

# Marshall Historical Society

*Looking to the past to inspire our future*

Newsletter

April 2008

Marshall Historical Society  
P O Box 232  
Deansboro, NY 13328

William Koren, President  
Dorothy McConnell, Vice  
President  
Carol Gilley, Secretary

Trustees  
John McConnell  
Joanne Bolan  
Dale Allen  
Howard West  
Anne Jasek  
Edith Eastman

Website:  
[www.marshallhistsoc.org](http://www.marshallhistsoc.org)

**Next Meeting**  
7.30 pm on  
Thursday April 17  
Town Hall,  
Deansboro

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

**Donate!**  
Your donations to  
the Marshall  
Historical Society  
are tax  
deductible.

We were thrilled to have so many visitors at the March 19th meeting. Francis Lallier gave A thorough explanation on planting & harvesting Heritage Vegetables. The Cooperative Extension group & Hamilton College visitors were most welcomed.

Upcoming Events:

**The Chenango Canal** went right through Deansboro between 1836-1876 with many packet boats & barges brought people & freight to the locality. Soon the railroads took over for transportation due to money-losing Chenango Canal. Join us on Thursday, April 17, 2008 for a program on the canal between Utica & Hamilton at 7:30pm with **Wade Lallier**, as our speaker, who has done much research on the locks in this area. He will have a power Point program to describe the canal locally.

Carol Gilley has offered to have refreshments for April.

May 15, 2008 will be the **Banquet** at Joan's Country Cafe. She has agreed to have a buffet for Marshall Historical Society, always so delicious!

Other Topics-

Joanne Bolan has asked for the use of the tent stored in Bill Koren's Red Barn for a family Reunion on June 28, 2008. She would like to use it in case of inclement weather. She has the man power to put it up.

**Possible Historical Signs** -- Last of the Brothertowns, Romance Wyatt; World Famous Musical Museum; Old Cheese Factory. Anyone have any further suggestions or preferences?

I have been researching **Officials of the Town of Marshall** since February 1829. Some of which have been listed in old Oneida County Histories. Supervisors are complete & now I am working on Town Clerks. Some are found in minute books & Ada Marie Peck's "The History of the Hanover Society".

Mary Anne Buteux of the Oneida County Historical Society has asked for "**Memories**" I have sent her some by Alton Hinman, Arthur Sanders, Agnes Bogan, & Dorothy McConnell. Anyone else have any "Memories" to contribute. For information on the Memories Project look for "Memories" on the website [www.oneidacountyhistory.org](http://www.oneidacountyhistory.org)

Remember the April 17th meeting at the Marshall Town Hall, Deansboro at 7:30 PM. All are welcome. Refreshments will be served. Hope to see you there!

Dorothy McConnell, Vice-President

## The Town Clock by Arthur Sanders

The E. Howard Clock Company was founded in 1842, and began making tower clocks in 1870. The clock in the Methodist Church was purchased in 1884, and has serial number 1043. Once the design was perfected, they produced the same clock for many years. An almost identical clock was in the Waterville Baptist Church, and was number 1071.

The clock is huge, about four feet long, and the photos show various sides when we had it in the shop for extended repairs in 1976. It is wound with a large crank, which winds steel cables on drums to raise two weights -- about a thousand pounds for the striking mechanism, and the other one hundred pounds for the time mechanism. The striking weight falls through a kind of shaft, built

from the belfry all the way to the floor of the basement. In 1976, cables were repaired and replaced. new numbers made for the dials, and new aluminum hands provided to replace the badly worn wooden ones.

There is a lever which raises a four pound iron hammer, to be released to strike the bell for the hours. The clock pendulum is eight feet long, which gives a one-second beat, and with a minor adjustment for winter or summer, will keep time accurately within a few seconds.

The bell has an embossed message on it, and it would be interesting to mention that along with this short story, if someone would crawl up there

## The Chenango Canal by Dorothy McConnell

In Deansboro, the Chenango Canal ran between the foot of West Hill and the western branch of the Oriskany Creek. Work started on the construction of this waterway in July 1834 and was completed in October 1836. The length of the canal was 97 miles. There were 116 locks. The cost of the canal was \$2,782,124. With the coming of the railroad, the canal was abandoned in 1874