

Marshall Historical Society

Looking to the past to inspire our future

Newsletter

March 2007

Marshall Historical Society
P O Box 232
Deansboro, NY 13328

Dorothy McConnell, President
Edith Eastman, Vice President
Carol Gilley, Secretary

Trustees
John McConnell
Joanne Bolan
Dale Allen
Howard West
Anne Jasek

Next Meeting
7.30 pm on Thursday
March 15, Town Hall,
Deansboro

Join!
Provide your name
and address to the
secretary and pay the
membership fee:
individual: \$ 5.00
family: \$ 7.50

Sorry some of you were unable to attend the February 22nd meeting. Our speaker, Terence Kehoe was most interesting. He compared the novel by Theodore Dreiser, The "American Tragedy", to a more factual account by Craig Brandon, "Murder in the Adirondacks" with his power point projector. Our thanks to Mary Campbell of the Waterville School for the loan of this.

Our next meeting we be March 15th at 7:30p.m. Lawrence Gilley will be our speaker on the HISTORY OF AMERICAN MILKING DEVON CATTLE. He has 7 head on his daughter's farm, which you probably remember as Joseph Zombek's. All are welcome! Carol Gilley has offered to furnish refreshments.

To any of you who missed Pat Louise's program on "THE WATERVILLE TIMES". She will speak to the Waterville Historical Society on March 21st at their meeting place on White Street at 7:30p.m. "Celebrating 150 Years of the Waterville Times."

We were notified of the death of June Ezold, Chairperson Emeritus of the Brothertown Indian Nation and former Tribal Chairperson who died January 14, 2006. She was among those who visited our area in 1999 and 2003. The Brothertown Indian Nations is setting up a Memorial Fund for use in the development of a Community Center. Do we wish to help with this?

I am gathering names, address, and phone numbers of farmers in the Town of Marshall to write a book sometime in the future. Any volunteers? The farm numbers are less than a few years ago, but the active farmers are using more land for their businesses. This will entail the history of each place. I seem to be hooked from working on Post Street farms for Clinton Historical Society.

Remember the March 15th meeting at the Town Hall, Deansboro at 7:30p.m. Hope to see you there.

Fondly,
Dorothy McConnell
President



Mohawk Condensed Milk Co., Hinman Farm Products

by William Bishopp, 5-9-1983

In Deansboro, a fine dairy area of New York State, stands a milk plant. A dream of a former resident, George I. Hovey, became a reality through his planning and financial backing. A wonderful benefit to the community and the dairy farmers from a large area. Hinman Farm Products outlasted the Jetter plant in Oriskany Falls, Queensboro in Clinton, Marshall Station, & the plant in Waterville.

Some facts are unclear, whether Mr. Hovey may have built the plant to augment the Cheese Factory on Route 315, he may have known of a better way of handling milk for Dairymen. Constructed in 1902 or 1903. Grove Hinman and Hubert Bishopp were two carpenters on the job. Original plan was for a condensery, MOHAWK CONDENSED MILK CO., which greatly increased a market for local farm milk supply. Philips Tin Can was invented by a Mr. Ballenger, Mr Mapes' stucco house across the street was steam heated from steam from the plant. Ralph Moore was in charge in the 1930's. A 125 foot chimney was erected as well as a large ice house. There were 3 or 4 tenant houses at peak times and 25 employees. One of the houses, occupied by the Robert Marris

which made him a millionaire in the 1930's. This method greatly increased the market for milk. Car loads of cans, tons of sugar, and huge boilers were used. Soft coal was brought to the bins by railroad, thus showing the need for a rail siding. MR. Bishopp had 4 pictures showing different names:

1908--Mohawk Condensed Milk,
1910--home of Sunshine Condensed Milk.
1915-1916--Mohawk Condensed Milk

When Mr. Mace was plant superintendent, a fire wall was built. Walter Mapes was in charge 1912-1920. By 1918 the Company was reaching out for more milk. Keston Kennard traveled a route to Augusta in 1918 & had two other drivers. The plant was becoming so large that a blacksmith shop was needed. Don Williams came down from north to work in that capacity.

family, was on the north side of the Post Office. (Robert Marris worked for 21 years with Don Risley.) Mr. Ned Buckingham worked there. Mr Hugh Pughe was the chief mechanic with coal fuel. He was an expert fireman & plumber. The steam whistle was used 3 times daily and also used as a fire

alarm. The heating was changed in 1954.

Steps to finished product:

- * 40 quart can roller deck came into a receiving room where cans were emptied into a vat
- * samples of butter fat were taken
- * Patrons' milk was weighed and recorded.
- * The vat was drawn off for tank for the next patron's milk. The milk was cooled and pumped into large holding tanks.

Some seasons there was a New York City demand for an 11 o'clock train. Cakes of ice from the ice-house were used to keep the milk cool. (before refrigeration)

In 1933 Claude & Grove Hinman acquired the plant and it became HINMAN FARM PRODUCTS. They manufactured dry powder as well as selling the fluid milk. They finally abandoned the dry powder and sent larger stainless steel holding tanks into the New York City area. Trucks drove in sometimes bringing back sugar.



Jack Fennimore was superintendent many years 1940-1955 when ill health made him retire. Charles Williams, field man & milk tester, took over as superintendent.

Milk was shipped in 40 quart cans until 1977, when all dairymen were required to have bulk tanks. There were 180 patrons. Donald Risley worked in the plant. With the death of Claude & Grove Hinman, Charles Williams took over with the aid of Dorothy Hinman & Phyllis Hinman Dungey.

The milk plant was closed April 1, 1983. This was a great loss to the community. It served 80 years altogether.

[Bill Bishopp said this sounds like an obituary instead of a history.]

[Eloise Beerhalter said that fire caused damage to the trucks & ice house at 6 p.m., when a passing train sounded the alarm by tooting the locomotive whistle.]

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e-mail

If you have an email address kindly inform the secretary by sending a blank email message to [<ccgilley@tds.net>](mailto:ccgilley@tds.net)

Members

Add to the membership list:

**Mary Ann Ford
Gary Ford
Terence Kehoe**

We note with sadness the passing of our member, Al Biederman.

Forge Hollow

Cost	\$ 10.00
postage and handling	\$ 3.00

August 7, 1891

Considerable excitement was caused in Deansboro Monday morning by the burning of the cheese factory, the fire being the work of an incendiary. The building and its contents were destroyed. The fire having gained such headway when discovered that it was absolutely impossible to save anything. The building was owned by Mrs. F. H VanVechton and was purchased on the first of April for \$1,500. On this was an insurance of \$800 in the Phoenix Insurance Co. of Hartford, Conn. In the factory was all the cheese made in July. This is estimated as having been worth from \$1,200 to \$1,500, and the loss of which will fall upon the patrons, as there is no insurance on the cheese.