchasing a membership gift certificate for them. The price is the same as regular membership, \$10.00 for a single and \$15.00 for a family.

Wish List:

- A Textile Careperson – someone to spend a few hours a month organizing and keeping the textiles in the museum. Contact Jane if you are interested.
- Early Wellsville Telephone Directories and School Yearbooks
- ANYTHING WELLSVILLIAN

Dues: If you have received a little blue form with this mailing, we have not yet received your 2008 dues. Remember, we are a 501(c3) organization and donations are tax deductible.

Postage is going up again this year, if you would like to receive this newsletter by email instead of snail mail, (the US Post), please let Jane or Mary know.

Our Thanks for Your Donations:

Cash Donations: We have received \$365.00 in individual donations which were included with dues payments.

Diane Converso – A Wellsville Central School Class of 1976 mug

Eleanor Cott – Six turn of the century postcards of Wellsville, Scio and Belmont. A photograph of three generations of Eleanor’s Dornow family, with identification.

Thanks continued:

George Duke – A Smithsonian magazine article relating to a photo from the Duke collection at Dyke Museum. The photograph may be Wilbur Wright flying a Wright brother's airplane for a record breaking flight in France in 1908. The photograph is in George's great grandfather, William Duke's scrapbook of France, where he was training racehorses.

The Runzo Family – A collection of Wellsville Postcards, 1953 and 1999 Directories, Wellsville and Centennial memorabilia, and more..

John and Ellie Spicer – A photograph of the Bradley Mansion on North Main Street, Wellsville

Ron Taylor – A copy of the map of Johnson Cemetery, compiled by Charlie Barrett

From the Archives

The following story was found tucked away in a scrapbook at the Dyke Museum. Jack Bush (son of John Bush) remembers the story and thinks it may date to the late 1950's. Perhaps our members may remember something.....

MILDRED - The death of Mildred, Main street's canine traffic cop and night watchman, inspires a feeling of sincere sadness. She was graced with a character and a figure that made her one of Wellsville's best known dogs.

Mildred had an outstanding personality. Her friendliness endeared her to dozens of persons along Main street where she paid almost daily visits. She was ever ready to greet her friends with a wagging tail and was never known to show animosity to young or old.

It could not be said that in figure or in form she had beauty, and it is possible that her short legs and slow meanderings contributed almost entirely to her untimely death.

Mildred was gregarious. She could not stand the confinement of her home on Stevens street and continually chewed through wire fences in her determination to pay those daily visits to Main street. Like so many humans, who have leisure time, she was unhappy at home.

Sometimes she spent the night up town, other times she was taken home by some one of the dozens who knew her. A page from her diary might read like this:

"Up bright and early, Decided to see if Bill McAndrews or John Bush were on the job. Found Bill who opened can of food. Nice fellow Bill. Took little nap back of the counter. Went to city hall. Eddie out reading meters. Called on Ollie Sweet and visited the Mayor's office. Fire bell rang. Set up quite a howl but no body paid much attention to me."

"Went back to Bush's. John working now. Took another nap. Al Gent and Norm Gallman woke me up arguing over pool game during noon hour. Took walk across street. Went back to Bush's for another nap. Woke up and called at the Reporter office. Slept most of the evening at Bush's store. Store closed, went over to see Howie Englebaugh at the Brunswick. He closed up too. Walked home with somebody who knew where I lived and sot o bed."

But Mildred has made her last trip. She has gone to the Happy Hunting Ground of dogdom – gone where the rabbits run slower, where they hunt every day and where motor cars never travel. Behind she leaves friends who are sad. Her friendship was their reward for kindness. Her love went out to all who showed affection. From Mildred and from our own dogs, we all can learn much about true loyalty, sincere love and honest friendship.

Note: Jack Bush (son of John Bush) remembers the story and thinks it may date to the late 1950's. Jack added a little footnote to the story. Mildred was sleeping in the store when the fire alarm sounded. Mildred took off after the fire trucks (with her short little legs) and was struck by a car and killed on the corner near the Brunswick Hotel. Perhaps our members may remember something else about Mildred.....

Officers TRHGS

Jane Pinney, President
Don LaForge 1st Vice
Diane Converso 2nd Vice
Judy Hardy, Secretary
Mary Rhodes, Treasurer
Hilda Stout, Trustee 1 Yr
Floy Donovan, Trustee 1 Yr
Albert Kerton, Trustee 2 Yrs
Dave Pinney, Trustee 2 Yrs
Ann Comstock, Trustee 3 Yrs
Jim Dello, Trustee 3 Yrs