

Marshall Historical Society

Looking to the past to inspire our future

Newsletter

May 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 May 20
at Joan's Country
Café, 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.

The 13th annual banquet will be held at Joan's Country Café on Thursday, May 20, 2010 at 6:00p.m. Joan's delicious buffet will include: baked chicken with rolls, tossed salad, macaroni salad, potato salad, sausage and meat balls, baked beans, and beverage and dessert. The cost will be \$15 which includes tax and tip. Please phone Dorothy McConnell at (315) 853-6887 if you plan to attend.

Joan always does such a good job. Let us all get together for the event.

Polly Blunk's presentation of the "Paintings Through the Years" was well enjoyed by all who attended our April meeting. We appreciate her letting us use some of her art work for "The Marshall Barns & Farms" book. She had sketched some buildings that no longer exist, so their history is greatly appreciated.

The Ruth Allen Run/Walk will be held on August 14, 2010, sponsored by the Parks & Recreation Committee. The Marshall Historical Society will have a booth. I have written to Dale to encourage him to come up for the occasion, but have not heard whether he'll make it or not.

On April 21, 2010 your president talked to Elizabeth Hughes & Amy Buchholz about the historical buildings of importance in the Town of Marshall. We came up with: Chenango Canal locks, Deansboro Congregational UCC (1853), Depot for the Ontario & Western Railroad (1867), The Deansboro Methodist Church (1883), John & Thomas Dean cabin with beehive oven, The Dean Homestead, The Deansboro Inn, Ye Olde Canal Shoppe, Forge Hollow's "The House by the Side of the Road", Forge Hollow Stone School House, and Dicksville School House (where Amy Marris lives). Can anyone submit other buildings of historical significance? We certainly want to itemize all that are important.

Does anyone know the history or past ownership of the houses on State Rte. 12B, Rte. 315 or West Hill Road? We are trying to put together a walking tour with mention of who built and prior owners. I know Eleanor Dawes has helped with this in the past.

Well, I hope you have a great summer. We shall resume meetings in September.

I hope to see you at Joan's on May 20th and at the Ruth Allen Run/Walk on August 14th.

Dorothy McConnell, President

A Brief History of the Dean Homestead
By Dorothy McConnell

The Dean Homestead is situated on Lot 15 within the old Brothertown Tract. John Dean, his wife, and son Thomas came in the year 1795 as Quaker missionaries from Westchester County, New York. In 1797 they left, only to return the following year. The wing of the home was built in 1799 as the Indian Agents office. The wing is in an excellent state of preservation and contains a large brick beehive oven.

The property at that time was owned by the Brothertown Indian named Elijah Wampy, Jr.. The rest of the building has been started in 1804 or 1824. Because Dean leased this property from Wampy, it is believed that 1824 is the more likely date. A law passed by the state legislature in 1827 allowed Dean to purchase the property for \$650, 4/5 acre, the o.k. possibly was from an Indian commissioner.

The property at that time contained 29 acres. The property passed to Thomas in 1820 and to his son John about 1842. John and his wife, (Harriet) Roxena Peck, sold the property to Dr. Isaac and Abigail Hovey of Morrisville in 1848. His son Charles A. and wife (Sarah) Amelia Skinner acquired the property in 1868. Charles was an alleged millionaire owning controlling

interest in Elgin Watch Co. In 1909 Charles son George and his wife Eva Skinner became the owners.

George was a graduate of Cazenovia Seminary and Syracuse Commercial College. In 1910 George remarried Clara Dunmore and they used the home as a summer residence, also living in Montpelier, New Jersey.

Hovey entered into partnership with Herman W. Booth and took a seat on the NY Stock Exchange. In a venture with Francis a Cody of Vernon, Booth misappropriated funds leaving Hovey to take responsibility. In 1935 a judgment was won by Cody against Hovey for \$1,085,366.77. The property was sold at a sheriff auction in 1940 for \$10,900.

Francis A. and Mary R. Cody became the new owners in 1940. In 1945 Floyd Harrington, an antique general stamp buff bought the property along with his wife Eloise. Mr. Harrington died in 1970. Mrs. Harrington has since married William Beerhalter and were occupants.

William Beerhalter died in 1991. On 9-11-2001 Alan Park bought the Dean Homestead and The Hotel next door. Ward Elliot now (2010) lives there and runs the hotel for Alan Park.