

Marshall Historical Society

Looking to the past to inspire our future

Newsletter

January 2010

Marshall Historical Society
P O Box 232
Deansboro, NY 13328

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

Trustees
Joanne Bolan
John McConnell
Edith Eastman
Anne Jasek
Howard West

Website:
www.marshallhistsoc.org

Next Meeting
7.30 pm on
Thursday
February 18
Town Hall,
Deansboro

Join!
Provide your name
and address to the
secretary and pay
the membership fee:
individual: \$ 10.00
family: \$ 15.00

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

Trust your Christmas and New Years was an enjoyable one. We haven't been out much in January, only for Doctor appointments, etc. Seems good to have the weather warm up a bit. There's beautiful sunshine today. The whole country has had it pretty cold lately. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families in Haiti for their terrible earthquake. Looks like help is on the way with Red Cross, troops, food drops, Church World Service, etc.

Upcoming Events: February 18, 2010: We shall have HISTORY OF MENNONITES by Daniel Stoltzfus. He has shared their beliefs with the Madison Historical Society. Carol Gilley has offered to bring refreshments that night.

March 19, 2010: We shall enjoy THE HINMAN FAMILY by Joan McNamara. Joan with the aid of Alton Hinman did do a program years ago and now she has expanded her search telling about each family member.

April 15, 2010: Will be PAINTINGS THROUGH THE YEARS by Polly Blunk, of Holman City Rd., Clayville, who will give us a power point program of several local paintings, some of which she let us use for the "Marshall Barns and Farms" book.

If you care to furnish refreshments for either March or April, please let me know.

I continue to update Alton Hinman's obituary books, that were given to the society.

We have sold almost 250 Marshall Barns & Farms books. Joan's Country Café and Morgan's Hardware have sold many along with Deansboro Superette. Many contacted me for books for Christmas gifts.

Hope to see you on February 18th for our next program. Remember all are welcome and refreshments will be served. Come and bring a friend.

Sincerely,

Dorothy McConnell, President

HOW "DRUMS" WAS NAMED

By Frank Tomaino

"This Week in History" December 27, 1998.

An article about Alfred McIntyre, the late publisher of Little Brown & Co., relates how "Drums Along the Mohawk" got its name.

McIntyre and Walter D. Edmonds - the famed author from Hawkinsville in the town of Boonville - were struggling for the right title for Edmonds' new novel about the fortitude and misery of the colonists in the Mohawk Valley at the time of the American Revolution. Edmonds first called his novel "A Starving Wilderness", but it was in the 1930s and McIntyre did not think that was an inviting title for people who at the time were struggling with the Great Depression. Then McIntyre said: "How did the news of the Revolution first reach the people of the Mohawk Valley? They answer is when they first heard the drums of the approaching Continental Army. We then decided to call the novel "Drums on the Mohawk", but later agreed that it needed more movement so "Drums Along the Mohawk" was chosen."

HOW BOGUSVILLE HILL ROAD GOT ITS NAME

From "Along the Oriskany" by David H. Beetle

Least known of Deansboro's hinterland competitors is Bogusville, despite the fact that it was on the main

Chenango Trail that Uticans take to go to Binghamton or sometimes, to reach Route 20.

A mile or so toward Clinton from Deansboro, after getting off to a somewhat shady start, it turned into a virtuous little rural center with a cheese factory, the inevitable grist mill, a dock on the Chenango Canal, and a few homes.

But, earlier still, at a point where one of those tiny rivulets sweeps down from the hills (or used to before highway builders re-channeled it), an entrepreneur set up a factory ostensibly for manufacturing silver spoons. However, a growing number of counterfeit shillings and other coins began to appear, and one day a Federal agent dropped by to find out what was going on.

The owner agreed to go quietly without making a fuss, but first wanted to go upstairs to change his clothes. Well, this is 1947, and as far as the Federal Government is concerned he is still changing them.

At least, when the agent went up a few moments later, he found only an open window.

Today, the section is still known as Bogusville, and the country behind it - the place in fact where Samson Occom's bones are supposed to rest - is Bogusville Hill Road.

As for the counterfeiter, you can't find his picture even in the older post offices.